

Parents disdain marriage after failure of their own

DEAR ABBY: I'm 24 and a college graduate. My boyfriend, "Jordan," and I have been together for a year and we would like to get married. However, my parents are against the idea. They love Jordan, but they think marriage is stupid because, in 2013, "WHO is getting married?"

I think this is totally ridiculous, but I don't know what to do. I want to be married and I would love my parents' approval, but it's hard when they call me stupid for wanting to take that step just because their marriage didn't work out.

I love Jordan and I love my parents. Should I have to choose between the two? — **TOTALLY TORN**

DEAR TOTALLY TORN: You do not have to choose between your parents and being married. At 24, you are an adult and mature enough to make your own decision about the importance of the institution.

As to the question of "who is getting married" these days, one answer is people with college degrees are marrying at a greater rate than those with only a high school education -- and their unions are more lasting. I'm sorry your parents' marriage didn't work out, but you would be foolish to let their cynical opinion of this kind of commitment taint your perspective. I hope you and Jordan enjoy many happy and fulfilling years together.



DEAR ABBY

DEAR ABBY: What are your thoughts about co-workers dating? I have a crush on one of my co-workers, and I believe it is reciprocated. We're unsure about an office romance because, while it isn't against the rules for people to date within the building, there are concerns about sexual harassment or inappropriate behavior on the premises. (Some of our co-workers have dated with no problems.)

Would it be wrong to attempt to further the relationship, as long as it remains appropriate within the office, or should I forget it and date someone outside of work? — **WORKING RELATIONSHIP IN INDIANA**

DEAR WORKING RELATIONSHIP: This may seem old-fashioned, but I'm not crazy about the idea of office romances. While I know they are not uncommon and it's hard to fight mutual attraction, office romances are distracting. When the pheromones are flying, it can be extremely difficult to concentrate on

the tasks at hand. And if it doesn't work out, there can be tension, embarrassment and hard feelings in the aftermath, and that's not good for business.

DEAR ABBY: Twice in the past month I have received thank-you notes for gifts I had given, but the wrong gift was mentioned. I usually spend a lot of time selecting just the right thing, and I take pride in my choices.

I understand how something like that could happen, but I'm not sure what to do about it. Should I just keep quiet about it, or say something to the person? What would I say? I don't want to embarrass anyone, but I know I have received gifts in the past that will forever remind me of the giver. — **PICKING OUT PRESENTS IN PENNSYLVANIA**

DEAR PICKING OUT PRESENTS: I see nothing to be gained by not alerting the person to the mistake. If you were thanked for the wrong gift, so was another giver. If I had mixed up the gift cards, I would want to know -- wouldn't you? Do unto others ...

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, CA 90069.

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

Instructions for play: Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9.

That's all there is to it. There's no math involved. The grid has numbers, but nothing has to add up to anything else. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic. It's fun. It's challenging. It's addictive!

Solving time is typically from 10 to 30 minutes, depending on your skill and experience. The solution for today's puzzle will be published in Saturday's paper. Or you can go to www.sudoku.com to find the solution.

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

HOROSCOPES

ARIES - Mar 21/Apr 20

Aries, you may not like scheduling too many things in advance, but sometimes it pays to plan and let others know your schedule so their minds are at ease.

TAURUS - Apr 21/May 21

You may experience a financial windfall this week, Taurus. It may be a good time to ask for a raise or to play the lottery. Luck is on your side in the coming days.

GEMINI - May 22/Jun 21

Gemini, expand your horizons and your path to success will be illuminated. Creativity will bring new opportunities and people into your life this week.

CANCER - Jun 22/Jul 22

Share your optimism and enthusiasm with others, Cancer. You may prove unable to contain your happiness, so don't be surprised if those around you pick up that vibe.

LEO - Jul 23/Aug 23

Leo, expect your social life to take off this week. Things pick up with your friends, and romance might be right around the corner. Enjoy the ride.

VIRGO - Aug 24/Sept 22

Virgo, you might think you can do no wrong at work, but scale back on risky decisions. Right now you have achieved financial stability, and you don't want to risk that.

LIBRA - Sept 23/Oct 23

Libra, your heart is set on a lofty goal, but you recognize all the hard work necessary to make that goal a reality. Give it your best shot, and you will be glad you did.

SCORPIO - Oct 24/Nov 22

Scorpio, you may convince yourself that now is not the time to spend money on something that will make you feel good, but there is no reason to let fear get in the way of happiness.

SAGITTARIUS - Nov 23/Dec 21

A friend or partner could open up a window of opportunity for you, Sagittarius. Make the most of this opportunity, and success will soon follow.

CAPRICORN - Dec 22/Jan 20

Don't be too hard on yourself if you don't get much done this week, Capricorn. There are many enticing distractions, and you can afford to devote some time to trivial pursuits.

AQUARIUS - Jan 21/Feb 18

Aquarius, this week may allow you to have your cake and eat it, too. Friends may be envious of your luck, so be sure to share some of your good fortune with those around you.

PISCES - Feb 19/Mar 20

Pisces, devote ample time to your personal life this week. A few things need sorting out, so don't hesitate to put other matters on the back burner.

FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

SEPTEMBER 8
P!nk, Singer (34)

SEPTEMBER 9
Hunter Hayes, Singer (22)

SEPTEMBER 10
Colin Firth, Actor (53)

SEPTEMBER 11
Tommy Shaw, Musician (60)

SEPTEMBER 12
Jason Statham, Actor (46)

SEPTEMBER 13
Ben Savage, Actor (33)

SEPTEMBER 14
Andrew Lincoln, Actor (40)

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Big gulp
- 5 Ready to swing
- 10 Window sections
- 12 Mown strip
- 13 Metal fastener
- 14 Rich dessert
- 15 Forum cry
- 16 Seventh letter
- 18 Game caller
- 19 Private response
- 21 Minimal change
- 22 Theater worker
- 24 Mortise's mate
- 25 Lumber measure
- 29 Combust
- 30 Practical
- 32 Eroded
- 33 Fitting
- 34 Monk's title
- 35 Pleasantly mild
- 37 Comes down
- 39 Follow
- 40 Fancy neckwear
- 41 Yorkshire city
- 42 Farm fowl

DOWN

- 1 Aerosol output
- 2 Gives up
- 3 Get into the market
- 4 "My word!"
- 5 Nick and Nora's dog
- 6 Binary base
- 7 Unproductive
- 8 Go to university
- 9 Burglar's crime
- 11 "In the Heat of the Night" actor
- 17 Improve
- 20 Mr. Scratch
- 21 Kayak's cousin
- 23 New York
- 25 Lighter fuel
- 26 Threat ending
- 27 Eccle's place
- 28 Source of excitement
- 29 Tower setting
- 31 Endures
- 33 Pro votes
- 36 Coffee, in slang
- 38 Cabinet wood

A	S	K	S		H	I	C	K
T	H	E	I	R		S	A	T
T	E	R	R		P	I	A	N
I	A	M		S	C	A	R	L
C	R	I	M	S	O	N		I
			S	T	A	L	L	
			S	E	E	T	O	
			A	C	T			
			S	P	A			
			C	A	R	M	I	N
			O	C	T	E	T	
			W	H	E	A	T	
			S	E	L	L		
			P	E	S	T		

Previous Puzzle

NEW CROSSWORD BOOK! Send \$4.75 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 2, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9
10				11		12			
13						14			
15				16	17			18	
19		20				21			
	22				23				
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	25	26					27	28	
29					30				31
32				33				34	
35			36			37	38		
39						40			
41						42			

9-7

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Turn to liquid
- 5 Dance move
- 9 Bravery
- 10 Does a kitchen chore
- 12 Chilled
- 13 Quartz variety
- 14 Croquet hoop
- 16 Carpenter's tool
- 17 Yale students
- 18 Travel stops
- 21 Back muscle, for short
- 22 Muscle makeup
- 23 Walked back and forth
- 24 Like bad beer
- 26 Visibility lessener
- 29 Car-washing aid
- 30 "Smooth Operator" singer
- 31 Cochlea setting
- 32 Box office buy
- 34 Tire feature
- 37 Scarlett's love
- 38 Play place
- 39 Friendship

- 40 Over again
- 41 Jot down

DOWN

- 1 Folder type
- 2 Draw out
- 3 Burglar deterrents
- 4 Spruce or sequoia
- 5 Masseur's workplace
- 6 Luggage ID
- 7 Pencil end
- 8 Potpourri bits
- 9 "Wheel of Fortune" inducer
- 11 Uses a needle
- 15 Dense group of bushes
- 19 Follow, as orders
- 20 TV's Danson
- 22 Viper feature
- 23 Groan inducer
- 24 Ancient Greek city
- 25 Seoul man
- 26 Improvise
- 27 "Swan Lake" character
- 28 Oil
- 29 Hardens
- 30 Doofus
- 33 Turkey neighbor
- 35 Candle count
- 36 Grass coater

H	A	L	O		D	O	S	E
E	R	I	N		S	E	C	E
L	E	A	P		P	L	E	A
P	A	R	A		B	O	L	A
			P		A	R	A	N
W	I	D	E	S	T		A	N
A	D	O	R	E		G	I	T
R	E	O			L	I	C	H
P	A	R	A		L	I	Z	E
			P		A	R	A	D
E	L	A	P		S	E	T	R
B	E	L	L		E	A	S	T
B	A	L	E		R		A	N

Previous Puzzle

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1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8
9					10			11
12					13			
14				15			16	
17				18	19	20		
21				22				
			23					
	24	25					26	27
29						30		
31					32	33		
34			35	36		37		
38						39		
	40					41		

9-9

Daily Cryptoquote – Here's how to work it:

A X Y D L B A A X R
is L O N G F E L L O W

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

9-7

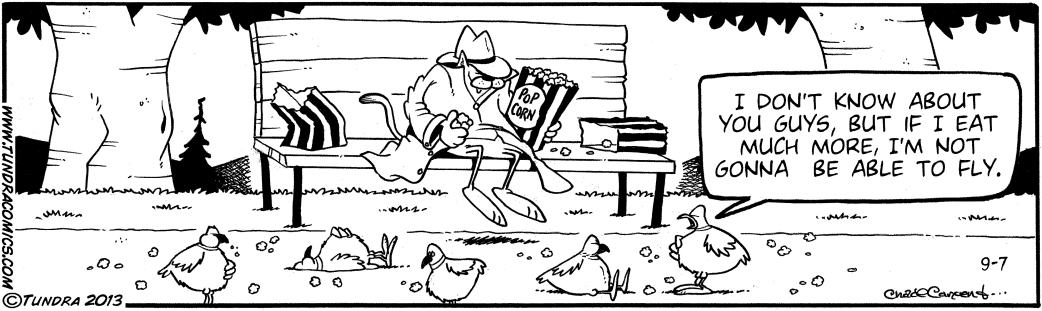
CRYPTOQUOTE

N C E O H D L Q H A P L Y N Y C S X C E
R L V , N L G H U V S R A P L Y N .
M L P D L Q H C N S X H G H U V S R
L M S X H N L V D . — N U C E S

Previous Cryptoquote: YOU KNOW YOU'RE GETTING OLD WHEN THE CANDLES COST MORE THAN THE CAKE. – Bob Hope

COMICS

Tundra



Hagar the Horrible



Peanuts



Baby Blues



Dilbert

