

# ‘Twerking’ isn’t dangerous, just the latest dance fad

**DEAR ABBY:** I’m the happily married mother of two teenage boys. The other day I overheard my older son (age 17) talking with a friend about “twerking.” I have never heard of it and now I’m worried. Is twerking a drug term? Is it similar to “tripping,” “getting high” or “catfishing”?

My 17-year-old is supposed to go to Princeton next year on a sports scholarship, and I’m afraid “twerking” will derail him from his charted path. Thank you for any advice you may have. — **TROUBLED MOM IN CONNECTICUT**

**DEAR MOM:** Don’t panic. “Tripping” and “getting high,” as you already know, refer to altered states of consciousness as the result of using drugs. “Catfishing” is something else. It’s pretending to be someone you aren’t, creating a false identity on social media, usually to pursue a deceptive online romance.

The “twerking” your son was referring to is a dance move recently made famous by Miley Cyrus – in which the dancer (usually female) gyrates in a provocative, semi-squatting position that involves thrusting hip movements.

**DEAR ABBY:** My husband and I are not big fans of his best friend’s wife. “Aracely” is extremely ill-mannered. She never says thank you, didn’t even write thank-you notes for their



DEAR ABBY

wedding and baby showers, and when we’re at a restaurant will loudly announce that the food was “disgusting.”

Aracely claims our baby “cries too much.” She arrived at my son’s second birthday party with a hangover and so much more. She claims she doesn’t observe our “Southern ways” because she comes from South America and has been in the United States for only eight years.

We keep our interactions with her limited, but do not cut her off completely because my husband values his friendship with her husband. I told my husband I’m considering giving her an etiquette book, but he said it would be rude. I disagree. I think it would nullify Aracely’s argument that she doesn’t understand our “Southern” manners. Do you agree that it would be rude? — **MANNERED SOUTHERN GAL**

**DEAR SOUTHERN GAL:** Sorry, but I do agree, because the gift would be given with malicious intent,

and I’m pretty sure that while Aracely lacks polish, she isn’t stupid.

Her problem isn’t that she doesn’t understand good manners because she’s from South America. I have met individuals from South America who are educated, cultured and whose manners are refined. Obviously, Aracely does not come from this kind of background.

ONLY if you could pull it off without sounding catty, the next time she hauls out the excuse for her deplorable manners, you might “offer” to buy her an etiquette book “so she can learn the ways of her adopted country” – but don’t expect her to take you up on it.

**DEAR ABBY:** Would it be appropriate to send my future mother-in-law a Mother’s Day card? I feel it would be a nice gesture to help start the relationship between us. — **NICK IN OMAHA**

**DEAR NICK:** I concur. In fact, I suspect it will melt her heart to know you feel that way about her, even before you marry her daughter.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

## su | do | ku

© Puzzles by Pappocom

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

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](http://www.sudoku.com) to find the solution.

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

## HELOISE’S KITCHENEERING BY HELOISE

### Does This Cheese Break the Mold?

Dear Heloise: Most cheese, even when stored in the refrigerator, will begin to MOLD after a while. However, the Parmesan cheese in the shaker-type container, no matter how long it is kept, seems never to develop mold. Does it ever develop mold and it just can’t be seen, or does it simply not mold? How long should one keep this cheese for safe consumption? This would seem to be an important question for us all. — Ray M., via email

Well, Ray, here’s what I found, after calling the manufacturer: The cheese will show mold eventually, even if kept under the best refrigerated conditions. So, make sure to consume the cheese prior to or within three months after the “Best When Purchased By” date that is stamped on the bottom of the container. — Heloise

P.S.: I write the date that I open the container on the bottom in black marker. This way, I know when several months have passed and I need to purchase new cheese.

### Send A Great Hint To:

Heloise  
P.O. Box 795000  
San Antonio, TX 78279-5000  
Fax: 210-HELOISE  
Email: [Heloise\(at\)Heloise.com](mailto:Heloise(at)Heloise.com)

### Shopping Hint

Dear Heloise: I save my grocery-store receipt until the next time I go shopping. I use a magnet to stick it on the side of my refrigerator. This is handy, because I can look at the receipt to see what foods I bought as a reminder that I need to use things before they go bad. Also, if I come across a bad product, I have the receipt, so I can take it back and get a refund. — Linda C. in Washington

### Drying Sponges

Dear Heloise: I’ve tried the various “sponge dishes,” etc., that are commercially available and have yet to find one that doesn’t collect soap scum or leave my sponge smelling of mildew.

To solve the dilemma, I cut vertically into the open end of a plastic, net vegetable bag (potatoes and Brussels sprouts, for example, come in these). I make the cut long enough that I can tie a knot with the two sides and still have a 4-inch opening. I have a heavyweight soap dispenser sitting on the edge of my sink. I tie the net bag around the neck of the soap dispenser so that it hangs into the sink without touching it. I slip my sponge into the open slit of the bag, and it hangs in the sink. The sponge dries quickly after each use. — Margaret B., via email

### Batter Up

Dear Heloise: When I am making cupcakes or muffins, I use a measuring cup to put the batter in the cupcake/muffin tin. No more mess! — Betty H. in Ohio

### Chill Out

Dear Heloise: My daughter loves different juices, but hates that they water down so easily over ice. She began freezing grapes and using them in place of ice cubes. She’s tried a few different types of fruit, but grapes certainly work best. Her idea gave me one: using frozen grapes to chill wine! It’s worked great! -- Shelby T. in Oregon

## CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

### ACROSS

- 1 Long story
- 5 Consider the same
- 11 Major work
- 12 Whodunit event
- 13 Onion’s kin
- 14 Spree
- 15 Two-way curve
- 16 Clutter
- 17 Stylish
- 19 Last mo.
- 22 Fighting
- 24 Scrub
- 26 Cowardly Lion
- 27 Field measure
- 28 Precise
- 30 As a follower
- 31 Canine command
- 32 Cowboy contest
- 34 Extinct bird
- 35 Tire track
- 38 New Mexico native
- 41 Wrong
- 42 James Cameron movie
- 43 Fleet unit
- 44 Praline ingredients
- 45 Do studio work

### DOWN

- 2 Big galoots
- 3 “You’ll never believe this!”
- 4 Invite
- 5 Glowing coal
- 6 Searches
- 7 Coffee dispensers
- 8 Say further
- 9 Kickoff aid
- 10 Go wrong
- 16 Spoil
- 18 Painter
- 19 Series about a time lord
- 20 Continental coin
- 21 Rowing team
- 22 Pub pints
- 23 Curbside call
- 25 Sugar source
- 29 Hector, for one
- 30 Wedding words
- 33 Air freshener’s targets
- 34 Almanac fill
- 36 “Trinity” author
- 37 Sort
- 38 Carpet feature
- 39 St.’s kin
- 40 Carpet cleaner, for short
- 41 Nile serpent

NEW CROSSWORD BOOK! Send \$4.75 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 1, 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				24	25			
26						27			
28			29		30				
31				32	33				
			34				35	36	37
38	39	40					41		
42							43		
44							45		

5-7

## CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

### ACROSS

- 1 Casino cubes
- 5 Knock back a few
- 11 Uttered
- 12 Precocious Plaza resident
- 13 First course, sometimes
- 14 Pilot
- 15 Necessitated
- 17 Belief, in brief
- 18 More polite
- 22 Marina sight
- 24 Spook
- 25 Kayo count
- 26 Dessert choice
- 27 News subject
- 30 Out of style
- 32 Less narrow
- 33 Boxing legend
- 34 Ibx’s relative
- 38 California desert
- 41 Formerly
- 42 Wise sayings
- 43 Painter
- 44 Beliefs
- 45 Unspoiled spot

### DOWN

- 1 Rx amount
- 2 Wrinkle remover
- 3 Warned
- 4 Rio Grande city
- 5 Blue hue
- 6 Visitors from afar
- 7 Skiing variety
- 8 Kipling book
- 9 Olympics chant
- 10 Signing need
- 16 Little rascal
- 19 Like some photos
- 20 Niagara’s source
- 30 Pop

C	A	T	E		G	E	N	U	S
I	D	O	L		E	R	U	P	T
N	O	T	E		N	O	N	F	A
C	R	A	M	M	E	D		I	R
O	N	L	A	V	E		E	T	A
			N	R	A		F	L	E
			D	E	B	T	S		M
			E	R	A	S		P	I
			M	A	C		T	E	L
			A	S	K		R	E	D
			Y	E	L	L	O		C
			O	R	I	O	L	E	
			S	T	Y	L	E		S

Previous Puzzle

- 21 Bassoon part
- 22 Hearty dish
- 23 Jacob’s son
- 28 Soothing music style
- 29 Hot dish holder
- 30 Pop
- 31 1990s veep
- 35 Reduced amount
- 36 Skin woe
- 37 Freshman, usually
- 38 Porch sight
- 39 Poem type
- 40 Painter
- Vermeer

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
22	23					24			
25							26		
27			28	29		30	31		
32						33			
			34		35			36	37
38	39	40					41		
42							43		
44							45		

5-8

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.

5-7 CRYPTOQUOTE

P I W O U X N R W O U N U P K I X

F P C C U N U I T U Z U W G U I W O U X N R

V I F M N V T W P T U . P I M N V T W P T U

W O U N U P K . — R X H P Z U N N V

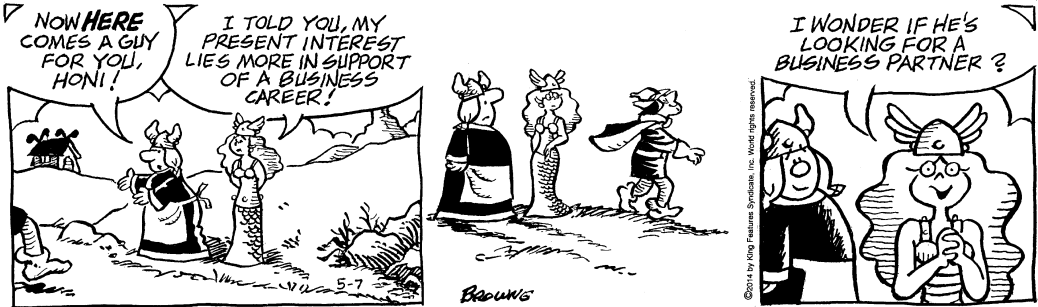
Previous Cryptoquote: THE TWO MOST ENGAGING POWERS OF AN AUTHOR ARE, TO MAKE NEW THINGS FAMILIAR AND FAMILIAR THINGS NEW. – Samuel Johnson

## COMICS

### Tundra



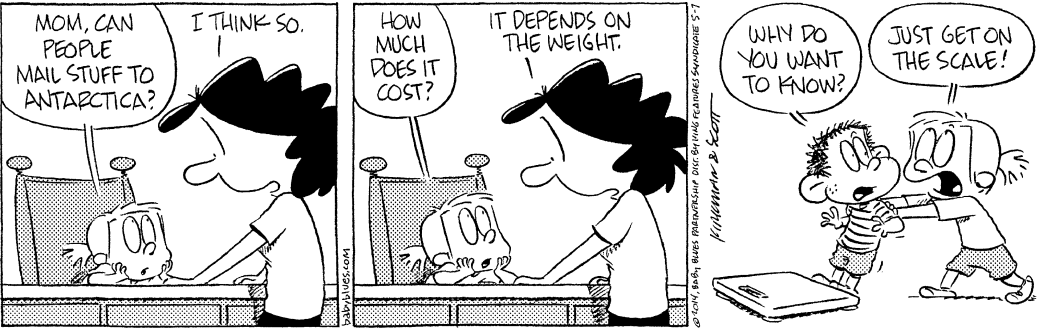
### Hagar the Horrible



### Peanuts



### Baby Blues



### Dilbert

