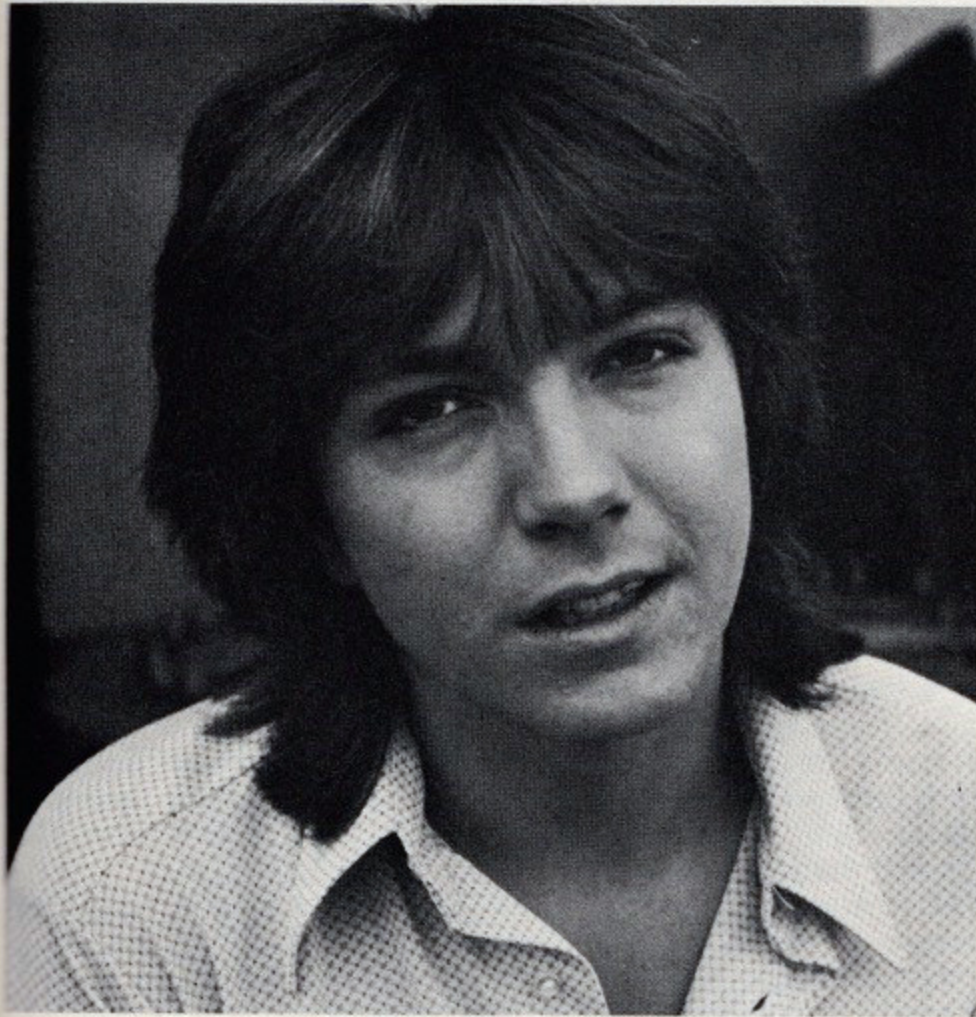


DATING A BLACK ACTRESS!

How David Cassidy Defended His Father



Even though David Cassidy's mother, Evelyn Ward, ended her marriage to Jack, David's close allegiance to his dad was untouched and strong.

Tongues wagged when word was out that Shirley Jones sat at home while her husband was out socializing with a young and beautiful actress . . .

"I love my father and trust his judgment," David Cassidy told us. "I just can't condemn him for anything he does because in some ways, perhaps many ways, we look at life differently. We accept one another as adults and that means letting one another make independent decisions."

That statement could apply to a great deal in the relationship between David and his father, Jack Cassidy. It would seem innocuous enough if regarding such matters as politics, songs and so forth. But if the circumstances were more controversial, well, then what David said would take on a new dimension.

Such as the fact that his father has dated a black girl named Mira Walters even though he is still very much married to David's stepmother, Shirley Jones!

Can his statement really express how David feels in the situation? Is he so open-minded as to "trust" his father even as far as that?

You might wonder how authentic any "dates" between Mira and Jack have been. According to our Hollywood sources, they have been seen out together on at least one occasion—socially. They see each other daily—in a professional sense.

"Jack is planning on producing a play sometime soon," we were told. "Mira is acting in it. There have been a few holdups so, in the meantime, Mira is acting as Jack's private secretary. She is a luscious beauty, that girl! Any man would forget the color barrier in her presence. She has more sex appeal than nine out of ten white actresses."

And Jack is a red-blooded guy, always has been. His appreciate eye has gotten him into trouble with Shirley on more than one occasion, this latest no exception, by any means!

"Jack Cassidy is magnetic," stated a West Coast columnist. "He has charm, intelligence, looks. Women fall for him all the time. It's just a question of how many—if any—he chooses to fall for. If he were given half a chance, he could become the screen's/continued on page 65