

DEAR ABBY

Live-in boyfriend shames woman for being a mother

Dear Abby: I am a divorced mother of two teenagers. I've been seeing my boyfriend, "Sean," for almost five years, and when the pandemic started, he moved in with us. I am supposed to share custody of my teens with their father, alternating weeks. However, his job requires travel, and the kids are with me more often than not, with little to no notice. They are also reaching an age where they don't really want to go to their dad's all the time.

This has caused some tension with my boyfriend. He feels we never get "alone time" anymore. He then withholds affection from me, as if I've done something wrong by having my kids. Since he moved in, our sex life has dwindled to almost nonexistent. He refuses to be intimate when the kids are home, yet he hasn't made the most of the "alone

time" we do have when the kids aren't here. He usually goes to bed early, without so much as a goodnight kiss. Or he'll go out on weekend days and not include me.

I have been cheated on in the past, and my insecurities are starting to rear their ugly heads. I don't know how to talk to him because he gets defensive and gaslights any issues I bring up. I don't feel safe sharing my hurt with him, let alone sharing my anger at him for trying to make me feel bad for being a mom. I'm losing hope and feel myself shutting down. How can I approach him in a way that he won't get defensive? — **Fighting A Losing Battle**

Dear Fighting: There are red flags all

over your letter. You are going to be an active mother until your children are at least 18.

That this man would move into your home and give you heartburn about your responsibilities is terrible. You state that your sex life is over, and when you raise other important issues, he gaslights you. This does not bode well for a healthy future.

His defensiveness when you attempt to have an adult discussion with him isn't your real problem. Getting him out of your home and your life before he wastes any more of your time is what you should focus on.

Dear Abby: What is proper etiquette when attending an event and sitting at a

table with more than six people? I think it's rude to talk to a person across the table. Talking to a person next to you is acceptable. Talking to someone across the table is rude because the other diners must stop talking to the person seated next to them and be forced to listen to your conversation. Seeing this happen is becoming more and more annoying. What do you think? — **Forced To Listen**

Dear Forced: While that rule of etiquette may have been true in Edwardian times, table etiquette today is no longer so rigid. While, of course, it is desirable to converse with the guests seated next to you, unless communicating with someone across the table requires one to shout — which would be distracting and disruptive — I see nothing rude about it.



JEANNE PHILLIPS ADVICE

DAYS GONE BY

100 years ago — 1922

There is very serious strife in Pendleton. It has all come about by reason of the visit this week of the United Spanish War Veterans who are here for their annual encampment. Snakes are the cause of the trouble, and the city government has been badly cracked. The Military Order of Serpents, the fun organization of the Spanish veterans, had trouble because they lost their big snake. They found the reptile, but Mayor Hartman refused to let the boys put on any snake dances in Pendleton, even if they are ex-service men. The veterans appealed to Chief of Police Taylor, and here is where the division enters into the battle. Just because the mayor is afraid of snakes is no reason why the parade can't be held, the chief says, so he has told the Serpents to go ahead and glide. And glide and wriggle they plan to do, they state. Also, they are looking after the mayor.

50 years ago — 1972

Wheeler County will again have a doctor practicing in Fossil after July 1, according to County Judge Clarence Asher, who said Thursday Dr. Walter Buhl will establish a practice in the county to participate in a federal health service program. The announcement that Wheeler County will have a doctor for the first time in five or six years, follows on the heels of an announcement from Gilliam County that Dr. Richard Schwan,

Condon, is leaving Condon, and that Gilliam County may be without a doctor.

25 years ago — 1997

Local health care facilities and services will soon be provided with chemical warfare agent antidote kits. The Umatilla and Morrow counties Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program offices have received 480 Mark I auto-injecting antidote kits from the Oregon Health Division, said Health Division Spokesman Jan Glarum. "This is a significant amount of antidote that will be immediately available," Glarum said. "We're one giant step closer to meeting the needs of our potential patients. The kits are similar to those issued to American troops during the Gulf War, and were issued to medical personnel in Atlanta during last summer's Olympics. They are becoming a standard part of anti-terrorism emergency management strategies," he said. The injector contains two antidote compounds, atropine and 2-PAM chloride. Local medical experts will train area doctors, nurses and emergency medical technicians in how to use the kits. Eventually, Glarum said, all medical facilities and ambulance services in Umatilla and Morrow counties will have the kits. A recent Health Division study indicated a large-scale release could bring 900 people to medical facilities, about 30 cases of severe contamination and the remainder moderately contaminated or not contaminated at all.

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

In 1876, Lt. Col. Colonel George A. Custer and his 7th Cavalry were wiped out by Sioux and Cheyenne Indians in the Battle of the Little Bighorn in Montana.

In 1938, the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 was enacted.

In 1942, Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower was designated Commanding General of the European Theater of Operations during World War II. Some 1,000 British Royal Air Force bombers raided Bremen, Germany.

In 1947, "The Diary of a Young Girl," the personal journal of Anne Frank, a German-born Jewish girl hiding with her family from the Nazis in Amsterdam during World War II, was first published.

In 1950, war broke out in Korea as forces from the communist North invaded the South.

In 1962, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that recitation of a state-sponsored prayer in New York State public schools was unconstitutional.

In 1973, former White House Counsel John W. Dean began testifying before the Senate Watergate Committee, implicating top administration officials, including President Richard Nixon as well as himself, in the Watergate scandal and cover-up.

In 1990, the U.S. Supreme Court, in its first "right-to-die" decision, ruled that family members could be barred from ending the lives of persistently comatose relatives who had not made their wishes known conclusively.

In 1993, Kim Campbell was sworn in as Canada's 19th prime minister, the first woman to hold the post.

In 1996, a truck bomb killed 19 Americans and injured hundreds at a U.S. military housing complex in Saudi Arabia.

In 2009, death claimed Michael Jackson, the "King of Pop," in Los Angeles at age 50 and actor Farrah Fawcett in Santa Monica, California, at age 62.

In 2015, the U.S. Supreme Court upheld nationwide tax

subsidies under President Barack Obama's health care overhaul in a 6-3 ruling that preserved health insurance for millions of Americans.

In 2016, Pope Francis visited Armenia, where he recognized the Ottoman-era slaughter of Armenians as a genocide, prompting a harsh rebuttal from Turkey.

Ten years ago: A divided U.S. Supreme Court threw out major parts of Arizona's tough crackdown on people living in the U.S. without legal permission, while unanimously upholding the law's most-discussed provision: requiring police to check the immigration status of those they stop for other reasons, but limiting the legal consequences.

Five years ago: In eastern Pakistan, an overturned oil tanker burst into flames, killing at least 150 people who had rushed to the scene to gather leaking fuel.

One year ago: Former Minneapolis police officer Derek Chauvin was sentenced to 22½ years

in prison for the murder of George Floyd, whose dying gasps under Chauvin's knee led to the biggest outcry against racial injustice in the U.S. in generations. Searchers used big machines and their hands to comb through a twisted, shifting heap of concrete and metal, a day after an oceanside condominium building near Miami collapsed into a smoldering pile of rubble, killing 98 people. The Justice Department sued Georgia over the state's new election law, saying it was intended to deny Black voters equal access to the ballot. (The lawsuit is pending.)

Today's Birthdays: Civil rights activist James Meredith is 89. Actor Barbara Montgomery is 83. Actor Mary Beth Peil is 82. Singer Carly Simon is 77. Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor is 68. Actor Erica Gimpel is 58. Basketball Hall of Famer Dikembe Mutombo is 56. Actor Angela Kinsey is 51. Rock musician Actor Linda Cardellini is 47. Actor Busy Philipps is 43.

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7 LITTLE WORDS

Find the 7 words to match the 7 clues. The numbers in parentheses represent the number of letters in each solution. Each letter combination can be used only once, but all letter combinations will be necessary to complete the puzzle.

CLUES	SOLUTIONS
1 home of the Grand Ole Opry (9)	_____
2 like a run-down hotel (5)	_____
3 ask earnestly (7)	_____
4 tried to grow grass again (8)	_____
5 licorice flavor source (7)	_____
6 one with a monthly rent (6)	_____
7 filled with anger (8)	_____

NN	SE	SE	EE	ED
EDY	ED	EED	EE	ETH
TE	BES	ANI	SEE	RES
ESS	SE	ING	CH	LES

Today's Answers: 1. TENNESSEE 2. SEEDY 3. BESEECH 4. RESEDED 5. ANISEED 6. LESSEE 7. SEETHING

WORD★Roundup™

by David L. Hoyt & Jeff Knurek

Find and Circle...

- Four Southern Hemisphere countries
- The Rolling Stones
- Three words rhyming with "quench"
- Two martial arts
- Goodman or Hill

Answers to Saturday's puzzle: FUNGUS MUSEUM AUTUMN GURU / PELICAN PIGEON PARROT / INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE / HONDA MAZDA FORD / METHOD

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Word search grid with a diagonal line through it.

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Monday-Friday.....English 8:00am
Tuesday-Friday.....Spanish 6:00pm
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.....Spanish 7:00pm
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.....Spanish 11:00am
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.....Spanish 6:00pm
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.....Español 7:00pm
DOMINGO.....Inglés 9:00am
.....Español 11:00am
.....Español 1:00pm
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