

Angry outbursts spoil groups enjoyment of spirited debates

DEAR ABBY: I frequently socialize with friends who like to participate in debates. We share different opinions on topics such as politics, geopolitical events, etc. Sometimes we agree; sometimes we don't.



DEAR ABBY

The problem is "Bob." When others don't see things the way he does, he throws a fit. Once, it got so bad that one of my friends got up and left. Another time, while I was expressing my political view to the group, Bob made faces, rolled his eyes and attacked me with ridicule. I got very annoyed.

Bob DEMANDS that we listen to what HE has to say, but refuses to listen to others. He's fine as long as you agree with him. But in this current climate, I'm expecting more eruptions. Abby, what do I do when the next fit erupts?

— CAUGHT IN THE STORM

DEAR CAUGHT: The next time a "fit" erupts, call Bob on it and point out that what he's doing is disrespectful. If he doesn't stop, do as your other friend did. Get up and leave. Perhaps when Bob finds himself surrounded by an ever-shrinking audience, he will stop his overbearing performance. And if he doesn't, at least you won't have to suffer.

DEAR ABBY: We recently moved into a condo community of about a hundred units. A few weeks ago, a sign was anonymously posted on a car parked in a neighbor's driveway complaining about the "smell" and "mess" in the car. I removed the sign only to

find it replaced the next day. This has happened several times since.

I know nothing about this resident except that his car has not moved from the spot in the driveway. I am appalled by someone's attempt to shame our neighbor. I plan to bring it up at our next association meeting, but is there anything else I can do?

— DISAPPOINTED IN THE EAST

DEAR DISAPPOINTED: There could be reasons why the car in the driveway wasn't moved — among them illness or an absent homeowner. By all means discuss this at the next homeowners' meeting. And when you bring up the subject, suggest to the board that security cameras be installed for the safety of the residents and their property.

DEAR ABBY: When my husband and I go out in public, he doesn't introduce me to people. I have told him more than once how it makes me feel. He introduces his sister or our children if they are close by. Because of this, I shrink away or speak very little when he talks to others. I also avoid attending social situations with him.

I don't want to break our family up, but I feel like "nothing" around him. My husband seems happy with me at home. We don't go out to dinner, but we do have some good friends. I'm not a trophy wife, but I think I'm a good catch. What can I do?

— WIFE OF SUPERFICIAL HUSBAND

DEAR WIFE: What you can do when your husband

"forgets" to introduce you is smile, speak up and say, "Hi, I'm 'Janie,' his wife." And when you are in private, remind him that his failure to introduce you is rude, and you find it insulting.

DEAR ABBY: Our son is married to a beautiful girl, "Debra." Several years ago, while we were away on vacation, she entered our home without our consent. (Our son has a key to our house.) She took several expensive, very personal and sentimental items, and we have no idea what she did with them because she denies doing it.

Abby, we have absolute proof it was her. Our son denied her involvement for a while until other suspicious things happened with some of their friends' possessions. We all agree now it was Debra. Her mother sided with her until Debra stole from her; too. At the time of our robbery

and our accusation of her guilt, Debra said she would never talk to us or enter our house again. In addition to what she did to us, in the past she has also done some unscrupulous and hurtful things involving our grandchildren and other children. Because of this, she is no longer invited to any family events, and our son agrees, although he still loves her, and they are still married.

We sincerely forgive Debra for what she did, but we decided that it does not mean we must include her in our lives again. Years have passed, and she's now trying to come back into the fold. Her presence would cause our grandchildren and their parents to stay away, which we definitely do not want. Debra and our son have no children.

She has never admitted her guilt or asked for forgiveness from us. Should we be open to allowing her back

into our close-knit fold?

— VICTIMIZED IN FLORIDA

DEAR VICTIMIZED: Has your son offered an explanation for his wife's behavior? Could she have been on drugs or suffering from a mental or emotional problem at the time she acted out the way she did? Whether or not you should try to broker a peace in the family and "let her back into the fold" would depend upon what she did to the grandchildren and other children, whether it can be remediated with an apology and explanation to those she offended, and your family's capacity for forgiveness.

DEAR ABBY: I have been married for three years. I'm not someone who initiates sex, but once in a blue moon I get the urge. Unfortunately, every time I do, my husband refuses and makes excuses. This year I tried twice, and

after the last rejection, I exploded from anger.

I am so insulted! I never refuse him, even if I don't feel like it, because I want to please him. When I told him how he made me feel, he apologized. He said he didn't mean to hurt my feelings, but I feel awful. Now I no longer feel any sexual urges at all, and I'm no longer attracted to my husband.

What must I do? I can't simply forget the feelings.

— INSULTED WIFE

DEAR INSULTED: Because your husband is usually the one who initiates sex, it's possible that this is the way he prefers it. That said, however, this issue could end your marriage if it isn't dealt with. You and your husband should ask your physician for a referral to a licensed psychotherapist who can help both of you get to the core of this issue. Do not let this fester. Do it now.

Time for a fall clean up?

What you should know about the disposal of household hazardous waste.

What is household hazardous waste?

HHW is anything labeled toxic, flammable, corrosive, reactive or explosive. These materials can threaten family health and the safety of pets and wildlife.

What are some examples of hazardous waste?

Aerosols, Bleach, Drain Cleaners, Metal Polish, Mothballs, Oven Cleaners, Toilet Bowl Cleaners, Ammonia-based Cleaners, Mercury Thermometers, Wood Polishes, Waxes, Fertilizers, Insecticides, Herbicides, Rodenticides, Spa and Pool Chemicals, Roofing Compounds, Antifreeze, Batteries, Motor Oil, Paint Strippers and Thinners, Gasoline and more.

Where can I safely dispose of my hazardous waste?

La Grande Facility: Open to any resident of the three counties every other Tuesday, 8am-12 noon. By appointment, however, small labeled quantities accepted daily. (541) 963-5459.

Baker City Facility: Open the first Wednesday of each month, 10am-12 noon. By appointment only. (541) 523-2626.

Enterprise Facility: Open the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month 10am-12 noon. By appointment only. (541) 426-3332.

Americans generate 1.6 million tons of HHW per year!

The average home can accumulate as much as 100 pounds of hazardous waste.

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weather

**TONIGHT**
Mainly clear

**SAT**
Sunny intervals; nice

**SUN**
A touch of afternoon rain

**MON**
Clouds and sun

**TUE**
Mostly sunny; warmer

Baker City	38	70	40	70	41	67	38	75	41
Comfort Index™	5	10	8	9	10	9	10	10	10
La Grande	44	71	48	68	42	64	42	74	46
Comfort Index™	4	10	6	8	10	8	10	10	10
Enterprise	41	68	44	66	43	62	40	72	45
Comfort Index™	5	10	10	8	10	8	10	10	10

Comfort Index takes into account how the weather will feel based on a combination of factors. A rating of 10 feels very comfortable while a rating of 0 feels very uncomfortable.

ALMANAC

TEMPERATURES

	Baker City	La Grande	Elgin
High Wednesday	64°	66°	69°
Low Wednesday	47°	43°	48°

PRECIPITATION (inches)

	Baker City	La Grande	Elgin
Wednesday	0.30	0.03	0.04
Month to date	0.54	1.13	1.13
Normal month to date	0.35	0.38	0.46
Year to date	6.83	12.42	21.94
Normal year to date	7.42	11.25	15.49

WED. EXTREMES

NATION (for the 48 contiguous states)

High: 106° Cotulla, Texas
Low: 12° Bodie State Park, Calif.
Wettest: 7.46" Beaumont, Texas

OREGON

High: 74° Hermiston
Low: 34° Crater Lake
Wettest: 2.12" Florence

AROUND OREGON AND THE REGION

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REGIONAL CITIES

City	SAT. HI/Lo/W	SUN. HI/Lo/W	City	SAT. HI/Lo/W	SUN. HI/Lo/W
Astoria	68/56/sh	65/53/r	Lewiston	75/51/pc	76/54/c
Bend	71/49/s	62/37/r	Longview	69/58/pc	65/50/r
Boise	70/49/pc	77/52/pc	Meacham	68/46/pc	65/41/r
Brookings	73/56/s	64/52/r	Medford	78/55/s	67/50/r
Burns	66/38/s	65/36/r	Newport	68/57/pc	65/52/r
Coos Bay	71/58/pc	67/51/r	Olympia	69/56/c	64/48/r
Corvallis	73/56/pc	66/49/r	Ontario	73/44/s	74/49/pc
Council	68/42/pc	70/46/pc	Pasco	79/55/pc	73/50/r
Elgin	70/46/pc	67/42/r	Pendleton	76/52/pc	69/47/r
Eugene	75/56/pc	67/49/r	Portland	72/57/c	67/53/r
Hermiston	80/54/pc	72/51/r	Powers	76/57/s	65/49/r
Hood River	73/58/pc	67/51/r	Redmond	73/46/s	64/38/r
Imnaha	72/49/pc	71/48/c	Roseburg	78/57/pc	66/53/r
John Day	70/48/s	64/43/r	Salem	72/57/c	66/49/r
Joseph	67/44/pc	67/43/pc	Spokane	68/49/pc	67/48/c
Kennewick	79/57/pc	73/51/r	The Dalles	76/56/pc	68/52/r
Klamath Falls	70/40/s	60/35/sh	Ukiah	67/43/pc	63/37/r
Lakeview	69/37/s	63/36/sh	Walla Walla	76/58/pc	73/52/r

Weather(W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice

RECREATION FORECAST SATURDAY

ANTHONY LAKES Partly sunny	47	33		PHILLIPS LAKE Partly sunny	66	39	
MT. EMILY REC. Sun and clouds	59	43		BROWNLEE RES. Clouds and sun	72	44	
EAGLE CAP WILD. Sunny intervals	54	37		EMIGRANT ST. PARK Periods of sun	65	40	
WALLOWA LAKE Clouds and sun	67	44		MCKAY RESERVOIR Partly sunny; nice	75	52	
THIEF VALLEY RES. Partly sunny; nice	70	40		RED BRIDGE ST. PARK Partly sunny	71	48	

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