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## **WNBC News 4 You: Coping with a Sitter's Departure**

**WNBC:** You trust them to watch your children, and many times, a loyal babysitter can become like a member of the family. So how can you help your kids deal with the split when a babysitter or nanny moves on and how should you handle it? Will it process if you need to let your sitter go?

Here with some advice is the founder and CEO of Sittercity.com and iVillage contributor Genevieve Thiers. Thanks for coming in.

**GENEVIEVE THIERS:** Thank you.

**WNBC:** There are many different circumstances under which a babysitter might leave her employment, but for starters let's talk about what a parent should be thinking about in terms of whether its time to look for new child care. (TRT=00:55)

**GENEVIEVE THIERS:** Arrange to be there for them more after a separation like that so that they can depend on you instead. And let them talk it out. You know, if they're talking about the person, let them get it out of their system and every day they'll talk about them a little bit less.

**WNBC:** And if you want to help your babysitter find another job, is there some etiquette in terms of doing that?

**GENEVIEVE THIERS:**

There's definitely an etiquette that parents should follow. And the most popular thing I've seen these days is heading to sites like Sittercity.com and iVillage.com and putting up a post for your nanny or sitter saying they're great and you really should try them. Also, you know, a direct introduction is great if you can do it, but if not, go the online route. Finally, good references are great but I have one pet peeve: don't give a good reference unless they were a good nanny or sitter. Doesn't help another parent. Not at all.

**WNBC:**

Good advice.