

Senior citizen fakes ‘ick’ factor; woman has wedding jitters

Dear Dr. Brothers: I’m an active senior who lost her husband four years ago. Since then, I have moved to a community with many people my age who are also healthy and looking forward to many more happy years. The problem is that I am dating a wonderful widower, and although we are both in our early 70s, we enjoy a great love and sex life together that we have to hide from our kids.

The reason? The “ick” factor whenever we so much as hint at a sex life. How do we cope with this? — G.G.

Dear G.G.: Sexy seniors are a fact of life these days, and it’s a testament to the age we live in — 50 is the new 30, and people look and feel more youthful than they did in generations past.

But one thing hasn’t changed — no matter what the date on the calendar says, kids have never (and probably never will) liked to think about the facts of life that brought them into the world — namely, Mom and Dad having sex.

That goes for just about all ages of kids and all ages of moms and dads. No matter how hip the kids (or the parents), there is something in the human psyche that makes children want their parents to be happy, maybe even still in love — but certainly not sexual beings.

Parents just are not easily viewed as sexual beings. So try very hard not to take it too personally.

Even though you are thrilled with your new status as dating and having a love life, “too much information” is something you should guard against sharing with your children.

The older we get, the less young people can fathom how less-attractive bodies can house sexual spirits. And the fact that your new partner is a relative stranger to them makes it even harder.



Dr. Joyce Brothers

● Ask Dr. Brothers

Try to understand, and keep your hints to a minimum.

Dear Dr. Brothers: I’m a 32-year-old woman engaged to a great guy. The wedding is all planned, but I am feeling more and more nervous inside.

I’ve always enjoyed dating a variety of guys, and secretly can’t imagine how I am going to remain true to only one man for the rest of my life.

It’s just depressing. Am I the only one who feels this way? Or is this a normal fear?

I don’t want to get divorced. I can’t talk to anyone about this. — E.A.

Dear E.A.: I can see how it would be very difficult or even impossible for you to confide in your mother, a bridesmaid or the brother of the groom about your feelings.

And I imagine that all brides-and grooms-to-be have to face that moment of doubt when they realize that they will be giving up the freedom to date and mate with others once the knot is tied.

It is those who take their wedding vows seriously who probably have the most difficult time with the concept of monogamy, for they truly plan to honor it in practice.

It sounds to me like you are having more than just a moment of doubt.

That you find the concept of devoting yourself to a life shared with your fiancé a “depressing” one tells me that perhaps you aren’t quite ready for the exclusivity of marriage.

If the idea of marriage as a refuge doesn’t resonate with you and it seems like more of a trap, it’s time you have a discussion with your fiancé about your fears. If you say nothing and go ahead with the wedding, you might set yourself up for a lifetime of unhappiness.

You are used to a lot of personal freedom, and there’s no sense beating yourself up because you have come to enjoy it. Just be honest in your talk with your fiancé, and be as careful of his feelings as you can. But you must be true to yourself before you can be true to him.

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Conceptis Sudoku

by Dave Green

			3			1		
5					4			
7						9	4	
				9	7		6	
		8		1		7		
	2		5	8				
	5	2						6
			7					3
		9			2			

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

4/27

This is a logic-based number placement puzzle. The goal is to enter a number, 1-9, in each cell in which each row, column and 3x3 region must contain only one instance of each numeral. The solution to today’s Sudoku puzzle is at the bottom of this page.

Answer

2	4	6	3	7	9	1	5	8
5	9	1	8	2	4	6	3	7
7	8	3	1	6	5	9	4	2
1	3	5	2	9	7	8	6	4
9	6	8	4	1	3	7	2	5
4	2	7	5	8	6	3	1	9
8	5	2	9	3	1	4	7	6
6	1	4	7	5	8	2	9	3
3	7	9	6	4	2	5	8	1

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

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