

# Prospective parents ponder pecuniary pitfalls

By Mary Coyne-Wessling  
NC News Service

Before they've bought the baby furniture, before they've even picked out a name, many young expectant couples have already made a major decision affecting their children's future — whether both mother and father will continue to work outside the home.

Maryanne and Ernie Vasiloff of Charlotte, N.C., decided that she would stay home and care for their daughter, Kristen, for an extended period of time.

"Working (outside the home) was the farthest thing from my mind when she was born," said Mrs. Vasiloff. "It wasn't really a tough decision to make because my job wasn't in my career field. It wasn't that rewarding a job."

But shortly after Kristen was born, the Vasiloffs saw their savings dwindling while their expenses rose.

"When our finances started getting tough, we began to talk about my going back to work," said Mrs. Vasiloff.

"I would have liked nothing better than to make our lives financially secure so Maryanne wouldn't have to go back to work," he said. "I didn't want a lifestyle that demanded she work."

Despite the pressures, the Vasiloffs said the decision was made by both of them, and they feel that they made the right decision at the time. "I have nothing against women pursuing a profession outside the home," said Mr. Vasiloff. "I just wanted Maryanne to have an option about working and not make it a necessity."

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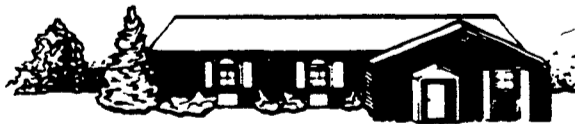


Nancy Ellen Roth/NC News  
Maryanne Vasiloff was fortunate enough to find a part-time job in her field as an occupational therapy assistant at a nearby hospital. Although her job was a good one, the time away from daughter Kristen took a good deal of adjustment for the young mother.



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