

# Is shaming a form of abuse?

**Dear Annie:** My 14-year-old daughter attends an all-girls school. Her stepfather initially encouraged it, but in the past two years, my daughter has made friends with a few classmates who say they are lesbian or bisexual.

My husband is extremely conservative (borderline homophobic), and as a result, he is shaming my daughter regularly for her friendships. I have a good bond with my daughter and feel torn. I know my husband cares about her, but his comments are hurtful. He says he will keep it up to make sure she doesn't "become" a lesbian.

I've pleaded with him, tried to understand him and told him to stop, but it continues. What do I do? — *Is This Abuse?*

**Dear Abuse:** Shaming your daughter is a form of abuse. Your husband sounds ignorant, homophobic and idiotic. Friendships with bisexual or homosexual girls will not make your daughter "become" a lesbian. But we guarantee that your husband's bullying will push her toward rejecting everything he says, and his influence over her will diminish to nothing.

You need to stand up for your daughter more strongly. Insist that you and your husband get counsel-

## Annie's Mailbox

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ing immediately to work on this. If he refuses and will not curtail this behavior, we recommend you take your daughter and leave the house. Your husband needs to understand the consequences of his actions, and more importantly, your child should not be subjected to such emotional abuse. You are the only one who can protect her.

**Dear Annie:** I read the letter from "G," whose mother died and the headstone uses only the surname of her second husband. "G" was concerned that her children's descendants won't be able to find their grandmother's grave because they won't necessarily recall the second husband's surname.

Please suggest to "G" that she check the websites [www.findagrave.com](http://www.findagrave.com) and [www.billiongraves.com](http://www.billiongraves.com) to see whether Grandma has a memorial. If not, "G" could photo-

graph her mother's stone and create a memorial that mentions the surnames of both husbands, their dates of marriage, children from either marriage, etc. That will help descendants find Grandma when they wish to do so. — *A Genealogist*

**Dear Genealogist:** Thank you for the helpful suggestion. Several readers mentioned [findagrave.com](http://findagrave.com), but you were the only one to list both sites. Of course, descendants need to know these online memorials exist in order to make use of them, and one never knows what the future holds when it comes to technology. But we are happy to mention both websites and appreciate being able to pass along the information to all of our readers.

**Dear Annie:** I read your column about prepaid funerals and wholeheartedly recommend them. I have prepaid five funerals. My wife and I started doing this back in 1997 with our own funerals. We paid \$5,100 each for our plans. My wife of 70 years passed away last year. Had we not paid in advance, her funeral would have cost \$8,300. I also prepaid for my daughter's funeral, and she was able to choose what she wanted. There is too much grief to do it at the time of death. — *R*

# Tomorrow's horoscope

By Holiday Mathis, Creators Syndicate Inc.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19).** Even though you're a practical realist, in order to motivate the people around you, you'll tap into your visionary powers and paint a pretty picture of the ideal scenario with your eloquent words.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20).** Asking the same dead-end question over and over again will never produce what you need. Change it up. Feel around for the right trigger. The right question is like a magic button.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 21).** Your mood: strategic. You know just what to do to command respect and gain the freedom or authority you desire. Bonus: You could even turn your opponents into allies.

**CANCER (June 22-July 22).** Watching another person grow up is a great pleasure, even if that person happens to be older than you. Today illustrates just how far a friend or family member has come.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22).** You have rules about self-expression that are more stringent than society's rules — at least the society you're living in now. It's OK to hoot, holler, applaud, cheer and laugh out loud, and it's OK to cry. Go ahead.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22).** Accept the changes going on or reject them — they are going to happen either way. You don't have to acknowledge and integrate these developments into your experience, but you'll be more powerful if you do.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23).** Forget about the silver linings. As long as you're looking for the good in a situation, you may as well go for the gold or platinum linings, because they will be there, too.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21).** You will rebuild yourself even better than before. This remodel will suit your mindset better and will create a lifestyle that highlights, exercises and celebrates the best in you.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21).** No one stumbles onto the meaning of life, because the meaning of life is something each person has to create. Life has no meaning except the one you assign to it, so make an assignment that vitalizes you.

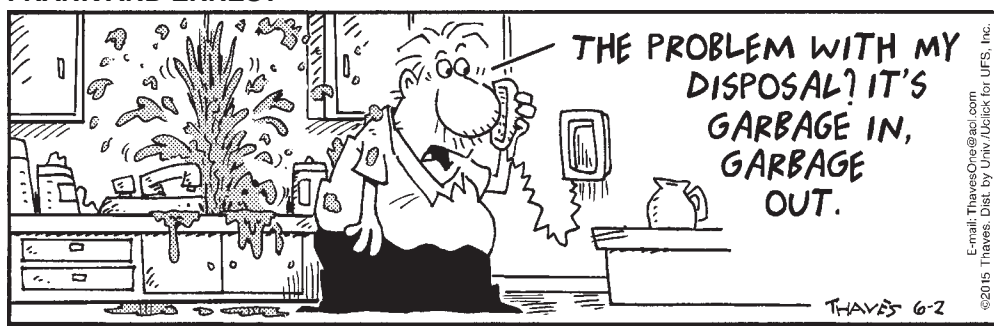
**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19).** People who think they are too small to make a difference will complain instead of act. You sense that you are bigger than the problem, which is why you don't think to complain — you just handle it.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18).** How you say things will make a bigger impact than what you say. Establish a connection before you deliver your message, and you'll be more likely to be heard, understood and followed.

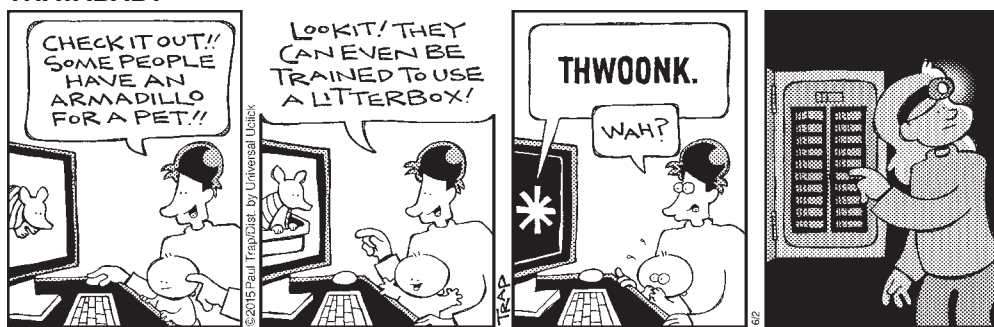
**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20).** You aspire to do something difficult very well, and you'll keep on practicing until you get the results you desire. The feedback you get today is just one drop in the bucket.

**WEDNESDAY'S BIRTHDAY (June 3).** Cultivate friendships with those who share your values. If you don't know what new people value, then ask. An idiosyncratic person adds sparkle to your world in the next three months. Things are always more interesting around this person. An old flame makes things interesting in 2016. Libra and Scorpio people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 35, 49, 12, 28 and 19.

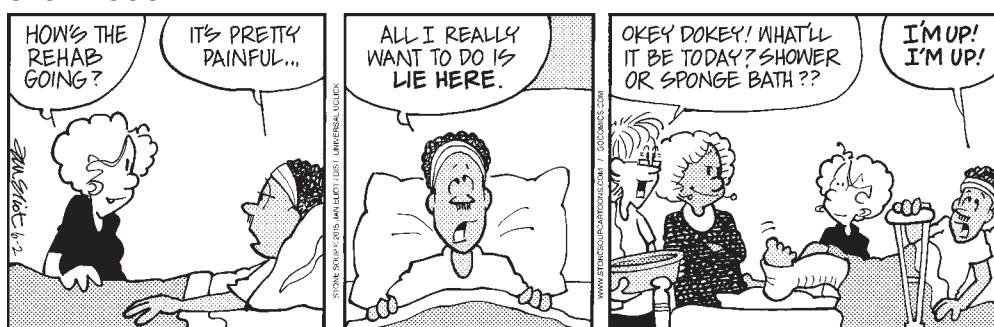
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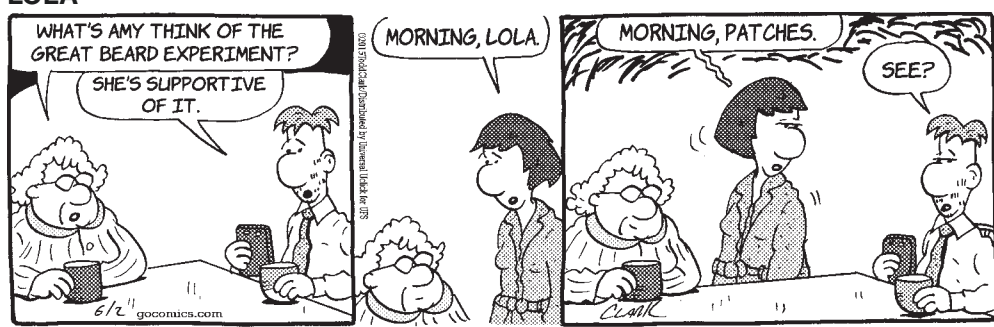
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## STONE SOUP



## LOLA



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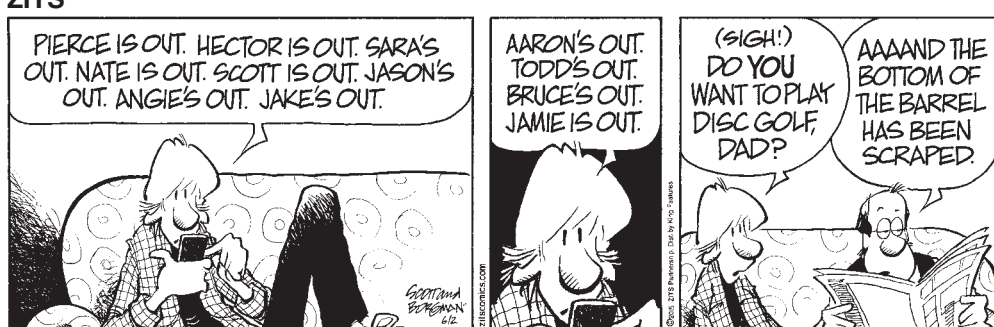
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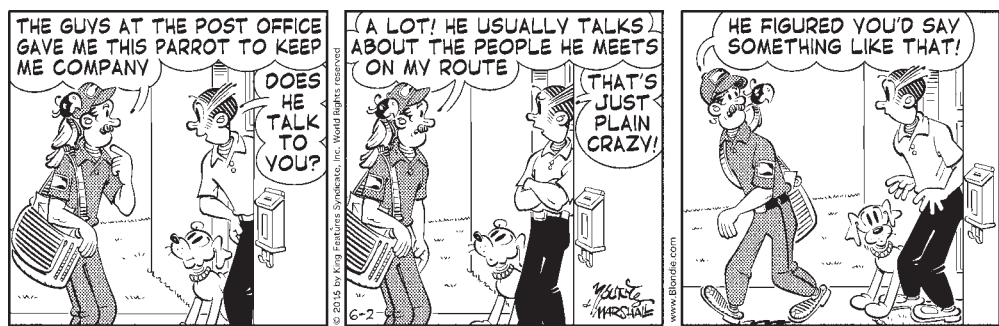
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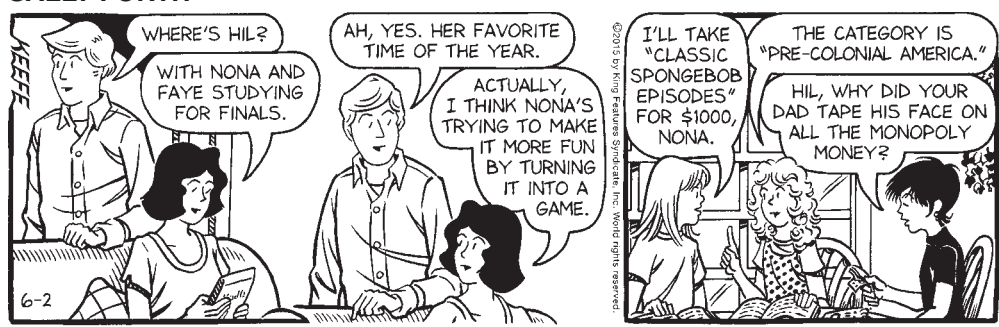
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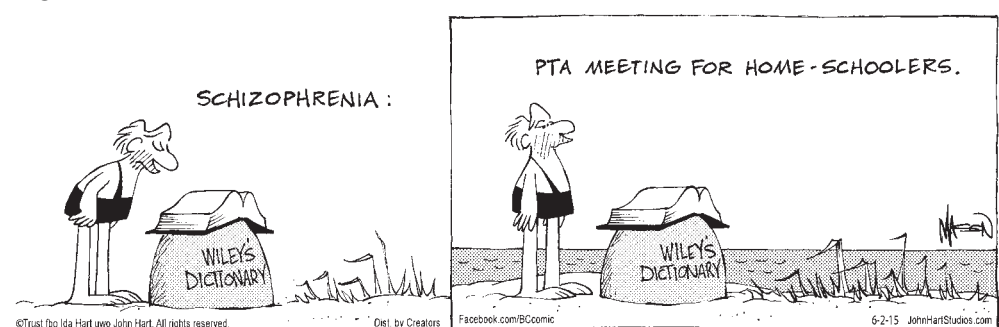
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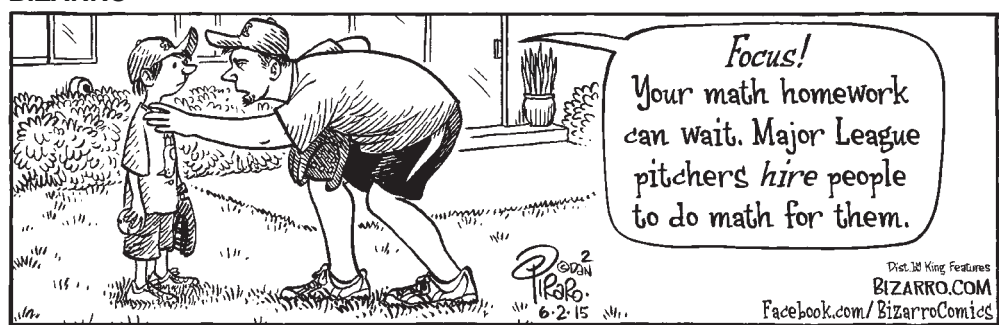
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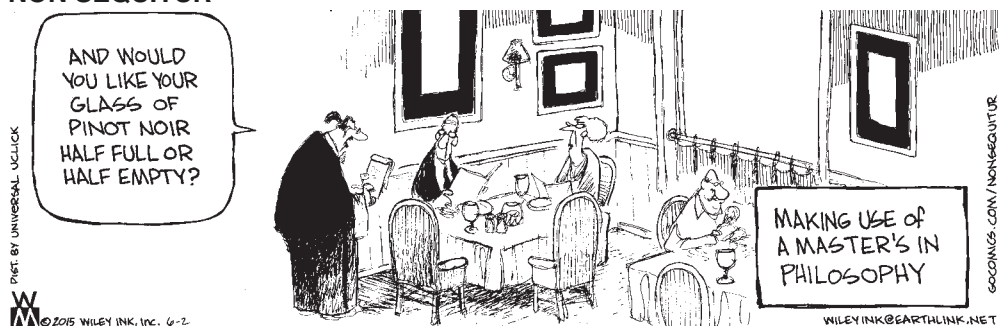
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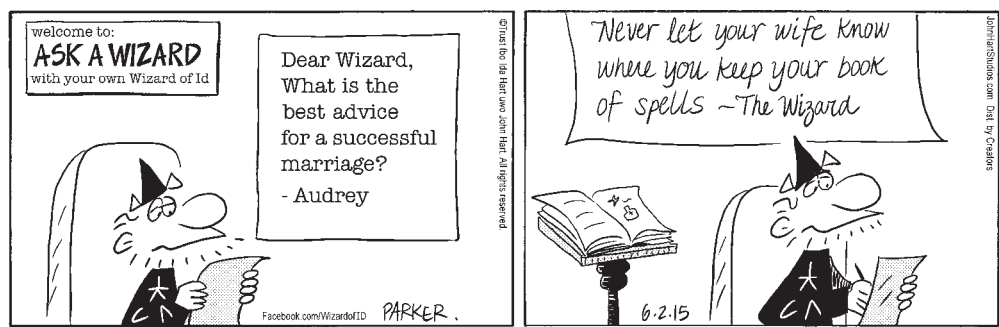
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## NON SEQUITUR



## WIZARD OF ID



## ROSE IS ROSE

