

Dear Deanna!

Last year, I learned I had a sister in a town where my dad cheated on my mother. I had to go without things because he never had any extra money. I was shortchanged because he was secretly paying child support my mother didn't know about. As an adult, I stopped dealing with him because I felt he was so wrong for having a baby out of wedlock. How do I heal? --Randy; San Bernardino, Calif.

Dear Randy:

Start by reaching out to your father and share your feelings and explain why you kicked him to the curb. Once that's done, put it in prayer, hope for the best and keep it moving. As for you—become committed to being a manly role model for your mother, your sister and any woman you deal with. Don't make the same mistake your dad made—remember real men don't make babies unless they're married.

Dear Deanna!

Me and my partner were dealing drugs but when we got caught, the police claim I had the dope. My partner threw the crack out of the window and we tried to run. The police say they found it in my pocket. My homeboy tes-



Real People, Real Advice
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tified against me and now I'm doing all these years. It's killing me. --Big G.; Central Corrections Facility (McCloud, Okla.)

Dear Big G.

Thank God those officers didn't shoot you in the back as you were running. If you were dealing with dope you deserved to be caught and punished. When it comes to drugs, your flesh and blood will turn on you in a second if they can get out of the drama. Since police brutality has been on the rise, patrol cars have cameras and your incident should have been recorded. Drop to your knees in prayer and use your jail time to think and plan

to be a better person when you're released.

Dear Deanna!

My girlfriend's attractive, nicely shaped and has a great personality. I don't understand why she wears so much weave. Her natural hair is nice and long but she still glues, sews and patches all that fake hair in her head and I can't stand it. She said she's tired of me complaining about it. How can it make it clear that I want her weave less? --James; Chicago

Dear James:

Men often complain about hair weave because they can't run their fingers through it. If the weave looks nice and can fool somebody you have nothing to gripe about. You don't need to make anything clear except the compliments when the weave looks good, and if it looks bad to you, hand over the cash for the beauty salon. Leave the issue alone, because like the hair weave, you're an accessory that can be replaced.

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

Tribute Features Local Artists
Black history celebrated downtown

Jazz singer and storyteller Annette Lowman will perform with other local talent during a special tribute to Black History Month on Thursday, Feb. 3 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Pearl District branch of Albina Community Bank, 430 N.W. 10th Ave.

The event will feature live music, art display and spoken word performances.

Lowman was born in Denver and made her singing debut at the age of 14. Since then she has embarked on a fulfilling career which has given her the opportunity to experience many different cultures beyond the borders of American now residing in Portland.



Annette Lowman

life," Lowman said. "It's like an "enchanted force" which moves me outside the reality of daily living. Music performance has afforded me opportunities to journey around the world, stepping in and out of cultures as well as meeting and performing with musicians who influenced my life both musically and personally."

A wonderful collection of visual artists, including Sunshine Dixon, Sylvia Welch, Jammal Folsom, Mofee, and newcomer Monica Lester-Bell will be showing their art at the celebration.

The event is sponsored by the bank, Dixon's Emerging Artists group and Brister and Associates, Inc.

Women's Conference at Clark College

The 2005 Women Moving Forward Conference is set for Saturday, Feb. 5 from 8 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. in Gaiser Hall at Clark College.

This year's event, "Bridging the Global Gap to Transform Communities," features a keynote address by Jensine Larsen, founder and

editor of "World Pulse" magazine, a national publication which reports world news from a female perspective.

Independent singer-songwriter Kyler will perform music from her award-winning CD "A Flower Grows in Stone." A wide variety of

workshops are planned with topics such as the role of women in religions today and efforts to end international trafficking of women and children.

For more information, call 360-992-2905 or visit the Clark College website at www.clark.edu.

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