



People to marry more often by 2025

Dear Doctor: Tom cat spraying is usually a behavioral problem and not related to a physical ailment. The only way to correct such behavior is to eliminate the cause. In this case your male pet is marking his territory for sexual reasons and neutering is the answer.

Dear M.W.: M.W., Novi

Dear L.S.: L.S., Wayne

temper two months ago. What precautions should we take before we get another puppy?

The virus that causes canine distemper is a moderately resistant one. After two months it would most likely be gone from your home, but a few precautions must be taken. Disinfect any areas that were used by your previous pet with a viricidal disinfectant and dispose of all of his bedding, toys, collars, etc. Secondly, and most importantly, arrange to have your new puppy vaccinated against distemper at least seven to 10 days before bringing him home and be sure to get his entire vaccination series just as his doctor schedules. Don't miss his yearly boosters either, when he's grown up. Distemper can strike a dog of any age if they are not protected.

FOR KIDS

Because puppies and kittens can't talk, it's very important that you know what to watch for to know if your pet is sick and needs to see his doctor, the veterinarian. Some of the things that tell you to get him the medical care he needs are: illness of appetite, being very quiet and not wanting to play, 5)stomach upset shown by repeated vomiting or loose bowel movements, 4)any unusual discharge from his eyes, ears, or nose.

The Southeastern Michigan Veterinary Medical Association welcomes questions from readers. While each one cannot be answered individually, questions of general interest will appear in this column. Write to: All About Animals, SEMVMA, P.O. Box 413, Plymouth, Mich. 48170.

Dear Doctor,

We had a dog that died from dis-

effects will be less or no embarrassment at all on certain issues still "touchy" today.

There will be increasing acceptance of not only divorce, but of cohabitation, communal living, homosexual marriages and simply remaining single," she explained. "Women who want to be homemakers won't feel guilty if they don't have careers outside the home." Health care improvements resulting in the longer life expectancy that could encourage "serial monogamy" will also lead to another phenomenon: "the elderly will be healthier, more respected and needed more," the professor said. According to Borsage, a typical family arrangement in the future could be something like this: This husband and wife marry at later ages and form unions (perhaps sexual in some cases) with other married couples to share in child rearing, shopping and household chores.

"SIMILAR PATTERNS are already emerging in New York, Chicago and Washington, D.C., where middle and upper class professionals are buying brownstone houses together," she noted.

"Couples of the future will also be

able to choose the sex of their children and men will have early vasectomies, resulting in more children conceived from sperm frozen in banks." Dr. Borsage added.

Communal living styles, designed to counteract the impersonality of big government and big city life in a corporate world, will also provide programs with surrogate parents and more contacts with grandparents.

"The energy crunch, declining affluence and a growing belief that the 'work ethic' can't be all-satisfying will impel people into more interpersonal relationships," the professor said.

She predicts that families who can't travel so frequently because of fuel shortages will learn how to play games together and that new types of television programming will emerge to help keep families entertained.

Social support systems of the future will include neighborhood centers that provide day care for both children and the aged and further promote interpersonal relationships in sports and crafts activities.

"THE FAMILY IS here to stay," says Dr. Borsage, who notes that even now, in a time when the family system is often considered in decline, that a full two-thirds of families are still intact.

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