

Ask before tossing another person's things

Dear Annie: You recently wrote that an adult daughter was wrong to discard her mother's pantry food without asking her first — even food that had expired. What do you think about the current trend of girlfriends and wives discarding their boyfriends' and husbands' outdated clothes?

I read an article in a major newspaper by a fashionista advising women to throw or give away their male significant others' unfashionable clothes — without consulting them first. An example given was cargo shorts. Then I saw this happen on a popular television show. The wife attempted secretly to discard her husband's beloved but unfashionable shorts. It was meant to be funny.

What do you think of this practice, Annie? What if a boyfriend or husband did the same (to his girlfriend's or wife's clothes)? What if a fashion writer advocated such? I think there would be an outcry. Why is it OK for women then? Isn't this a double standard? You're an influential person; please speak to this trend. — *Worried Cargo Shorts Owner*

Dear Worried Cargo Shorts Owner: If this is indeed a trend, no one is wearing it well. Going through someone's closet and discarding his

or her items without asking is wrong, plain and simple. It doesn't matter if that person is your husband, wife, boyfriend or girlfriend — or anyone else with whom you feel close enough to take such decisions into your own hands. In fact, respecting boundaries becomes more important the closer the relationship is.

We can try offering our significant others some fashion feedback, but that's about the extent of it. Loving someone means loving him or her as is, extra pockets and all. (By the way, according to Harper's Bazaar and several other fashion news outlets, cargo shorts are one of 2018's hottest fashion trends. Go figure.)

Dear Annie: I support "Oregon Reader," who takes offense to such words as elderly, senior and aging, which seem to be the favorite descriptions of many writers. Can't we just say "older" if anything has to be said? I cringe every time I see the word elderly. I despise it. It conjures up images of people who no longer take care of themselves. And that does not include me. I am 86, and anyone who knows me knows better than to describe me as elderly. Thank you, "Oregon Reader," for saying it much better than I could. I so agree with

your feelings. — *Florida Reader*

Dear Florida Reader: That letter unleashed a dichotomous deluge in my inbox — letters from readers who concur with you and "Oregon Reader" and letters from others who don't. Here's the flip side from another Florida reader.

Dear Annie: I feel compelled to make a remark in response to "Oregon Reader," who, for some reason, feels that using the terms elderly, senior and aging is inappropriate and negative. I'm an active senior citizen living in a senior community, and I don't find these terms offensive at all. Nor do I find them hurtful or insulting. I endured a lifetime of adventures, good and bad, to reach this age and am proud of it. Maybe this person has a fear of getting older and is taking these terms too personally. I love living the senior lifestyle in this senior community. There is no need for you to apologize for using these terms to describe our golden years! — *A Florida Villages Resident*

Dear Florida Villages Resident: I've now heard from people on both sides of this issue, and the main take-away for me is that there are plenty of people out there enjoying retirement and living with zest well into their 80s. It's inspiring to hear. Keep soaking up all the sunshine your retirement has to offer.



Annie Lane
Creators
Syndicate Inc.

TOMORROW'S HOROSCOPE

By Holiday Mathis, Creators Syndicate Inc.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). What you want is not as out of reach as you think. What seems ridiculous to expect may actually be just a little bit out of the normal pattern, and all it will take is an extra push to make it so.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). When you don't know what to do next, concentrate your efforts on just being the best you. Keeping yourself sharp and strong will ready you for the opportunities around the bend.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You'll hear many versions of the truth. Avoid trusting powerful people over honest people. As Groucho Marx once said: Who are you going to believe, me or your own eyes?

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You'll pick your goal almost arbitrarily, and that's fine for today. The purpose is to give you a reason to take every step along the way. You'll commit to the journey, not the destination.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). If you were a cast member on "Survivor," you might conspire to handle today's challenge. Thankfully, you live in the untelevised version of reality where it is better to be kind than to drum up the drama.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Between people whose history includes great love, there will always be explosive topics, buried like land mines in the field of conversation. They are usually best avoided. If you accidentally step on one, turn and run.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Thankfulness is the seed that all good things blossom from today. What you're most appreciative of is not material, rather it's the attention, help and lessons you gather.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). If the events knock you off course, take it as a cue to expand your perception and grow your influence. With a bigger worldview you will be unfazed by life's little irritations.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). To protect yourself against the thievery of time, demand that time leave you something in return for what it takes. This is most easily accomplished by working toward meaningful treasures.

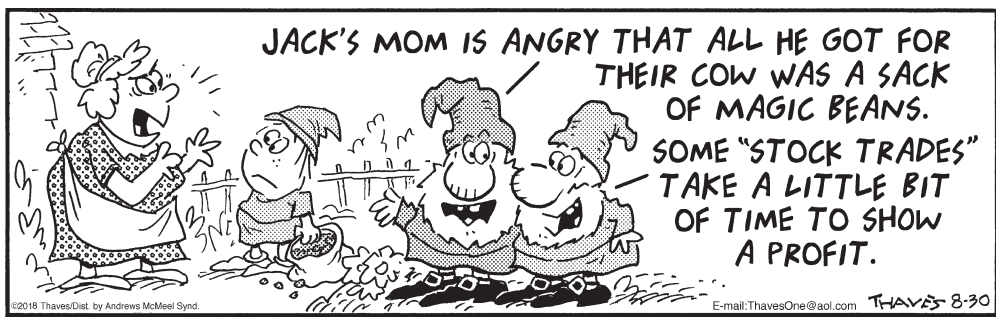
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). It's wasteful to wish you were anywhere else, with anyone else, doing anything else than what you're doing. Guard against this immaturity by fully joining the moment you're in.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You'll get the win, but winners be warned: Arrogance and pride are terrible, dangerous hitchhikers on the road to a great win. Do not pick them up. Arrogance and pride are the failures of success.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You're thinking creatively, and because of this, you will see how there are wonderful experiences to be had for very little or no money. They'll take planning though. This is a lucky day for making plans.

TOMORROW'S BIRTHDAY (Aug. 31). You place yourself in service to humanity. "Humanity" is not always an easy customer, and the obstacles that ensue will contribute to your spiritual might. Truly, you gain the most from your own selflessness. You'll bank on it in October, and there's another windfall in December. Travel and romance come in mid-2019. Gemini and Pisces adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 8, 40, 1, 22 and 15.

FRANK AND ERNEST



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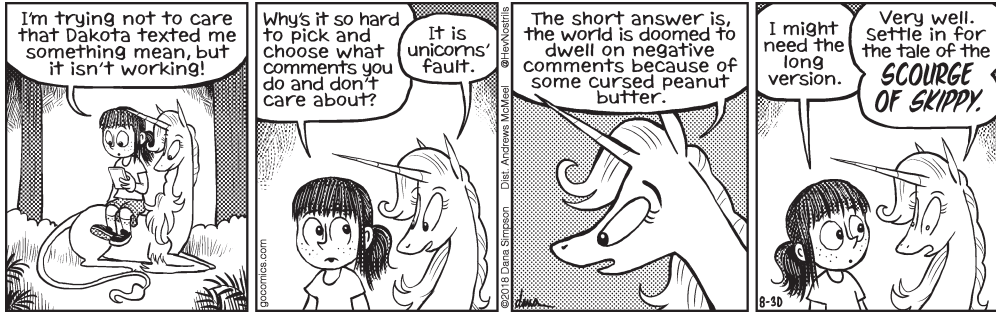
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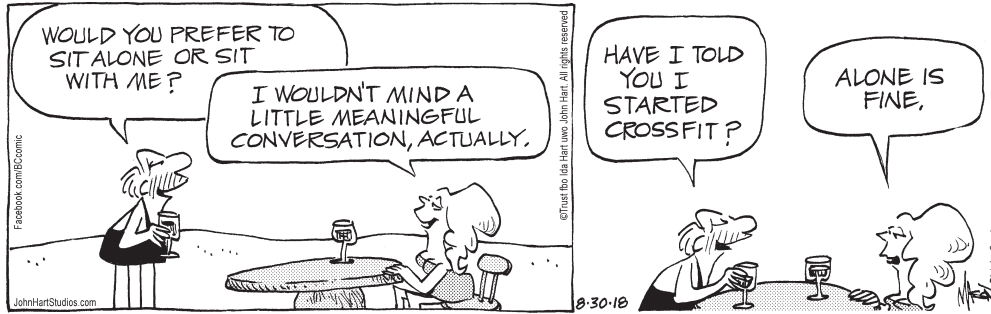
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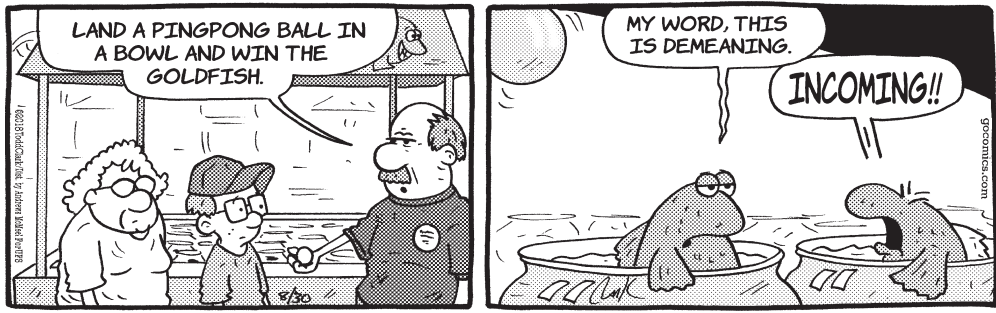
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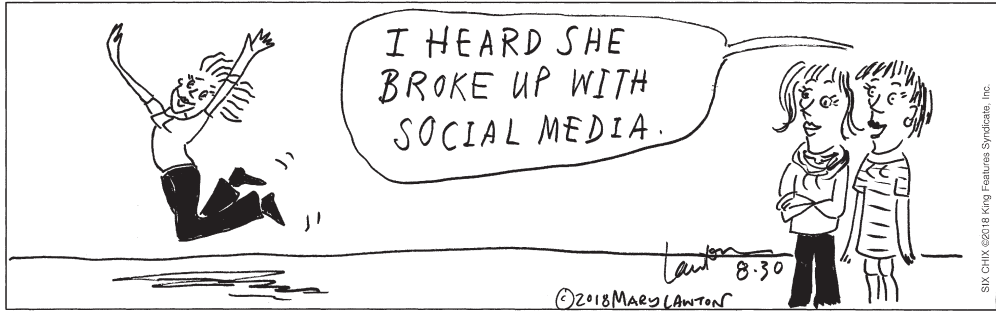
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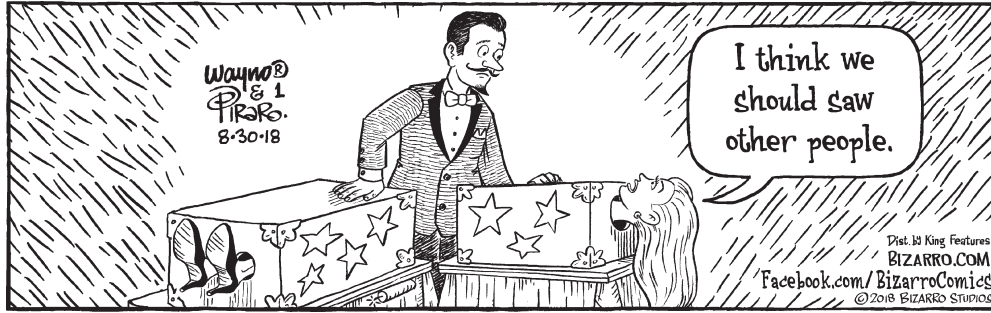
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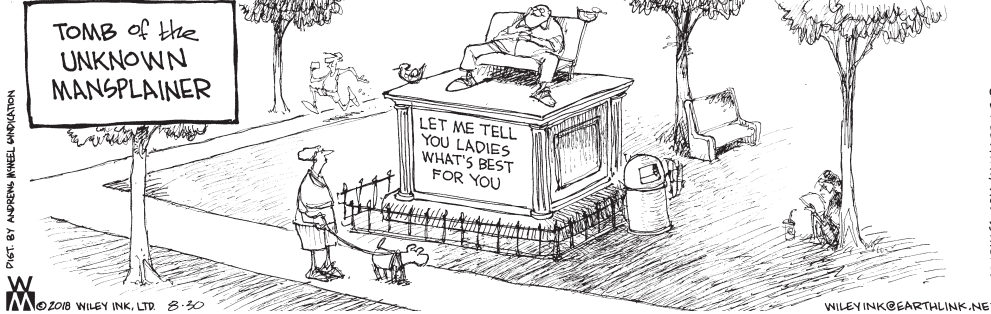
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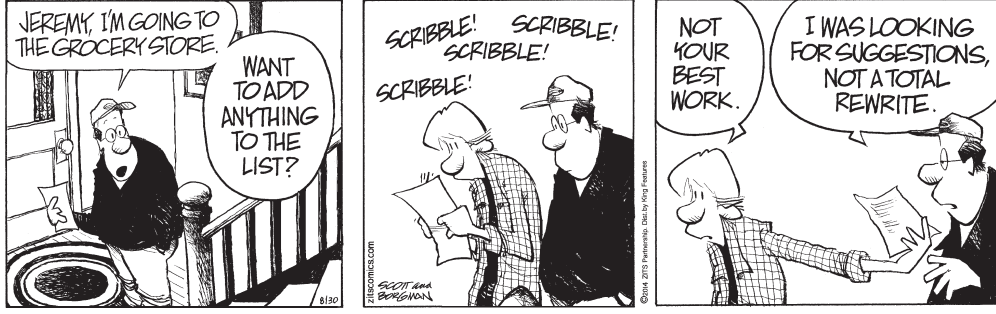
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