

DAVID & SUSAN'S OFF-CAMERA ROMANCE

Is It The Real Thing Or Just For Fun?

Neither David Cassidy nor Susan Dey bother to hide the fact that they share a very close relationship with each other both on and off the **Partridge Family** set. The question is how heavy is it?

Let's go back in time and explore their history together for a more complete answer.

Susan was living in New York, working as a professional model—a very successful one—when she was asked to fly to California and test for the role she eventually won in the series. Never having acted before and not really knowing anyone on the set, she was more nervous than she appeared to be.

But as she looked around the roomful of strangers, she couldn't help but notice that she was the target of an admiring smile—David Cassidy's. She returned a warm smile of her own. It was the first time they had ever seen each other.

After David and Susan won their respective roles and began rehearsing, they got to know each other.

Their first off-the-set experience together was when David volunteered to show Susan around the city. She was unfamiliar with Los Angeles and David's private tour helped her to get acquainted—not only with the city, but with her guide.

They liked what they learned about each other that day. It was the beginning of their off-camera relationship.

As the shooting got under way for the show, the cast began spending more time with each other than with their real families. This isn't unusual for the cast of any television show. What was unusual was the amount of extra-curricular time David and Susan were spending together.

Not only were they required to rehearse and shoot the show, but, due to the success of the **Partridge** series, they were together during recording sessions and promotional tours.

And when David and Susan finished the day's work together, they began the day's play together. They even had lunch with each other almost every day (a habit they never broke).

Since they did most of

the promotional tours together, travelling around the country from city to lonely city, they learned more and more about each other and their relationship began to get a little more involved. Their conversations were deeper than merely surface chit-chat. They traded secrets and explored each other's minds. They even annoyed each other once in a while—the true requirement for any heavy relationship.

These weren't actually arguments, just brief moments of haste. Like the time Susan dropped ice down David's back after he complained to her about the heat. Or the time David did the same to Susan. Or the times their teasing went unappreciated (Susan maintains her modeling figure and David is always joking about how thin she is).

But since each knows how the other feels beneath the teasing and the practical jokes, their annoyances never grow into arguments.

Says David, "We never have any serious disagreements, only heavy conversations."

Now for the nitty-gritty: the degree to which they're involved. The fact is, David and Susan have a pretty heavy thing going.

Both know they can trust, confide secrets, and count on each other in any situation.

They think of each other as honest, sincere, sweet, and, of course, very attractive. David says it best: "We dig each other's heads."

Their relationship has all the makings of a very heavy romance—for sometime in the future. Although neither will deny the feelings they share, both David

and Susan agree that "under a different set of circumstances," in another time and place, their potential affair would be allowed to go on uncontrolled.

But under the present set of circumstances, that they are working so closely with each other and that there is so much work to do, they're content to keep it uncomplicated by love.

Of course they won't have to live under these circumstances forever. Not even a great series like **The Partridge Family** can possibly last that long.



The cast is required to spend a lot of time with each other. But David and Susan are spending more than the required amount.