Ideas on co-ed sleepovers

Dear Annie: Our daughter, husband and family moved in to a small house next door to us as they both work, and their living close to us enables us to keep an eye out for their three daughters, ages 11, 11 and 15. Until

they get two bedrooms built on the cottage, the 15-year-old and one of the 11-year-olds will use our spare bedroom to sleep in. My husband gets upset over their bringing friends home and doing the typical stuff children this age do. He really gets upset if their friends are of the

opposite sex. When my (now adult) son was a teenager, my husband allowed him to have girls stay in his room, yet he would throw a fit if his sister (the mother of these girls we are talking about) even had a boy over watching a movie. He would actually call her derogatory names. Now we have a 16-year-old son, whom he lets do whatever he wants. I'm the only disciplinarian for him, but even then, my husband will override me.

Now my question is to your

readers. Do parents let their teens stay the night at the house of someone of the opposite sex? It seems to be the norm around this area nowadays. My daughter lets the girls have mixed company and requires that the

boys sleep in one area **DEAR** and the girls in another. **ANNIE** My husband says this is not so. So I want to hear opinions from your readers on this.

I am not comfortable with either my 16-year-old son or my granddaughters sleeping in the same room with members of the

opposite sex, but separate rooms and nightly checks by adults are fine with me. — Not Comfortable

Annie Lane

Dear Not Comfortable: Let me get this straight: Your husband called your daughter a derogatory name because a boy watched a movie with her at your house and then went home, but he let your son do anything he wanted? You need to have a serious private talk with him and set down guidelines for your grandchildren that treat boys and girls equally. As for

co-ed sleepovers, I'm in agreement with you. Until they are 18 and living on their own, I would say that sleepovers should stay single-sex. However, you asked for opinions and facts from our readers, so I am as curious as you to see the feedback.

Dear Annie: I just read the column about the woman who compulsively looks at men. She describes going into a kind of trance in which she becomes totally unaware of others, much to her distress and her husband's dismay.

For many years, I was a practicing psychotherapist, and I have seen many people experience profound changes as a result of their work with a therapist. However, I think this woman needs to have a neurological work-up. What she is experiencing reminds me of a client of mine who had a seizure disorder. When it was treated, my client was able to manage her life extremely well and use therapy to enrich it even more. — Hoping Help Is on Its Way

Dear Hoping Help Is on the Way: Thank you for the medical insight. Perhaps it will save a life.

TOMORROW'S HOROSCOPE

By Holiday Mathis, Creators Syndicate Inc.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Your sensory awareness leans toward the spiritual today. It's as if your ears can hear intentions instead of words; your eyes can see vibes instead of faces; and your hands can touch souls.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Just because you see what's funny about the situation doesn't mean you're making fun of it. Make sure people know your intention — to bring levity and amusement into play, not to make others ashamed.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). In the same way that telling people to "relax" tends to really agitate them, suggesting that people "be themselves" just might send a thinking person into an identity crisis. Offer no advice, only a hand to hold.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). People don't grow alone. They might grow solo, but it's because they are in an environment conducive to growth. To give yourself the best chance at success, build an environment conducive to your own growth.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). One coping mechanism that really works to manage stress is to walk away from the stressors. Leave the room. Leave the building. Changing your view will change your perspective.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Remove yourself from stressors. Go easy. If you get angry once, you'll only get angry again later with yourself for allowing yourself to lose your cool in the first place.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). When you see the truth and they don't, it can be really frustrating. But you actually don't need them to know the truth in order to accomplish your goal. Knowing it yourself will be enough to

get you there. SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Plan your next move quietly, and keep it to yourself. It's not

that you can't trust the people around you you can — but you'll learn to trust yourself more if you keep this one close to the vest. SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Truly, the same condition that one person calls good

fortune another will deem miserable, and both will be accurate. Today you'll benefit from seeing everything as a neutral circum-CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You've

already attracted a rapt audience. If you walk, they'll follow. If you run, they'll chase. Decide carefully what you want to do with this attention before you make your next move.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Shakespeare summed it up for you in his "Sonnet 116": "Love is not which alters when it alteration finds." Your heart hasn't been updated as to recent observations, and even if you were to tell it, it wouldn't care

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You're slow to bring yourself to believe in all that's going on today. You've been burned before by buying in too early. Anyway, it behooves you to do more research and fact-checking.

TOMORROW'S BIRTHDAY (Dec. 6). Your ideas get funding. Your goals attract a cheering section. Your problems bring you to answers. One of the secrets to your success is in continually finding happiness in the right places: inside you, inside the work, inside the details. It's your attitude more than anything that unlocks the chains that once held you back. Libra and Taurus adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 5, 35, 33, 8 and 11.

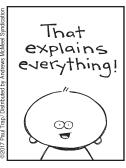
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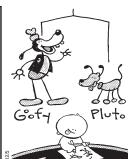


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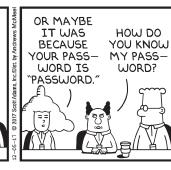


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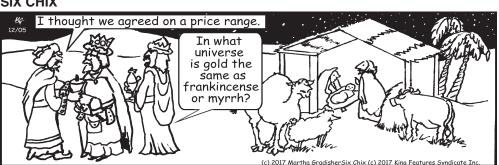
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