

Young lady upset by guys

Dear Annie: I am a 23-year-old female who recently moved to a new town. I have met a few guys, but it never seems to go anywhere. I can't seem to find someone who wants anything more than sex. I used to sleep around, but I'm more mature now, and I value myself enough not to throw my body at every guy I meet. I've learned from my mistakes.

Not a single man I've met in my age range is interested in a real relationship. They expect me to hop into bed with no commitment whatsoever. I value relationships, and commitment, and have no intention of behaving like this. It irritates me when I put myself out there and meet someone who I think is different, but as soon as they learn that I'm not going to give them sex, they forget all about me.

I know I'm still young and that there are plenty of fish in the sea, but I am ready to settle down. I am far from perfect, but sometimes it seems as though I will never meet anyone worthwhile.

Is something wrong with me? Or am I just attracting the wrong type of guys? — *Confused in a Small Town*

Annie's Mailbox

Creators
Syndicate Inc.
Kathy Mitchell
and
Marcy Sugar



Dear Confused: If you are in a small town, your pool of available candidates is less than it might be elsewhere. This means you need to widen your circle. Try online dating (be cautious), and ask your friends, family members and co-workers to introduce you to available, decent men. Join a church social group, choir, theater group or a volunteer organization where you will be doing some good and meeting new people, both male and female.

And yes, it's possible that you are attracting the wrong type of guy. Your closest friends should be honest enough to tell you if that's the case and what you might do about it. But most importantly, be patient. You may be looking to settle down, but your average 23-year-old man is not. You may be coming across as desperate or

overly eager. A little nonchalance might serve you better.

Dear Annie: My husband and I are over 70 and living on our retirement income. We are doing very well. My complaint is that every day, we receive a half-dozen requests for donations to a variety of charities.

We have one charity that we support on a regular basis. But all of these other charity requests keep rolling in, and some with small amounts of money attached. I feel guilty for not sending these back with a donation, but I no longer respond to this tactic. I try to donate the small amounts of money from these charities to local thrift stores that support animal shelters or women's shelters.

How can we get these charity requests to end? I would like to be able to do more, but on a fixed income, it just isn't possible. — *Please Stop*

Dear Please: You can contact the Direct Marketing Association (dmachoice.org) at P.O. Box 643, Carmel, NY 10512; or the Federal Trade Commission at www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0262-stopping-unsolicited-mail-phone-calls-and-email.

Tomorrow's horoscope

By Holiday Mathis, Creators Syndicate Inc.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Without a sufficient appetite for life, there is no action. So when you are feeling dissatisfied, that is actually a good thing. Your hunger will motivate you better than any outside source could.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You'll never really understand the difference you make in someone's life by just being you. By following your curiosity and doing what comes naturally, a favorable impact is assured.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Unless you interrupt an unhealthy pattern, it's going to keep repeating. There's no one else who sees the situation any more clearly than you. Do what your gut is urging you to do.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). True, some of the privileged have a candy shop's array of options to choose from. Let them deliberate. All you need is within the very limited range of options right before you.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You told it well, but they weren't listening. Therefore, don't be too quick to compromise. Instead, try again to communicate your side. You'll strike a better deal when they really understand the cost you'll incur.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). It's not your fault that you need more mental stimulation than you are currently getting. However, now that you realize it, the responsibility to go where exciting stuff is happening is all yours.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Graciously accept the help you're given without feeling guilty or feeling compelled to return the favor too fast. Even if you don't feel worthy of this help yet, take it. You will be very soon.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You need a plan. Team up with someone who can help you customize a great one. The same versatility that once had you confused about what to do next will soon become your greatest asset.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). There's a fine line between honoring your feelings and indulging them. Mostly this has to do with dwelling in the feelings that inspire and motivate you and moving through the ones that bog you down.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Is this what you dreamt? Some of it is! Now if you could only block out the intrusive realities that don't fit the dream. You can! You'll get better and better at ignoring them.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). The ones who disrespect you may not mean to do so, but either way there's no good reason to hang out with them when there are plenty of other options. Go where the love is.

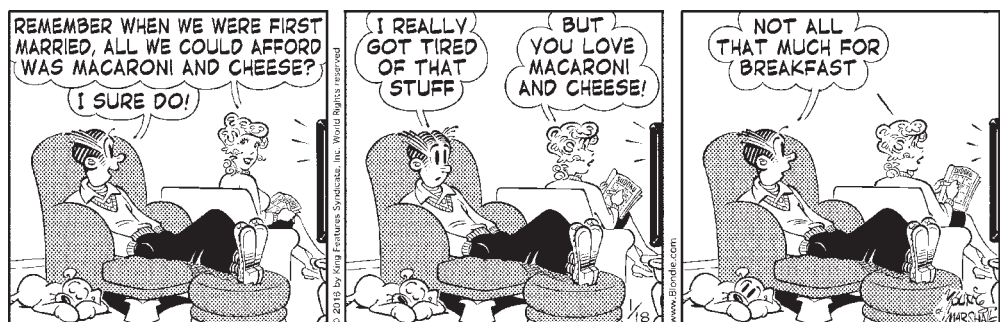
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Alone, it's hopeless — or at least arduous. Together, it's probable. The fire from the ones you love will fuel your water-sign nature, culminating in the kind of steam that is sometimes used to power massive engines.

TUESDAY'S BIRTHDAY (Jan. 19). Instead of fighting against time, you'll make it your best friend, and the hours will seem to stretch and bend at your will. The next six weeks introduce you to beauty you'll want in your life for years to come. Doing what feeds your soul is the theme in March. Spiritual transformations will be reflected in your life. Capricorn and Cancer adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 38, 26, 22, 14 and 18.

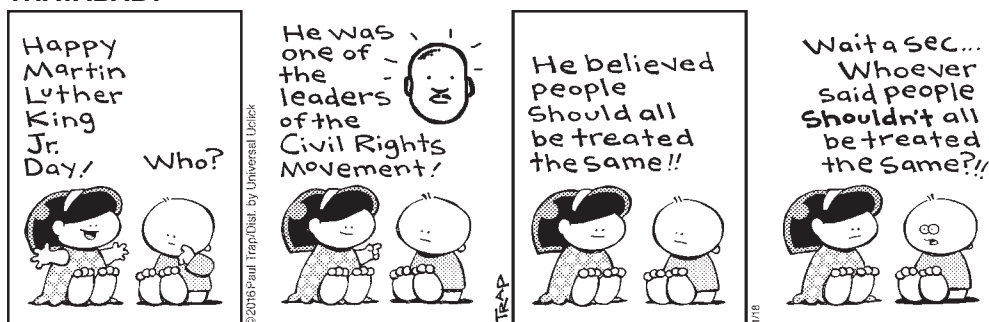
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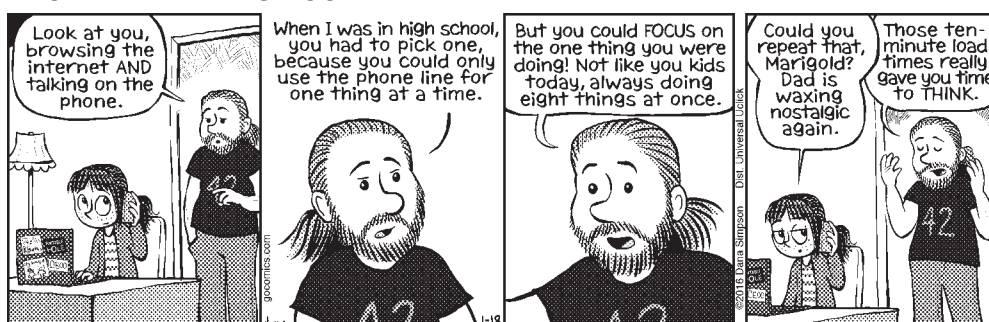
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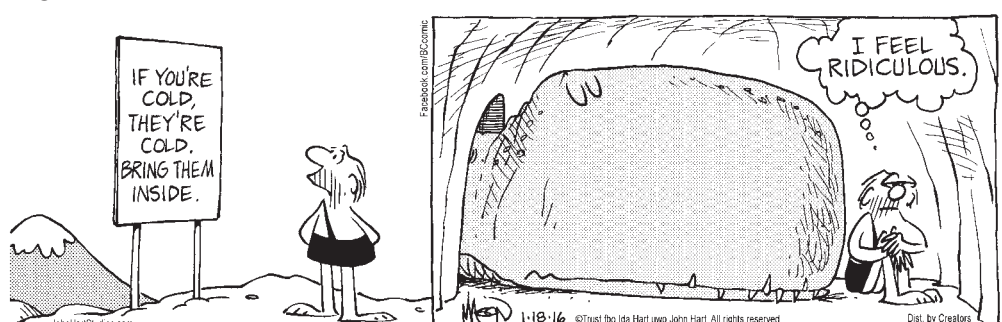
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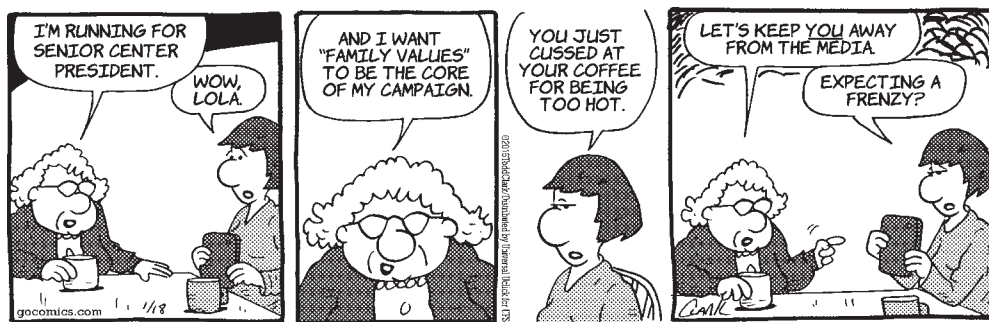
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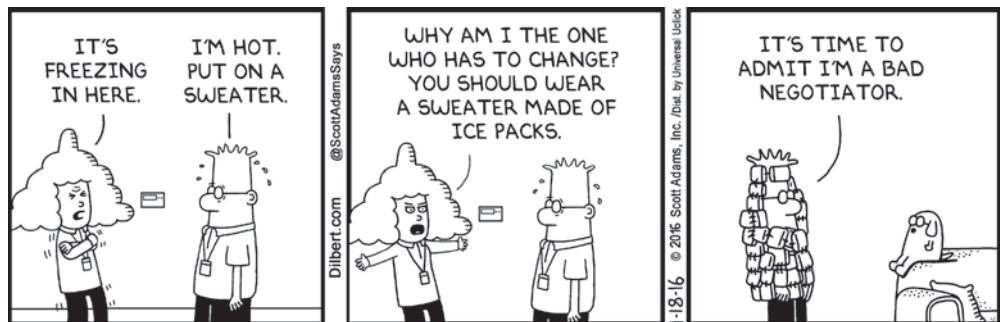
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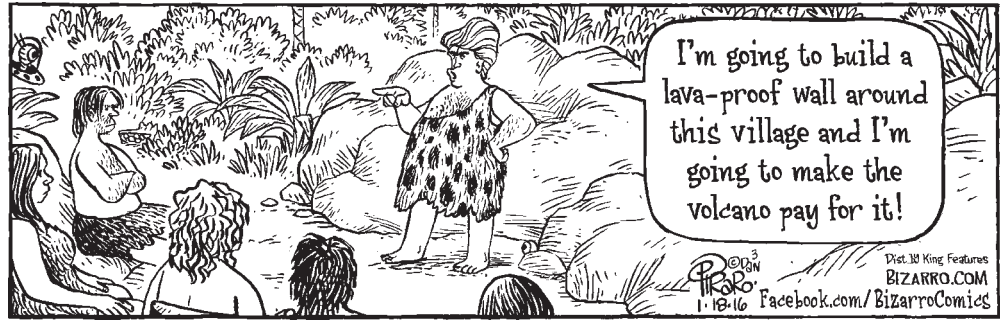
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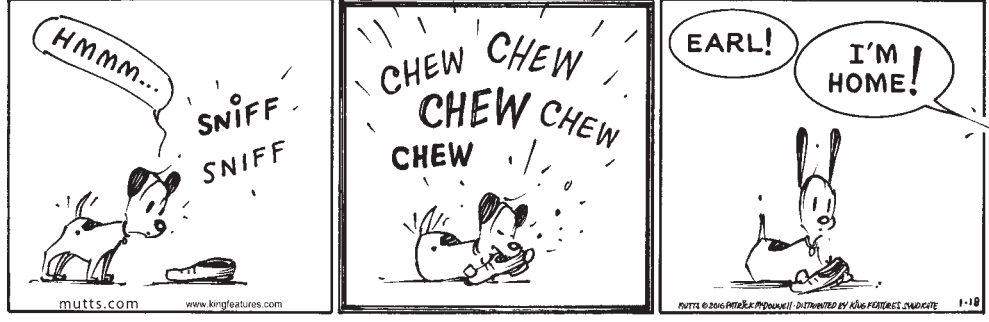
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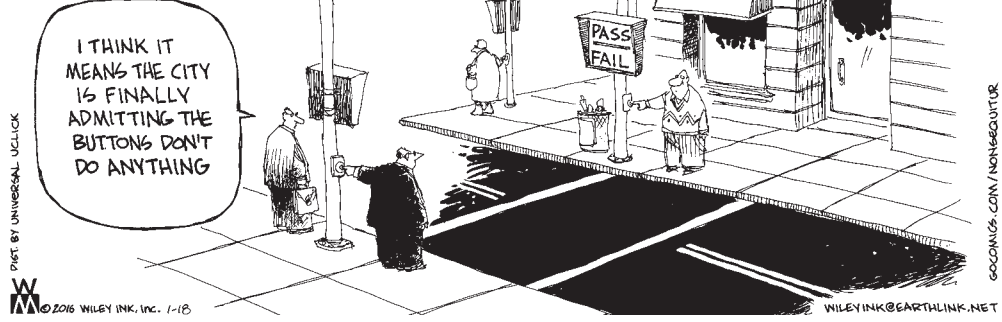
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