

When a parent is deployed, the partner and children are really dealing with the concept of loss and the grief cycle.

Concentric circles diagrams

These diagrams show the flow on effect of a parent experiencing the grief and loss of a parent who has gone away for work for a long time. In these examples, the father has deployed and the mother is the at-home parent. The same would occur if the roles were reversed, or in other parenting relationships.

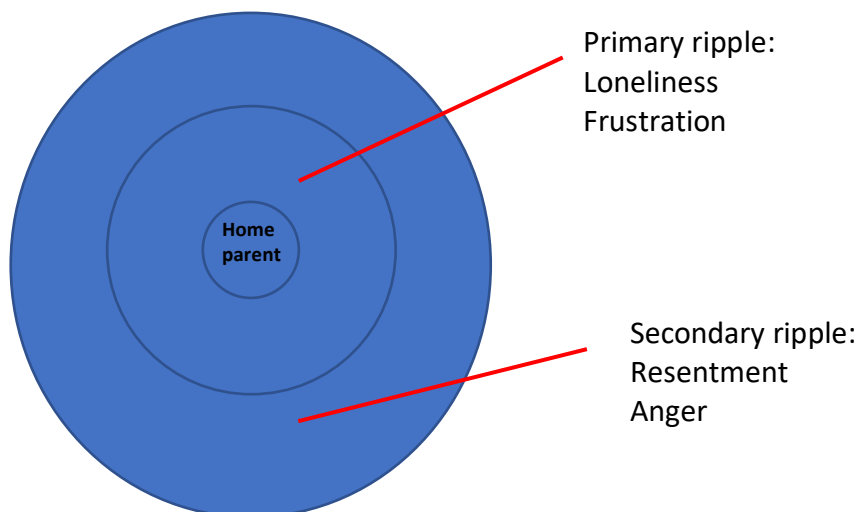
It is important to note that not all these examples happen. None of them may occur, or only some of them might eventuate, and not to any great degree. Responses are very individual.

There may be three relationship role dynamics going on when a parent away for work for a long time:

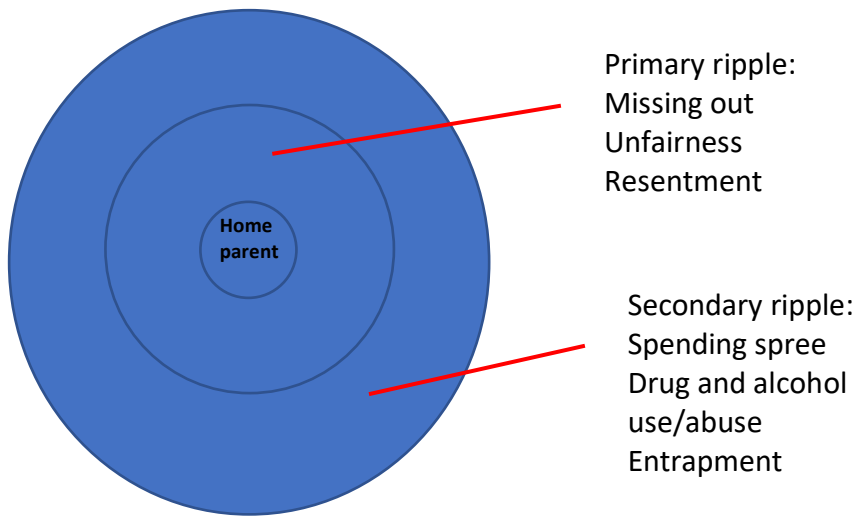
1. Mother towards her spouse
2. Self as an individual to themselves i.e. who they are, what are their personal dreams/hopes
3. Mother towards children

The concentric circles indicate the inevitable ripple effect when the parent is deployed.

1. Mother towards spouse:



2. Mother as an individual to themselves i.e. who they are, what are their personal dreams/hopes



3. Mother towards children

