Hearing

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your children. This promotes an artificial relationship that is damaging to the children and to the hard-of-hearing parent. Children must learn that nothing has changed when it comes to relating to their parents.

For the family member who has hearing loss, Beck says it is important not to use the hearing loss as an excuse to "tune out" but rather stay involved with your family, career and friends.

"There is a vast difference between existing and living," Beck said. "Living demands participation. As difficult as the hearing loss may be to cope with, it must not result in a diminished life. Life does go on."

