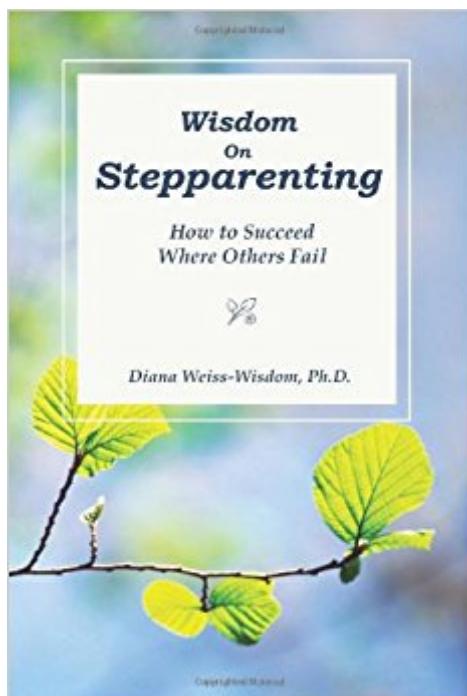


The book was found

# Wisdom On Step-Parenting: How To Succeed Where Others Fail



## **Synopsis**

Subtitle: How To Succeed Where Others Fail This is a guide to creating loving, stable stepfamily relationships. Written by a psychologist and stepmother, this book is for stepparents who want to make the most of their situation and learn how to be resilient, happy, and confident in their relationship with their spouse and their stepchildren. The stories in this volume are drawn from clients that the author has counseled as well as her own adventurous life as a stepparent. To other struggling stepparents who feel they are drowning in their situation, she offers hope, encouragement, and realistic coping strategies. She provides proven techniques that help individuals succeed in their new marriages, build caring relationships with their stepchildren, and bolster their emotional life in general. "This gem of a book reveals how stepparenting, in spite of the pitfalls, can be done well and be immensely rewarding for the whole family." Richard Levak, Ph.D., Licensed Psychologist and Personality Expert

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

I am a professional in the mental health field and specialize in blended families and know that blended families have needs and problems that rarely get talked about. It was like the author and I were sitting down and talking about the best methods of working with blended families and how to harmonize and enhance their experience. Many other fine books on the subject take an academic approach, the attitude of this book was more down to earth and, in my opinion, more useful. The book was filled with wise advice, exercises that families could do to create better communication, points to ponder for families to look outside the box for better ways to get along. The information provided was on a level that was applicable right now. I recommend this delightful informative

narrative to professionals looking for a guide and to the blended families who would benefit from using it.

I am a professional counselor with a specialty in couples and family therapy who found this book to be a great tool for professionals as well as families. It is practical and easy to read with practical advice and at the same time with profound wisdom to increase knowledge and insight in a very much needed topic for today's families. I especially liked the emphasis made on the importance of taking care of the relationship between the partners as separate from the stepparenting issues. Every chapter presents points to ponder and ends with practical exercises to emphasize the chapter's content. I have already recommended this book to two of the families I see in therapy and will continue to do so. I can't wait for the Spanish version to come out.

As a stepparent myself, I found this book extremely helpful. Dr. Weiss-Wisdom has written a very practical but down-to-earth and easy to read book with lots of good advice based on research and many years of her own experience. I particularly appreciated all of the stories that she shared about other families dealing with blended family challenges, as it was so easy to relate and know that these dilemmas are normal. She shares lots of encouraging quotes about mindfulness and taking responsibility for what we can control within ourselves, while at the same time educating about attitudes and expectations that work and don't work (i.e. be a friend vs. trying to be the disciplinarian, don't expect acceptance of you by your stepchildren right away, try to see things from the kids' perspectives, change expectations, keeping communication and connections strong in your marriage, how to deal with feeling left out, disregarded, or powerless, etc.) Overall, a very helpful read for any stepparent trying to figure out this often challenging journey...

If you need advice on step-parenting, this is a decent read. I liked the fact that it keeps a positive perspective and offers advice on how to cope as a step-parent. Much of what I've read about step-parenting has been negative to the point of being discouraging, so the positive outlook of this book was refreshing. The book also offers exercises for the reader to complete, so it gives you constructive things to think about that might help your situation as a step-parent or potential step-parent. Where the book falls short--while I found some of the advice to be helpful, much of it was what I consider generalized "fluff" that could be applied to anyone's life, such as "always practice forgiveness" and "take time for self-care." Another complaint about the book--the author is a PhD but makes numerous generalizations (without citing anything) that seem to be dated

stereotypes more than anything. All together, I gained a bit of insight and a few helpful hints from this book, but am still looking for more advice!

OK, this book (Kindle version) saved my relationship! I ordered it because of "emergency ". I am dating a wonderful man with three children and I have no children. This book saved me. It showed me what I can and can not do, what they can and can not do...It gave me hope. Thank you for writing this!!!

If only I had had Dr. Diana Weiss-Wisdom's book in hand two decades ago! My new husband and I brought three children each into a second marriage. Years later when I entered the counseling profession, I realized all the mistakes that we had made in trying to bring these two sets of children together. Eventually our lack of knowledge, skills resulted in an end to our marriage. Parenting is one of the most difficult (and rewarding) roles in life. Step parenting just adds another dimension (also, rewarding). I found *Wisdom on Stepparenting* to have suggestions that were commonsense, realistic in content and logical. I have always enjoyed reading other people's stories, situations. Utilizing the stories of those in a stepparenting situation gives more credibility to the author's words of wisdom. In my role as a school counselor, I have listened to many stories similar to mine and those families featured in the book. *Wisdom on Stepparenting* would be a book I would highly recommend as a resource for couples in this situation or to therapists as a resource for their clients.

If you are seriously considering re-marriage and you both have kids...under the age of say 14...then this book is a MUST READ before you marry. I wish I had read this before my re-marriage...we were both so unprepared for how the merger of two families can upset the happiness of what brought you together in the first place. Expectations of becoming a true cohesive family unit were way too soon. It can take years to develop and possibly never develop. Is your relationship strong enough for that outcome?

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