

I Survived the 1st Year As a Stay-At-Home Dad!

Description

More importantly, we/us/our family has survived a year having me as a stay-at-home dad. Nerves were high for all of us a year ago as my wife was returning to work from her maternity leave, and I was leaving work to stay home with our daughter, Avery.

It was obvious how unsure I was looking back at my [first post from my first day at home](#). The world revolved around nap time and I heavily depended on Kelley's breast milk soaked shirt laying in Avery's crib to provide comfort and help with keeping her asleep.



Poor wife, I wouldn't dare let her have that thing back for quite a while! [On the second day, my confidence-o-meter was still in the negatives](#), as well as many subsequent days after.

If you checked out the links I provided from my [first](#) and [second](#) days as an at-home dad, you might notice a common theme that's present with most parents, especially new ones; a difference in parenting styles. Yep, it's a big one, and doesn't matter if one is staying home or both are working, parents tend to disagree on one thing or another a million, and that's just how it is.

Kelley and I still have our own ways of dealing with Avery and we'll sometimes argue over how the other is handling a situation. Damn wife, she's usually right (at least I admit it eventually), but sometimes I get the 1-up. Not often, but sure does feel good when I do! Parents, don't you agree?

~~Fighting Arguments Quarrels~~ Misunderstandings aside, Kelley and I make a great team and have learned a lot along the way. Is anyone ever done learning when so much is changing every day? In parenting and relationships, I vote NO! But that's part of the fun, right? ðŸ™,

In my year as a stay-at-home dad, I've made many mistakes and figure I'll make many more. But from the ones I have made, I have learned and grew stronger as a result. For instance, babywearing, something we fully support and love in our home, took me a bit before realizing I was doing it wrong at first. I was wearing Avery all over with legs dangling and front facing.



Too cool for school or anything.

As I shared on my post about [Why I Wear My Baby](#), there are many studies showing the problems with a baby's development when worn like this, especially the dangling legs!

And there are plenty more (I'm picturing my wife nodding her head as she reads this) mistakes that I'll share in a separate post soon. Hopefully other parents, whether at-home or at-work, will learn from my mistakes and avoid making them their selves.

Today I want to call attention to making it an entire year with our arrangement and to express my deep, deep appreciation to my lovely wife, Kelley, for working so hard for our family. Some times are

extremely hard with work, keeping up with breastfeeding, and dealing with an unruly husband (me!) and she is great at keeping everything together.

Kelley, I can't thank you enough, and just want to say I love our life together and having such a crazy, yet sweet, daughter to raise with you.

Are you currently or can you remember being a parent to a baby/toddler?

What are some ways that you and your significant other pushed through the tunnel of stressful times to emerge from the other end, happy and sane? Okay, maybe a little crazy. ðŸ˜‰

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