FEATURES

What to do if you witness abuse

Dear Annie: My daughter and I have witnessed aggressive acts in public areas and are at a loss as to what, if any, action we should take. The most recent example was when we watched a man yelling at what appeared to be his significant

other. He grabbed her by the arm, forcefully placed her in the car and buckled her seat belt. Then he went into the store, and she sat there, not moving and keeping her head down. We wanted to approach the woman and ask whether she was OK, but we feared he was watching from the store. Another situation

involved a young child between the ages of 3 and 5 with a cast on his arm. His guardian grabbed him by the other arm and threw him into the back seat of the car. There have been other situations, as well.

What does one do or say without making the victim's life even worse later when the victim and abuser are out of sight? Each time, we looked for a police officer, but none was around. Annie, this just breaks our hearts, but what does a bystander do? — Tears and Fears for the Victims All Over

Dear Tears: You were right to want to act. If you see such violence, you should call 911 immediately or find a police officer. Our justice system values and supports citizens speaking up when they see someone in danger, and

there are laws in place to protect those who do so. ANNIE These Good Samaritan laws protect these honorable citizens from legal liability should their good intentions have unintended consequences. Familiarize yourself with

Annie Lane As Albert Einstein said, the world will be destroyed not by those who do evil but by those who

the laws in your state.

watch them without doing anything. By standing up for what you know is right and defending people who aren't in a position to defend themselves, you are saving the world, one good deed at a time.

Dear Annie: My sister-in-law is organizing a family vacation at a beach house, supposedly to celebrate my daughter's engagement. My daughter doesn't want to go, and the trip comes at a time when we will be really busy. The trip feels more like a getaway for the other family members than an actual celebration for my daughter. How can we stop this madness? Feeling Awkward

Dear Awkward: That's odd indeed. If it's really your daughter's party, then she can call it off if she wants to. She should tell her aunt that she really appreciates the thought but the timing just won't work — and that she hopes they'll enjoy the getaway themselves all the same. I have a feeling they

Dear Annie: Your response to "Carol in Florida" regarding her experience with a person who got way too close while she was interacting with pharmacy staff was on the mark but left out an important detail. This fellow's behavior was probably a HIPAA privacy violation, and the staff member should have immediately recognized it as such and taken steps necessary to stop this intrusion. If Carol believes that her privacy was breached, she may wish to file a complaint. This can be done at https://www.hhs.gov. In my opinion, the person most in the wrong here was the assistant pharmacist for doing nothing. He or she needs to brush up on HIPAA rules. — Minnesota Pharmacist of 42 Years

TOMORROW'S HOROSCOPE

By Holiday Mathis, Creators Syndicate Inc.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). It gives unexpected satisfaction to learn why things are the way they are, especially as you get to know the limitations someone was dealing with that led to the creation or completion of a feat.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). It may be a bit of a stretch to suggest that those born under the sign that rules money should delight in austerity, and yet even the financially minded bull gets the occasional pull toward the simple elegance of minimalism.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You enjoy being the first to try products, methods and trends of all kinds. The word "new" will capture your attention and spark your curiosity, and you'll likely be the first one in line. Later they'll all want your account.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). When you're bored of something, don't bail right away. Stick with it another step or two. There's a real gem of a prize for pushing through, and you don't have to stick with it forever, just longer than most would.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You're not thinking about how much people do or don't appreciate you. This is the last of your worries. Your actions are motivated out of spiritual generosity and a belief that people are in great need of

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). When people find out about your special talent after knowing you a while, they'll be surprised. If, later on down the line, they find out about another unrelated talent of yours, you'll officially be alluring.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). So many of our behaviors are habits. Laughing is no exception. You seem to be doing more and more of that lately, and the people around you love how

funny you make them feel.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Many people who achieve high status want to be treated the same as everyone else. You've a good handle on dishing due respect and still maintaining a shared reality in which everyone can relate as equals.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Today you'll be among friends and people who wish they were your friends. You may dare to share a vulnerable, embarrassing, weird human story and in doing so push your likeability factor up a few points.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Others are uplifted by your presence. Maybe it's something you don't think too much about, because it's an easy thing for you to create, and yet this is no small achievement.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Because you're so comfortable with who you are and because you don't think of yourself as very different from the others, you're capable of doing things in group environments that others wouldn't think

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Those who don't pay compliments comfortably will give it up for you today. This will mean more to you than the niceties you regularly hear, considering the rarity of such an acknowledgement from this particular source.

TOMORROW'S BIRTHDAY (Jan. 11). You go into this year with an experimental agenda that helps you get to know yourself better. The next two months bring new joys, appetites and fascinations. August brings an education that helps your social life. Libra and Gemini adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 12, 2, 22,

FRANK AND ERNEST



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PHOEBE AND HER UNICORN

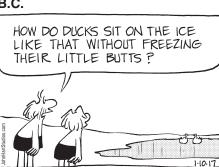


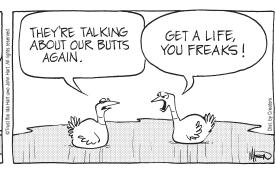






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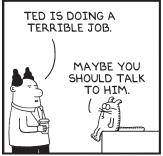
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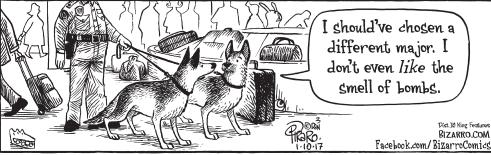




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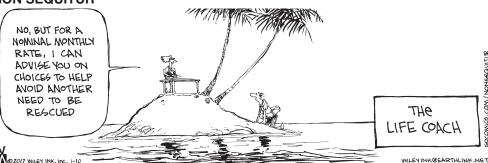
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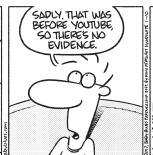
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ROSE IS ROSE





