

Does more housework lead to sex? Tomorrow's horoscope

By Holiday Mathis, Creators Syndicate Inc.

Dear Annie: I recently saw the results of a survey that said the more work men do around the house the less sex they get. I have seen many comments in your column from women who stated the opposite — that if a man did more around the house, he might “get more” in the bedroom.

I have always helped out with cooking, mopping floors, doing laundry, cleaning the bathroom, etc., and never once did I consider that the point was more sex. But this information confused me. I mentioned it to my wife, who said, “Sorry.”

So, I asked another woman her thoughts on this subject, and she said men would get more sex, but she had a little smile on her face that told me different. Another woman's answer was “maybe, maybe not.” So what's up with the conflicting statements? Should I not help out as much? — *Confused Husband*

Dear Confused: Cute. No. Like it or not, the amount you help around the house should not be tied to how much sex you get. You should help because it's the right thing to do, and, as a partner in a relationship, you should do your share. If it also makes your partner



Annie's Mailbox
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feel appreciative and less exhausted, that often translates to more sex. But there are so many factors that go into the desire for intimacy that you'd have to discuss it more thoroughly with your wife to find out what she needs and wants from you that will make her feel desirable and interested.

We can guarantee you, though, that if you watch TV while she does all the housework, there is likely to be no sex at all.

Dear Annie: “Tired and Disgusted Other Half” wrote an open letter to her husband, who thought it was funny to criticize her in front of their children and friends. I was married to a man who became increasingly verbally abusive over the years. The last eight years of our marriage were horrible. He put me down in front of our employees and demeaned me about everything

from my minor weight gain to my housekeeping and cooking. Then he said his abuse was my fault. I became totally uninterested in him physically, which made him even angrier.

Two therapists told him this was verbal abuse, but he would not listen. We were together for 41 years. He never thought I would have the courage to leave. But two years ago, at age 60, I decided that the thought of spending another 20 years being treated this way was more terrifying than the idea of living on my own.

I left my home and business and lost my financial security. But two years later, I am doing well. It has not been easy, but I get up every morning and am able to look in the mirror with self-respect. — *Life Is Good*

Dear Life: It sounds as though you did everything you could to save your marriage, and unfortunately, your husband wasn't willing to do the same. You needed to save yourself, and we are glad your decision to leave worked out so well. If any of our readers feel they are being verbally abused, please call the National Domestic Violence Hotline (thehotline.org) at 1-800-799-SAFE.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Because you're in your own head all day every day, it can be difficult to see yourself objectively. You are the hero of your story. With the right attitude, your challenges will only make you better.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You enjoy educating yourself, but more information isn't what you need now. If you can't apply what you learn, it's worthless. Seek a practical and effective strategy you can use to make your life better today.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). When people are silent or reserved, it's only natural to try to fill in the blanks with what you believe they might be thinking and feeling. Be careful not to invent a personality for people that they don't actually have.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). What unfolds will be simple, elegant and satisfying: You'll express your will, and someone else will execute it. It's good to be powerful, although don't forget that it also makes you responsible for what happens.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). When it comes to your loved ones, past experience and feelings give you a strong bias. Let that bias be positive today because it will be better to give your loved ones the benefit of the doubt.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). An organization effort will be necessary. It will feel like you're dumping the contents of a mystery drawer out onto the floor. As you restructure things, avoid formal logic and embrace impulse.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Don't let the petty hardships wear you down. Today it won't be such a bad thing to be cocooned in your beautiful dreams. You can deal in reality again tomorrow.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You will follow your gut into situations that are for your best and highest good. These situations may not be comfortable, aesthetically pleasing or financially prudent, but they are, nonetheless, right for you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You are developing a new awareness of your purpose, and you are also beginning to recognize which actions are aligned with it and which are not. There's a fellow fire sign who can illuminate your path.

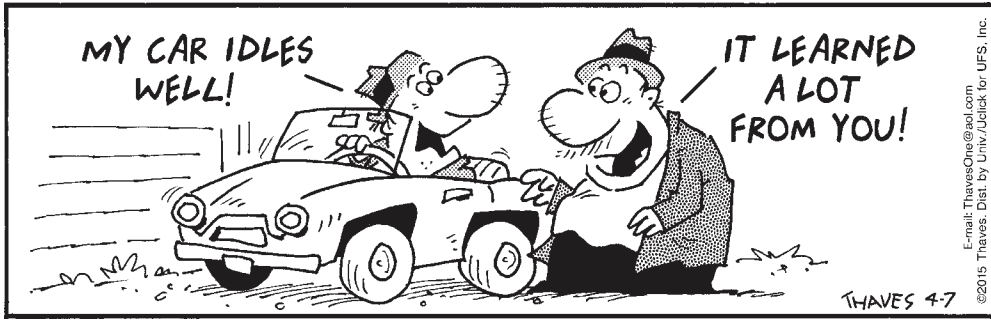
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). People who know you well will tend to see what they have always seen in you. Break out of your group and meet new people who can better experience the you of today (as opposed to the you of yesterday).

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You know what you want to communicate, but because you can't see yourself in action, you're not sure what you (SET ITAL) are (END ITAL) communicating. The opinions of those you trust will be invaluable.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You're not a person who lives for your next vacation. In fact, the work you engage in today will bring far more enjoyment and satisfaction than a beach getaway.

WEDNESDAY'S BIRTHDAY (April 8). Your love life will be a source of sweetness, comfort and excitement this year. Loyalty is one of your best qualities. This month your contribution to a group will be substantial and important, and you should be paid for this! Through May, keep building a case for the move or promotion you want. It will happen in mid-June. Gemini and Scorpio people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 13, 22, 39 and 18.

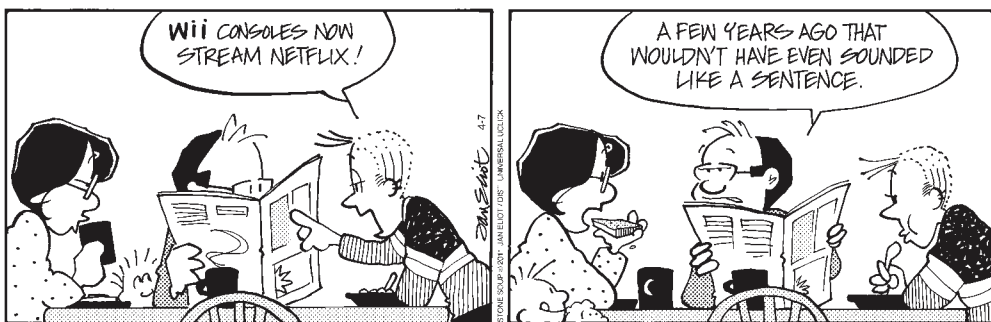
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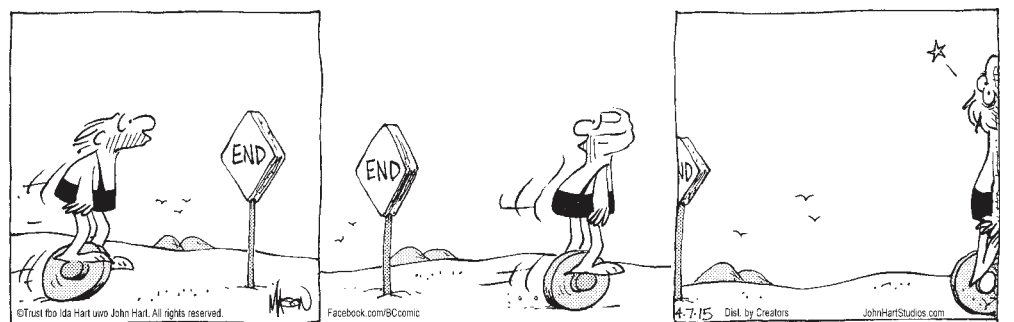
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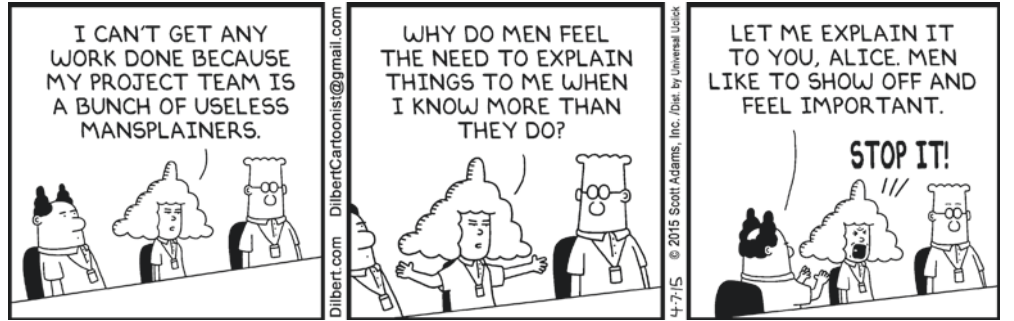
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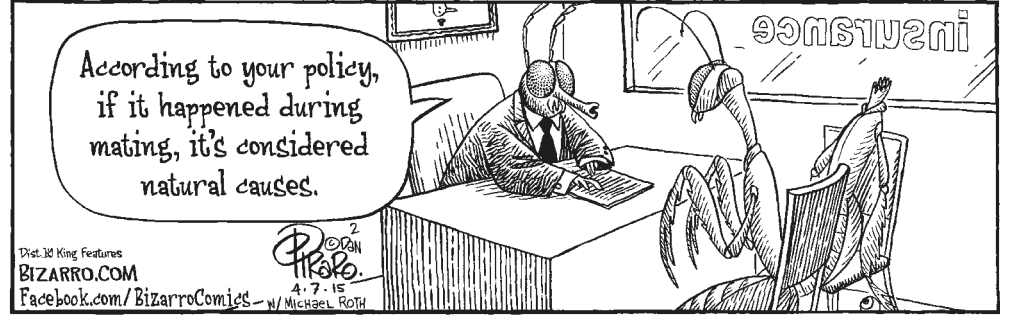
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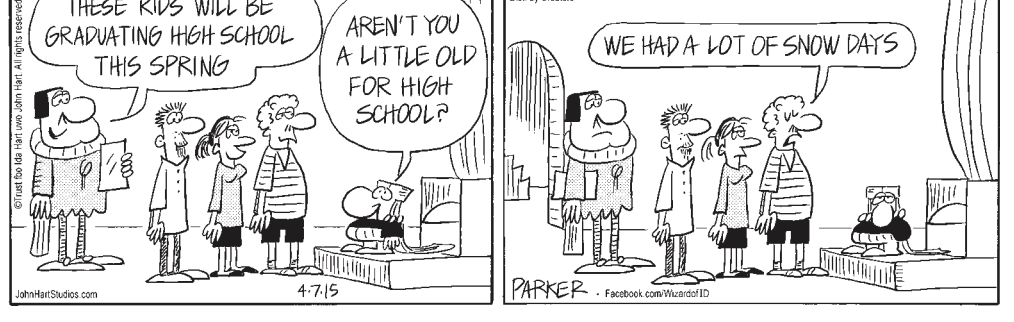
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