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Couples to deal with rented babies on reality show 11 Jan 2008, 0000 hrs IST, AFP

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HAGUE: Love will face its ultimate test on an upcoming Dutch reality show in which four amorous couples are forced to deal with a rented baby, child and adolescent during eight televised episodes.

"During the first episode, we'll get to know the couples and the tension will rise immediately," Dutch public broadcasting station BNN said about the new show, Baby for Hire .

"From the second (episode), they will realise how taking care of a baby 24 hours a day turns life upside down." Over three weeks of impromptu parenthood in which the most intense moments will be distilled into eight televised episodes, BNN aims to cover every detail in the life of a couple.

From piles of undone laundry to burnt saucepan bottoms to the teenage son who brings home a new girlfriend each night, nothing will be spared, the station promised. That includes pregnancy: the women on the show will feel truly 'with child' according to BNN.

The lovebirds starring in the show are aged between 17 and 20 years and include one lesbian couple.

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