

Ask Deanna!



Real People, Real Advice
An advice column known for its fearless approach to reality based subjects!

Dear Deanna!

When my husband and I were together he took excellent care of our kids. Now that we're divorced he has amnesia and forgot he has obligations of child support and health care. Don't get me wrong, I still care for him but now I have to go through so much stress to get him to help me. I have legal documents outlining his responsibilities. How long do I wait before taking him through the court system? --Allison Kramer; Omaha, Neb.

Dear Allison:

Daycare bills, tight clothes and hungry stomachs don't have time to wait for daddy to grow up. At this rate, your kids will be senior citizens collecting a pension before your ex-husband steps up to the plate. The court order that he violated gives you front row seating with a judge. If he has no sympathy or concern for his children's welfare, then you need to handle your business and take him to court at lightning speed.

Dear Deanna!

I've been having an old argument with my girlfriend. She has an issue about car doors being opened for her. I don't mind at all. However, she doesn't understand my decision to unlock my door first and

then click hers open when it's raining. Everything else in the relationship is good but she gets bent out of shape over this simple stuff. Am I wrong? --Cliff; Columbia, S.C.

Dear Cliff:

You're not wrong. Miss Thing is tripping. Instead of having a nice person like your self, she could have a maniac that beats her, a cheater that keeps her crying or a liar that causes despair. The next time it rains, take your time walking to her side of the car, fumble your keys and let her get good and wet. By the time you get home, she'll think twice and maybe get over it. If not, perhaps she has personal issues that go beyond car doors.

Dear Deanna!

I am dating a lady that's perfect in every way except her teeth. We were together for 4 years before I learned of her false teeth. Once I realized this, I find it hard to kiss her, and even harder to be intimate. I just can't get past this and it's affecting me, the relationship and my manhood. --Anonymous Male; Washington, D.C.

Dear Anonymous:

Are you seriously going to mess up your relationship over a pair of teeth in a jar? Of all the fake body parts out there, false teeth are the most popular, well constructed and widely accepted falsie. If you knew of the false hair, false eyes, false breasts, false nails and whatever else some women wear at the same time—you would faint. Her teeth weren't a problem before because you were fooled and shouldn't be one now. Accept it, and get over it.

Ask Deanna is written by Deanna M. Write Ask Deanna! 264 S. LaCienega Blvd. Suite 1283 Beverly Hills, CA 90211 or send Email to askdeanna1@yahoo.com or Website: www.askdeanna.com

Jackson Visits Darfur to Resolve Crisis

Civil Rights leader on humanitarian mission

(AP) — American civil rights activist the Rev. Jesse Jackson visited the conflict-torn region of Darfur on Friday, urging the Sudanese government and African rebels to end the crisis that has killed thousands of villagers and driven more than a million from their homes.

Arriving in the provincial capital of North Darfur in an aircraft lent by Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi, Jackson said he wanted to "observe first hand what we have heard through testimony and what we have read."

"It is obvious there is a great humanitarian crisis," Jackson told The Associated Press after landing at an airport in the North Darfur capital of Al-Fasher, where he was met by a delegation of tribal leaders and officials.

"We call for collective action soon to stop the violence and open up the roads for relief and that requires a



Bashir Abdel Aziz, 7, carries drinking water, drawn from pumps provided by international aid agencies at Abu Shouk camp, in North Darfur, Sudan. (AP photo)

worldwide effort," said Jackson, who wore a black baseball cap bearing the logo "Unite."

"Timing is of the essence as people are dying every day."

Jackson, a former U.S. presidential candidate, called on President Bush and Democratic candidate John Kerry to concentrate their efforts on helping the people of Darfur.

The United Nations describes the situation in Darfur as the world's worst humanitarian crisis and says more than 30,000 people have been killed and 1.4 million displaced in an 18-month conflict. The violence began after two African rebel factions rose against the government, claiming discrimination in the distribution of scarce resources in the arid western region.

Since then, Arab militias called the Janjaweed have gone on a rampage, destroying villages, killing and pillaging across Darfur, a region the size of France.

The U.S. Congress and U.N. officials accuse Khartoum of backing the militia in a scorched earth campaign to suppress the revolt - an allegation it strongly denies.

POVERTY HITS HOME Health insurance drops as a result

About 16 percent of the Oregon population has no health insurance, according to new Census Bureau figures.

The number of medically-uninsured grew by 2.2 percentage points over the past three years, the fast-

est of any state except Montana, according to new figures from the Census Bureau.

The swelling numbers reflected both sharp cuts in the Oregon Health Plan, the state's version of Medicaid, and the large number of Oregonians who have lost private insurance when they became unemployed or were forced to take jobs without benefits.

Oregon had the highest unemployment rate in the nation for much of the three-year period covered by the Census Bureau report.

The figures also show Oregon's poverty level growing by 0.4 percentage points over the three years, but the increase was not considered statistically significant. Oregon's two-year average poverty rate for 2002 and 2003 was 11.7 percent, according to the report, or about 400,000 people.

The national poverty rate in 2003 was 12.5 percent of the population, or about 35.8 million Americans living below the poverty line. That was up from 34.5 million, or 12.1 percent in 2002.

The Census Bureau's definition of poverty varies by the size of the household. For instance, the threshold for a family of four was \$18,810, while for two people it was \$12,015.

Nationally, the report showed growing poverty, declining income and increasing numbers of uninsured people over the past three years. Supporters of presidential hopeful Sen. John Kerry are already citing the report as evidence of the failure of President George Bush's economic policies.

Elect a President:



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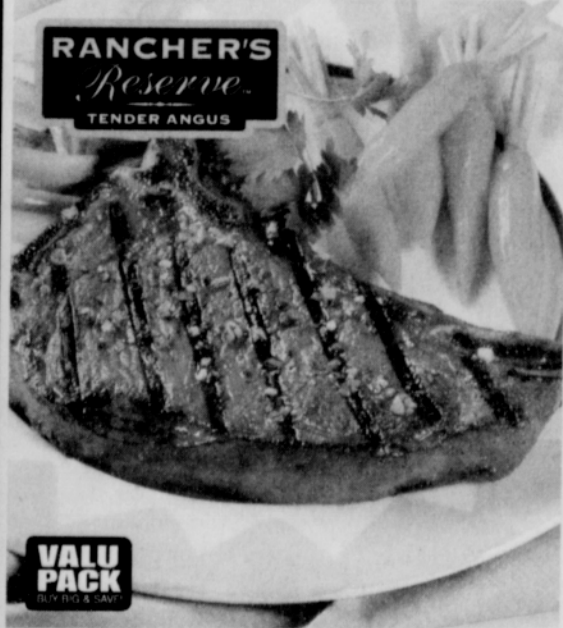
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