

Parents clash over who should discipline their children

DEAR ABBY: I am a single father of three wonderful kids. When my wife and I separated, we agreed to 50/50 custody and a property settlement. Everything went smoothly. A year later I requested, and was granted, full custody of my children. Their mom has visitation, but that's it.

Shortly after my separation, I met a woman and we became good friends. I waited about a year before introducing her to my children because I wanted to make sure I knew her first. Although we are not "officially" in a relationship, she has been more than willing to step in and help with the children. In a few instances she has disciplined them because of bad behaviors. It usually entails talking to them about what they did wrong and some sort of consequence — loss of toys or privileges. When they went to visit their mother and she heard about it, she wasn't happy. She called me very upset saying my friend had no right to discipline our kids. I see nothing wrong with it, but I

am second-guessing myself. Some advice, please?

— CONCERNED DAD IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR CONCERNED DAD: If your lady friend's "discipline" EVER went further than a talking-to, then their mother is right. Because you have primary custody of the children, YOU should be the parent who levies penalties if they misbehave and a punishment is warranted.

DEAR ABBY: I'm a very social person and part of a close-knit friend group, but my boyfriend is on the introverted side. Although he is sweet and thoughtful, he doesn't have many friends of his own, and he tends to enjoy independent hobbies.

Since learning that my friendships are very important to me, he has made a huge effort with my friends and their boyfriends. In the past, he invited them to movies, reached out and attempted to engage them in multiple ways I have watched from a distance, hoping they could forge a connec-

tion, but they ignore or avoid him, and he recently shared his worry that they don't like him.

I don't blame him for thinking that, and I'm starting to feel sad for him and frustrated with my friends. At what point do I talk to them about this? Should I just let the relationships happen organically (if they happen)? Should I interfere at all?

— TORN IN TEXAS

DEAR TORN: You didn't mention how old you are, or how long you and your boyfriend have been involved. I do not think it would be interfering to ask your friends why they seem unwilling to accept him. Their answers might be enlightening.

At some ages, circles have formed and it's difficult to break in and gain acceptance. If there is something about your boyfriend that makes them uncomfortable, it would be better if you knew what it was.

However, he should socialize with you and these friends at his comfort level. You may also need to seek out new friends and cultivate relationships together as a couple.

DEAR ABBY: What the heck happens

to men between the ages of 45 and 60? It seems the women they're after are all 15 to 20 years younger. I don't mean just for sex but for dating, love and marriage, too.

We middle-aged women are often overlooked because these middle-aged guys don't realize we are at our sexual peak and often hot as hell. And we're active in many interesting, fulfilling activities. By the time these men come to their senses, they are usually washed-up and impotent. Why is nature and society so cruel and unfair? How can I, as a sexy, active middle-aged woman, beat the odds? I do not intend to remain celibate and alone for the rest of my life.

— STILL FUN IN THE SOUTH

DEAR STILL FUN: You can't change other people, but you can change the way you react to them.

A way to "beat the odds" would be to stop focusing solely on middle-aged guys and consider dating men a bit younger who appreciate what you have to offer. Even if it doesn't lead to marriage, you could have a lot of fun in the meantime.

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weather

TONIGHT

Showers of rain and snow

Baker City 31

Comfort Index™ 3

WED

A little snow

Baker City 37 27

Comfort Index™ 0

THU

Mainly cloudy

Baker City 37 27

Comfort Index™ 4

FRI

Morning snow, 1-3"

Baker City 35 21

Comfort Index™ 0

SAT

A blend of sun and clouds

Baker City 36 20

Comfort Index™ 4

La Grande

34 39 33

Comfort Index™ 3

Enterprise

33 38 32

Comfort Index™ 4

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 Sunday	48°	47°	50°
Low Sunday	35°	37°	35°

PRECIPITATION (inches)

	Baker City	La Grande	Elgin
Sunday	0.12	0.22	1.35
Month to date	0.13	0.44	2.14
Normal month to date	0.09	0.17	0.31
Year to date	0.13	0.44	2.14
Normal year to date	0.09	0.17	0.31

SUNDAY EXTREMES

NATION (for the 48 contiguous states)

High: 85° Tamiami, Fla.

Low: -26° Antero Reservoir, Colo.

Wettest: 1.73" Goldsboro, N.C.

OREGON

High: 58° Hermiston

Low: 28° Keno

Wettest: 0.75" Brookings

WEATHER HISTORY

When rain falls to the earth and freezes on cold objects, it is called freezing rain. Freezing rain on Jan. 5, 1983, tied up morning traffic from North Carolina to eastern Pennsylvania.

SUN & MOON

TUE.

WED.

Sunrise

Sunset

Moonrise

Moonset

7:32 a.m.

4:24 p.m.

11:59 p.m.

11:32 a.m.

7:31 a.m.

4:25 p.m.

none

11:56 a.m.

MOON PHASES

Last

New

First

Full

Jan 6

Jan 12

Jan 20

Jan 28

AROUND OREGON AND THE REGION

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2021

Astoria 45/50

Longview 42/47

St. Helens 42/47

Vancouver 43/49

Hood River 40/45

Kennewick 40/47

Walla Walla 42/47

Lewiston 39/46

Tillamook 46/51

Newberg 43/49

Portland 46/50

The Dalles 39/48

Condon 39/44

Pendleton 38/47

Elgin 36/39

Enterprise 33/38

Halfway 28/38

Council 20/32

John Day 32/42

Monument 37/45

Granite 27/35

Baker City 31/37

Huntington 30/39

Ontario 32/41

Boise 32/44

Juntura 27/39

Frenchglen 29/44

Diamond 26/43

Arock 26/45

Grand View 27/41

McDermitt 24/42

Fields 29/43

Brothers 32/40

Silver Lake 30/41

Paisley 25/41

Lakeview 26/41

Klamath Falls 30/39

Medford 39/49

Chiloquin 29/39

Beaver Marsh 29/37

Elkton 46/52

Oakridge 42/50

Roseburg 45/52

Grants Pass 43/50

Corvallis 43/51

Eugene 45/52

Sisters 37/46

Redmond 42/48

Bend 36/45

Brookings 47/52

Coos Bay 46/53

Powers 47/53

Shown is Wednesday's weather. Temperatures are Tuesday night's lows and Wednesday's highs.

REGIONAL CITIES

City	WED. Hi/Lo/W	THU. Hi/Lo/W	City	WED. Hi/Lo/W	THU. Hi/Lo/W
Astoria	50/40/r	51/43/c	Lewiston	46/39/sn	46/32/c
Bend	45/29/sh	46/32/pc	Longview	47/42/r	49/39/c
Boise	44/35/sn	41/28/sf	Meacham	36/30/sn	36/27/sn
Brookings	52/40/r	53/43/c	Medford	49/35/r	46/35/c
Burns	39/22/sn	37/19/pc	Newport	50/42/r	52/43/c
Coos Bay	53/42/r	54/43/c	Olympia	49/37/sh	47/36/c
Corvallis	51/39/r	48/38/c	Ontario	41/32/sn	42/31/pc
Council	32/24/sn	33/18/sn	Pasco	51/36/c	46/33/c
Elgin	39/33/sn	41/31/c	Pendleton	47/34/sn	45/33/sn
Eugene	52/39/r	50/38/c	Portland	50/42/r	52/41/c
Hermiston	48/36/sh	47/34/c	Powers	53/40/r	56/43/c
Hood River	45/38/sh	49/40/c	Redmond	48/28/sh	47/34/pc
Imnaha	43/34/sn	43/26/c	Roseburg	52/38/r	52/41/c
John Day	42/31/sn	40/28/pc	Salem	50/40/r	49/38/c
Joseph	36/30/sn	37/26/sn	Spokane	41/35/sn	37/28/c
Kennewick	47/36/c	47/32/c	The Dalles	48/37/sh	49/39/c
Klamath Falls	39/26/sh	38/28/pc	Ukiah	36/29/sn	37/27/c
Lakeview	41/22/sn	37/20/c	Walla Walla	47/38/r	44/35/sn

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

RECREATION FORECAST WEDNESDAY

ANTHONY LAKES

Snow, 1-3"

31 20

MT. EMILY REC.

A bit of snow

36 30

EAGLE CAP WILD.

Snow, 1-3"

32 21

WALLOWA LAKE

Snow, 1-3"

36 30

THIEF VALLEY RES.

A little snow

37 27

PHILLIPS LAKE

Snow, 1-3"

35 25

BROWNLEE RES.

A bit of snow

37 27

EMIGRANT ST. PARK

A bit of snow

35 29

MCKAY RESERVOIR

A bit of a.m. snow

46 34

RED BRIDGE ST. PARK

A little snow

39 33

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