



**SHIRLEY JONES CONTINUED**

easier to take at the time instead of later!

### **TRUTH IS BETTER**

Sometimes telling the truth can be rather difficult, especially when you're involved emotionally with another person. But I think that true friends feel the truth is better, for though it may hurt at the moment it may help later on!

I've tried to teach my own three children the importance of honesty and for the most part they're pretty good with it.

Out of the three, one does a bit more lying than the others, mostly to get out of situations or just to see how far he can go with his Dad and I. The other two I think are a bit more like I am — choosing to face up to something at the time.

### **SO AGAINST IT**

But I can always tell when my children aren't telling the truth, or when they're stretching it! It's very obvious. Usually they lie if they want to get each other in trouble!

Of course when this happens I get screaming, furious mad! I'm so against it and although I realize that all kids do lie, for some reason with me as their mother it actually goes against my principles so much I can't control myself!

I have a motto I try to live by and I'm sure you've heard it — "to thine own self be true." It was written by Shakespeare in one of his plays. Somehow it seems that if you are true to yourself you can't help but be true to others!



**DAVID CASSIDY CONTINUED**

you know what the grooviest thing was? I was proud that I had earned that mark honestly! I had done it the hard way, but that incident proved something to me!

### **A REAL TURNOFF**

Later on, when I was in high school, I ran into another kind of dishonesty. I mean the kind where some of the kids would try to act big, bragging about things they'd done and so on — and that was a real turnoff for me!

One time I did get into a mess with a buddy of mine, though. It seemed like a good idea to skip school and just drive around in my car, so we did it. We had a great time, until we got back to his house later and found out the school had called. I knew then that my mother had found out I lied to her. I felt really bad about it, mostly because I was afraid she would ground me for a month!

### **I WAS ASHAMED**

When I got home, she was waiting for me. But instead of being angry, she just talked to me, saying how disappointed she was. Then I wished she had punished me, because I was ashamed of myself. And so I learned another lesson about honesty.

I'm not going to sit here and tell you that I haven't told a lie since, because if I did, I'd be lying to you! But I really try to be honest, first with myself and then with other people. It's not always an easy thing to do, but as I've learned, it's always the best way.