

Former sweetheart tries buying love

DEAR ABBY: “Homer” and I have been married for more than 40 years. Last year he started sneaking around with “Mary,” his girlfriend from high school who lives out of town. She came into town for a visit last year. This year, on the very same weekend, he went there.

Last year Mary told Homer he should divorce me and marry her. (She has buried two husbands already.) I spoke with Mary, and she told me that what the two of them have is “Untouchable! No one can touch it!” But he’s still living here. Homer keeps saying he’s going to leave because Mary is a Christian woman.

Abby, Homer doesn’t even go to church. I do! It doesn’t seem Christian to me to run around with a married man.

Mary is promising him a lot of material things, like a big-screen TV, a recliner and two cars. He keeps coming home with things Mary has bought him: a watch, cuff links, a pair of shoes, a wallet, sweater and pants.

Is she trying to buy his love?
— LOYAL WIFE, MIAMI GARDENS, FLA.

DEAR LOYAL WIFE: It certainly appears that way. It’s not so much that every day is Valentine’s Day with Mary; it’s more like every day is Christmas. “Good Christian women” obey the 10 Commandments.

Your husband’s girlfriend has broken at least three of them: Thou shalt not covet, thou shalt not commit adultery, and thou shalt not steal. A saint she ain’t.



Abigail Van Buren

• Dear Abby

It says in Romans 6:23 that “The wages of sin is death.” Please point that out to Homer. It could be the reason his girlfriend has buried two husbands.

DEAR ABBY: Please tell my husband and me how to resolve a terrible argument between us and our son, “Dale,” and daughter-in-law, “Faith.” They haven’t spoken to us since the incident occurred at our home during a Labor Day picnic. We are very upset over what happened.

Dale works a full-time job during the week, plus another one most weekends. They have three children, the youngest having just started school.

Faith does not work outside the home and hasn’t since she was six months pregnant with their firstborn.

They live about 50 miles from us in a large apartment complex that’s completely unsuitable for a young family.

My husband and I offered to loan them the down payment for a home, under the condition that Faith gets a job and shares some of the financial responsibility.

With all three children in school, we see no reason why she can’t work.

Abby, they both blew a gasket! Dale told us he doesn’t want his wife to work, and she confirmed it. He said he will provide a home for his family when he is able to.

We have left phone messages, but they do not return them.

We were trying to be helpful and are very hurt by their blind pride and stubbornness.

Our grandchildren deserve and need a decent place to live. Were we wrong? What can we do?

— NEW YORK READER

DEAR READER: You may have meant well, but by couching your offer in terms that were critical of the way your son and his wife have arranged their marriage, you emasculated him and implied that you disapprove of her lifestyle.

Your next move should be to write them a note of apology, explaining that you weren’t trying to meddle, and wanted only what you thought was best for them. After that, the next move is theirs.

DEAR ABBY: My older sister, “Katie,” has three children — an adopted son, a foster son and a biological son — all under the age of 3. Katie and her husband took in their foster son, “Richie,” only because he’s the biological brother of their adopted son. They didn’t know if they’d get to keep Richie or not, so Katie closed herself off to him emotionally.

During the year and a half that she has had Richie, he has become, in essence, an “invisible” child.

She shows him no kindness, no positive attention and certainly no love.

I love Richie. It makes my heart ache to see him emotionally neglected. It also causes me distress to see that Katie seems blind to the way she behaves toward him.

The rest of our family sees what’s happening, but no one seems to know how to handle the situation.

My husband and I have been unable to have children of our own, and we currently keep Richie every weekend.

We have considered taking him in ourselves, and if possible, adopting

him. He loves us as much as we love him. My question is, should we (our family) stand together and try to convince Katie to open her eyes and change her ways, or would it be better for everyone involved if my husband and I were to adopt Richie? And if so, how do we do this without creating a rift in the family?
— DISTRESSED IN WISCONSIN

DEAR DISTRESSED: Whether she wants to admit it or not, your sister must be aware on some level that she’s unable to love Richie as she does the other boys.

I recommend that you take it slowly: The first thing that you, your husband and the extended family could do would be to “sympathize” with Katie about how hectic her life must be with three tiny toddlers on her hands. Suggest that you’d be happy to “lighten her load” by taking Richie more often. (You may find that she’ll be delighted.)

Once you have established that routine, begin mentioning how hard it is for you and your husband to see him go home. After that, the next logical step would be to offer to adopt the boy — which might provide your sister with the “out” she needs.

If she’s open to it — and let’s pray that she is — you won’t have to inform child protective services that the boy is being emotionally starved and neglected. If she’s not, I hope you will step in on his behalf anyway, because the damage your sister is doing to that child will affect his view of himself and the world for the rest of his life.

CONFIDENTIAL TO READERS FROM INDIA: A Happy New Year to all of you!

Editor’s note: Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips.

Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, Calif. 90069.

AUCTION

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2005
4-H BLDG - KALER ST., OAKLEY, KS
10:00 AM DOORS OPEN AT 9:00 AM

Very nice selection of good furniture

Antique Western Elect. Wall Telephone, complete
Antique AM/FM Radio, 78 rpm Record Player, Excellent
Several 78 rpm Records
Handmade Dropleaf Child’s Desk, Very nice
Round Coffee Table Marble Top
54 in. by 30 in. Mirror, very good
Long Coffee Table Marble Top
Gold/ Green Stripe Swivel Rocker
High Back Off White Crushed Velvet Chair w/Ottoman
Adjustable Floor to Ceiling Lamp
Brass End Table Lamps
Brass Serving Cart
3 Brass Floor & Table Lamps
Green 7 ft. Sofa, good
Large Wicker Basket
Various Hanging Pictures
Wreath
2 Rooster Wall Plaques
2 - Hanging Baskets
2 Tray Serving Cart
2 - sm. Brass Horns
2 Wooden Vases, Candle Holders
Small Blue Vanity Chair
Vanity Bench
Large Brown Lazy Boy Recliner
5 pc Bamboo Sofa, Matching Round Coffee Table, Square End Table & 3 Bar Stools
3 piece Plaid Sofa, nice

Antique Camel Back Trunk
Large Oval Gold Trim Mirror, Excellent
Gold Platform Rocker
Orange Chair
Small Double Drop Leaf Table
Floral & Christmas Decorations
Vases
Blond Head Board Double Bed, small Night stand,
2 - 3 drawer Dressers, Desk/Vanity
King Size Bed
One Single Mattress & Box Spg
Large Chest w/ dual mirrors
Night Stand
Gold Color Chair
Large Italian Pitcher
Table Rack
Card Table
Various Kitchen Items
Candles
Baskets
Coffee Table w/ Misc. Items
3 Cheese Trays - oval & covered
Ice Bucket
Round braided wall hanging
Small Upright GE Deepfreeze, white, very good
Gas Grill - Natural or propane gas, good
Wrought Iron Patio Chair
Large Chaise Lounge
Chair
Benches
Table
Exercise Bike
3 - Walkers, one seated

CLIFF CLARK, OWNER
BLOOM SALES IN CHARGE
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Roxie & Lori Wilson, Clerks
Dean Richards, Assistant
Lunch served by: St. Joseph Church

Colby Middle School band, choir students selected for district

Colby Middle School band and choir students have been selected to participate in the 2005 Northwest Kansas Music Educators Association District Honor Band and Choir.

Band audition tapes were submitted and judged by area band directors, said school officials, with audition tape including a selected etude and the chromatic scale.

Fourteen Colby seventh and eighth graders were selected to attend. They were: Barbara Bickner, second chair; and Amanda Barnum, eighth chair on flutes; Seth Bredemeier, seventh chair; Brittany Hanson, seventeenth chair; Kate Ostmeier, twentieth chair on clarinets; Lucas Baumfalk, first chair on saxophone; Ryley Haas, second chair, Dalton Garcia, fifth chair, Sam Kendrick,

seventh chair, Kaylas Hockersmith, eleventh chair, Shelby Terrel, twelfth chair, and Brittany Bange, second alternate on trumpets; Anna Juenemann (chair to be determined) on French horn; William Mick, fifth chair on baritone; and Lauren Shoaff, third chair, percussion.

Choir members selected were: Heather Griggs, Gray Henry, Brock Wagoner, Tera Raymond, Abby Miller, Jordan Baker, Audra Fleming, Grace Hankin. In addition, Amanda Barnum and Anna Juenemann were selected as alternates.

After preparing for their parts in Colby, students will gather in Hays on Saturday for a day of practicing and following that, a concert will be held at the Hays High School Auditorium beginning at 4 p.m.

CCC Drama Dept. Presents

Love Thy Neighbor

A Comedy by Gary Ray Stapp

Nov. 3, 4 & 5 ~ 7:30 p.m.

Frahm Theatre

Tickets available at the door or in advance at the
CCC Bookstore ~ 460-4670

Tickets: Adults \$5; Seniors & Non-CCC Students \$4;
CCC Students, Faculty & Staff—Free

STEVIE VEGAS LETS IT ALL RIDE ON 22 BLACK.

OR

FLY MID-CONTINENT IF YOU DON'T WANT TO LOSE YOUR SHIRT IN VEGAS BEFORE YOU EVEN GET THERE.

If you’re heading to Vegas, and you’ve decided to fly out of Kansas City instead of Wichita because you think you can save yourself a lot of money for the Craps tables, or the Blackjack tables, or even the Pai Gow Poker tables, then you need to sit right there while we perform a little “Airport Math.”

So you’ve booked your ticket and have saved \$60. Good for you. Unfortunately, you need to put gas in the car. That was \$40. So now, you’ve only saved \$20. And, you need to figure that the turnpike is going to cost you about \$6. Oops. Down to \$14. And since three hours is a pretty long time to be in the car, you’re probably going to want a bottle of water or a can of pop (or two or three, depending upon the power of your thirst). A low estimate for this is \$5. Now, you’re

down to a savings of \$9. Congratulations, you just drove three long, tedious hours from Wichita to K.C. to save yourself \$9. Which you are sure to lose just about the second you set foot in Vegas. And, oh yeah, don’t forget you have to spend the same amount of money to get home. Ouch.

So fly Wichita instead. We have more than 100 arriving and departing flights each day. We have 12 nonstop destinations to great places like Las Vegas. And, we have comparable prices to any large metro airport. So, if you’re planning a trip soon, we urge you to visit the Mid-Continent Airport Web site: www.flywichita.com. There, you can learn more about what flights are available, where they go and what they cost.

Flywichita.com

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