

Ok, here is the script.

segment 1 -

Edin- Is this what you normally do together with your children?

Me- Yes, everyday.

Erik (5) - NEVER mamma!

Me- NEVER MAMMA? Mamma isn't that good (to build trains) (hahaha)

editorial- Four months ago, american Lisa and norwegian Even had very little time to spend together with their children. Now Lisa has quit her job as a manager and Even started working more flexible hours as a physical therapist, so they could spend more time together as a family.

me- We had very busy days. We both had many evening shifts and I worked every other saturday. We were rarely home together.

Even- We were never home at the same time.

me- The problem is, when you are constantly working, and rarely see your family, you become ill, exhausted and stressed. Your body shuts down... you just get really sick. When you've gone the whole week without seeing your partner, 5 days without seeing each other, things happen. We didn't want to be a statistic and get a divorce, because that is what often happens. People get so stressed and don't see their family so they end up in divorce. We didn't want that to happen.

Edin(to Erik)- How good are you at building train tracks Erik?

Erik- Better than everyone that lives here. Better than pappa!

Even- You aren't better than pappa! :)

Erik- YEEESSS!!

Max(2) - I build it and drive (the trains) into the garage!

editorial- After quitting her job as a manager, Lisa has started to realize her dream of working as a freelance photographer. The family has chosen to live in a smaller house, in a smaller neighborhood, instead of in a big city.

Even- I feel that we don't need the nicest house, in the nicest area or the nicest cars, it's more important that we try to spend more time together as a family. Therefore, we don't need all those luxuries.

Me- To live on one salary for awhile? We just have to do it. Because now we are so fortunate and happy..the stress just disappeared. So it's totally worth it.

Edin- Max sits there with a puzzle and you are all watching children's tv, there aren't many families that take the time to sit and watch tv together with their children. Is this something you often do?

Me- In daycare, they are playing the entire day, they are REALLY active, so it's nice to find an activity where we can calm down and relax before it's time for bed.

Even- when they come home, they have been playing hard, all day, so it's great that they can sit and watch a little tv, to relax a bit....or do a puzzle, like Max is doing.

Edin- What can time constraints do to families?

Even- I think we are typical examples that if a family doesn't have time to see one another, work too much and focus too much on your job, you don't have time for each other, and it affects your relationship. We don't want

the daycare to raise our children. We want to take a bigger part of (of raising our children). I feel that was something that we weren't able to do before. That is also one of the reasons why, if one of us could reduce our hours, we could take a bigger part in raising our own children.

then Max hops up in Edin's lap (he only just met him). Max is like that, doesn't know a stranger. Edin then says 'It's good that kids like me! :)'.

Edin- Are you not worried that one salary might not be enough to live on?

Me- That's always a worry, we have to take.....we just have to try.

Even- Children are only small for a little while. It's really important to be their while they are small. Maybe when they are older, we can prioritize things differently, maybe focusing more on careers again.

Segment 2-

Me- THis is what we LOVE!

Edin- Do you do more things with your children now that you have more time?

Even- Since the new year, we've had alot more time, so we've been trying to travel and find fun things to do with the children.

Erik- JEG VIL FISKE NÅÅÅÅÅÅ! lol

Editorial- it's a beautiful, sunny day in Sjøstrand in Asker...and what is better than to go on a fishing trip with Family Røstøen.

Edin- Erik! When I was a little boy, my dad took me on fishing trips. But it was sooo long ago, I almost don't remember. Can you show me how you fish?

Erik- You push the button like this and BAM :)

Me- (to Max) is that fun??

Edin- What do the boys think about having more time together with you both?

Me- I think they are very happy that we've slowed down.

Even- They notice that we are less stressed. We have more time for them.

Me- Yes, we have more time to do things like this.

Edin- (to Even) - How was it when you were growing up?

Even- I had a wonderful childhood. My parents were very active in raising me. When my mom had my brother and me, she stopped working for a few years to spend time with us. I had a father who was very involved and fantastic.

Edin- so alot of time together as a family?

Even- yes, alot.

Edin- and you Lisa?

Me- My parents had to work alot so I had it different than Even.

Edin- Did you ever feel that your parents working so much affected your childhood?

Me- Not when I was small because I didn't know, but now that I'm an adult, I think so. We didn't have much time for birthday parties or vacation and we didn't have much money, so it was really necessary for my parents to work. In that aspect it's a bit of a shame.

Edin- Do you feel that sometimes it's necessary to spend time together without children?

Me- Yes, everyone needs that, especially after you have children. After you have children, it's no longer just the two of us. You now have someone in the middle, so it's extremely important that you find time to spend together as a couple. This is why I stopped working so much and wanted to work less. I thought it was very important to take the love back. You have to be together if you are going to love each other. Right? :)

Even- yep..hhahaha :) -hmm. Are we missing a fishing pole?

Me- Max??? Where is the fishing pole??

Max- OVER THERE!

Segment 3 (how do you like the closeup of that Nikon?? :))

Editorial- Lisa is in the process of starting her own photography business, specializing in photographing children. She decided to do this so she could choose when, and how often, she will work. She is often in the wheat fields of Røyken, taking pictures of her family.

Edin- Lisa, do you feel that there is a big difference in time constraints here compared to the US?

Me- I have to say there are fewer hours in the work week here in Norway compared to the US. A normal week is over 40 hours. I also feel that we are pressured to work much more, especially on the job. However, I do think that it's becoming worse here in NORway.

Edin- Is it normal in the US that one person is home and the other works?

Me- No, I think it's the same as here. Many (children) have two parents that have to work, so I think it's very typical.

Even- I believe that, actually, Americans work alot more than we do here in Norway. They have longer days and shorter vacations (we get 5 weeks in NORway :)) It's a country that must work to live, rather than live to work.

Edin- Do you feel you are living the AMERICAN DREAM (huh?? This question stumped me, so I had to stop tape and have him clarify what he meant)

Me- I've never really had an 'american dream'. I've just always wanted to be happy. When we were deciding on where we were going to live (US vs Norway), we found that what we get in Norway, was worth much more to us. Raising children here was easier, safer, better than in the US (**let me clarify..we have a government that places children HIGH up on their priority list. It's safe to be a child here, we get tons of support, both financial and physical. Free healthcare, free dental, our children can play outside without worrying about being kidnapped or worse. I am american through and through!**))

Even- I think if Lisa can get her photography business off the ground, I think we will be very fortunate and happy, both with her job and with our family life.

Me- Not everyone can have both, but we will be very blessed if it works out. Then we have the best of both worlds.