

Ignoring discrimination complaint

Dear Annie: I am seeking some advice. I have a disability, and my place of employment is discriminating against me based on that disability. I finally filed a complaint with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and waited. Having heard nothing, I phoned just to make sure the EEOC got the forms. After repeatedly calling, I finally had a return call stating that my case had been automatically deleted from the EEOC's computer system after 90 days because of inactivity.

DEAR ANNIE



Annie Lane
Creators
Syndicate Inc.

I went to the local EEOC office to file my complaint in person, but with interview questions such as "Why are you here, because you have not lost your job?" it became uncomfortable, as well as insulting. Am I wrong in believing that no one should be told one's harassment or discrimination is unimportant because one is still employed? The officer then directed me to another agency but said not to tell that agency I am disabled, because it would be referred back to the EEOC.

As you can see, I really am at a loss and would appreciate some advice. Do I just go back and try again, or should I lodge a complaint with someone? If you recommend the latter, to whom should I complain? —

Dismayed in Kentucky

Dear Dismayed: How incredibly frustrating. You're not wrong for trying to file a complaint. You don't need to be fired in order for your concerns about workplace discrimination to be valid. That's not how that works. I'd recommend contacting a plaintiff-side employment lawyer (many offer free consultations) to discuss your situation and the options for redressing your grievances.

Dear Annie: I haven't any family except one son, and he lives in a group home. When I married for the second time (my first husband passed at the age of 35), the man had two sons, and one has passed. I am leaving just about everything to my stepson because I have no one else. The remainder will go to the organization where my son lives. I just

made out a new will. My lawyer said that no one needs to see it — that I should simply put it in a safe box and let the executor know where it is located. I have done that.

The issue is that my stepson wants me to fax him a copy. He wants to see it. It isn't any of his business right now. He is acting as if he's perfectly innocent and in the right for asking. I feel the conflict building between us and can tell this is going to become a fight. Previously, when there was a problem with his father's will, he just ignored all communications from the estate lawyer.

What can I do? He may not realize it, but he is the one who will mess up if he messes with me. — *Wills Are Not Family*

Dear Wills Are Not Family: Where there's a will, there's a way for true colors to out. Your stepson seems to be showing his, and they're not pretty. He has no right to demand to see your will. As you said, it's not any of his business at the moment. Set boundaries. Stay firm. And if you want to take him out of your will for this bullying behavior, nobody would blame you.

TOMORROW'S HOROSCOPE

By Holiday Mathis, Creators Syndicate Inc.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). The price of a thing is not money. Money is only a representation of effort — someone's effort, though maybe not the person exchanging the money. Things are worth the life that's been exchanged for them.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). A visit in the works. Having some time to prepare will give you an advantage. Of course, what happens in the moment is all that matters. But preparation relaxes you, and that makes said "moment" all the more pleasurable.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Being surprised or startled might be fun for some and a lot less fun for others. When it comes to control, people have varying needs. Life might startle you today — not your favorite thing, but you'll do something good with the rush.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Though you live in the midst of an interesting and ever-active crew, you could only describe this existence from a distance. It's why you owe yourself, and everyone, really, a vacation.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). This existence is one of interpretation. One thing can mean many things, depending on whom you ask. The truth is often a soft blend of many different interpretations, which is why it's important to stay open to ambiguity.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). There are things you're compelled to do. It feels as though providence is pushing you toward them in spite of rationality. What makes no sense and is costly and, by all objective opinion, rather dumb might actually be just the thing.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). It doesn't have to be an official party to be a "party." There will be quite a lot of details to tend to in the name of

making a gathering memorable. Remember, a party is only as good as the people attending it.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Sometimes you have to be cruel to be kind, or so they say, although maybe it's just a matter of being kind and truthful upfront instead of letting untruths linger, stagnate and become toxic.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You wake up thinking about a thing then fall asleep thinking about it and then wake up again with it on your mind. Time to do something about that, as it's taking up more room in your brain than is fair to the other things.

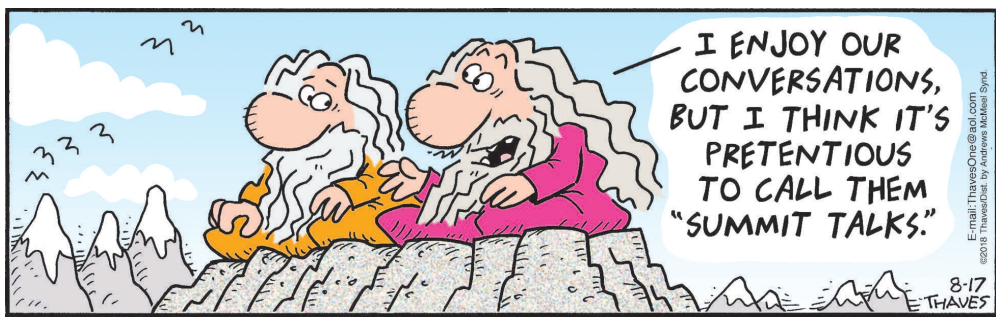
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Don't concern yourself with the comings and goings of other people. Concern yourself with your own happiness and most of that will, by extension, be settled.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). There's almost nowhere you can go to air your opinions without offending or delighting someone. Take care in your choosing of confidantes. The walls have ears.

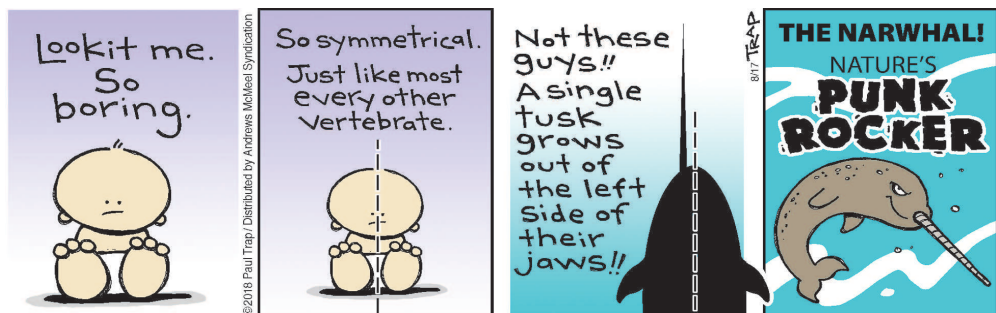
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). It's no fun to watch someone doing the thing they know they can do. The fun is in watching a person do the thing they think they can't do. Internal conflicts are more real than external ones.

TOMORROW'S BIRTHDAY (Aug. 18). It's a power year. You will weave a mystery in November. Maybe you don't start out trying to do this, but it happens, and your life story gets very interesting with this bit. Professions of love happen in March and June. The financial picture gets more to your liking in September, and a deal in January makes a difference too. Libra and Cancer adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 9, 50, 1, 27 and 14.

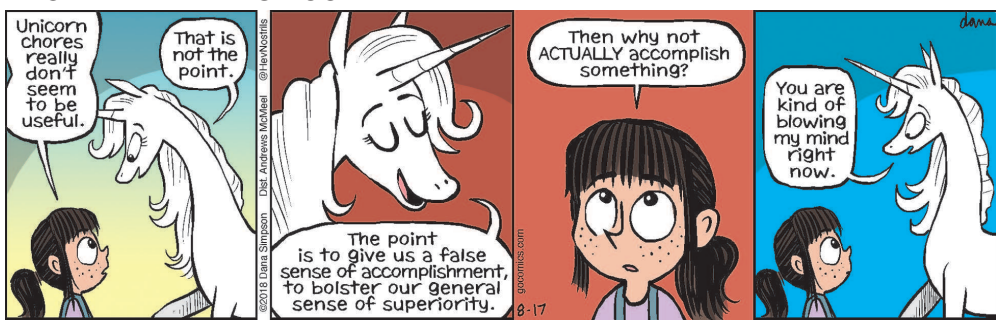
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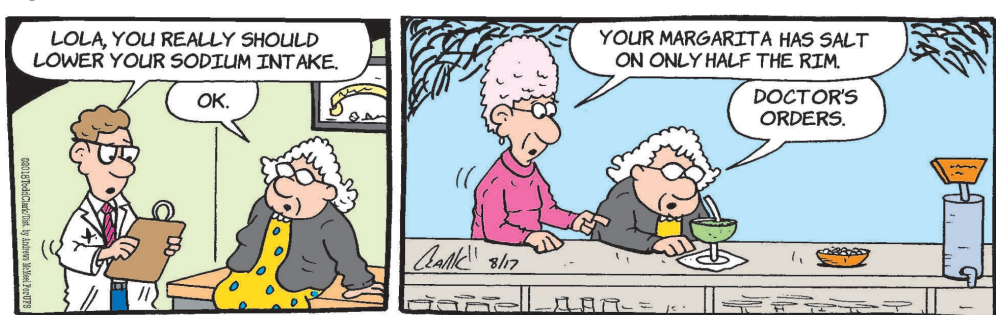
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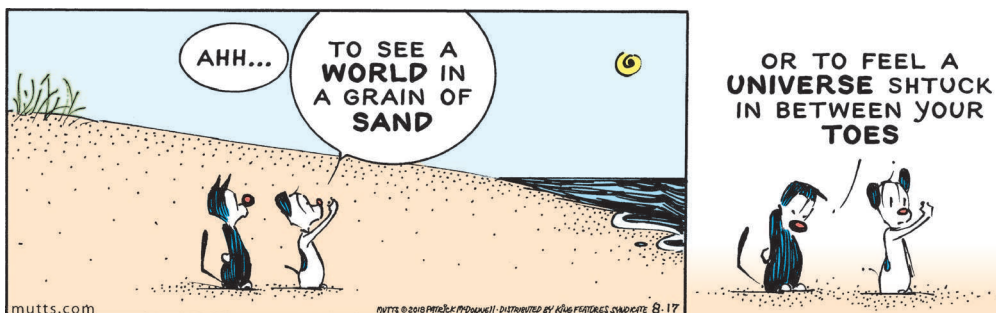
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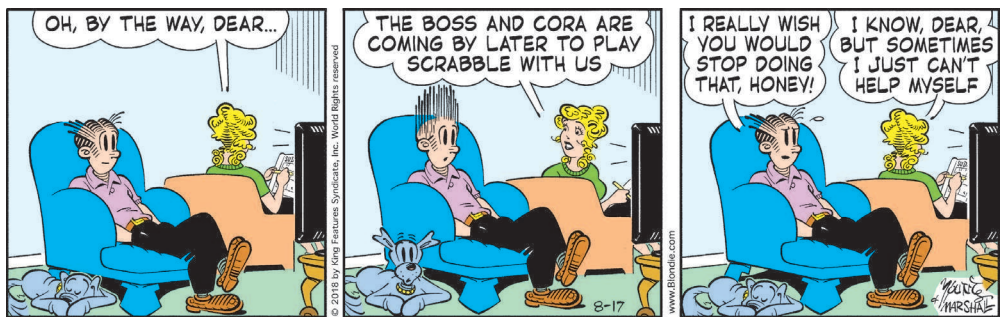
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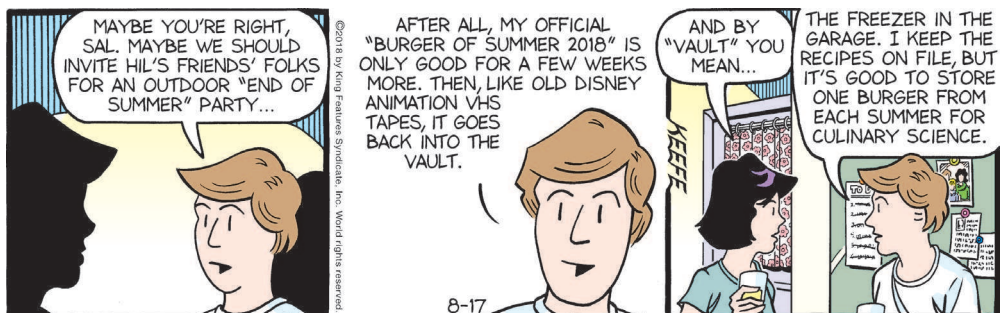
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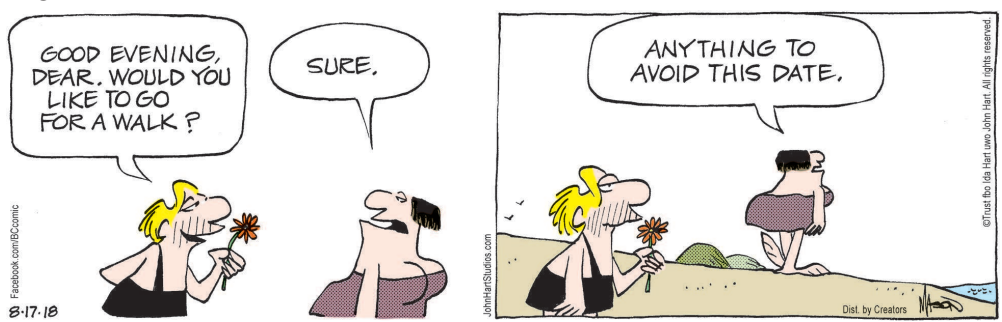
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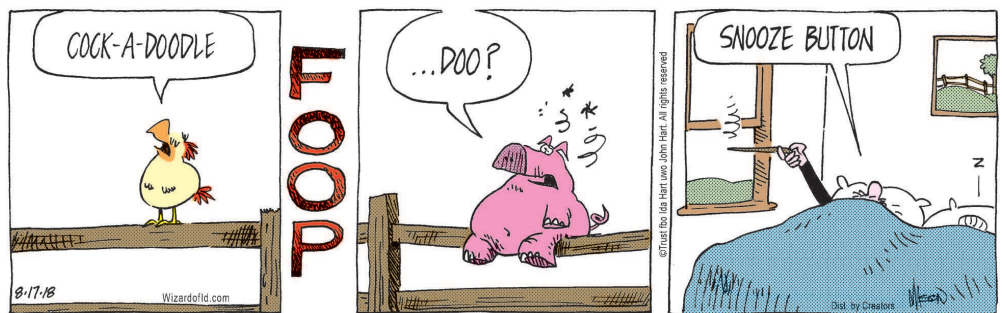
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