

Mom fears news of ex’s abuse will cause split with her son

DEAR ABBY: My daughter, “Meg,” was sexually abused at the age of 3 by her father 25 years ago. “Emile” and I were divorced, but he had every other weekend visitation. After returning from one visit, she said, “Daddy put his finger in there. It hurt. I cried.” Her words forever changed my life.

After we made countless trips to the children’s hospital and numerous therapists, a judge allowed supervised visitation. It happened again, but Emile told the judge he was “putting medicine on her.” He remarried shortly after and lost interest in Meg and her brother, “Ian,” which was a blessing to me, but he’d visit with them occasionally.

Emile spent years belittling me and telling lies to the kids about me, but I stayed busy with two jobs and raised them by myself. Meg has no relationship with her father, but her brother does.

Ian is now expecting a child and knows nothing about the abuse his sister suffered. I have tried raising the subject with Meg, but she won’t discuss it. I’m afraid if I tell Ian, it will cause a breach in our relationship and I’m not sure he would believe me. But how do I NOT tell him? Please advise me. — **WORRIED SICK IN LOUISIANA**

DEAR WORRIED SICK: Sit your son and his



DEAR ABBY

spouse down and tell them EVERYTHING. They need to know what Grandpa-to-be is capable of. Because it has been kept a secret for so long, it’s sure to be a shock, so don’t be surprised if they react with disbelief. If they want proof, show them any court records or other documents you may have. Whatever happens after that, your conscience should be clear, because you will have done your duty as a mother, and they will have been given fair warning.

DEAR ABBY: Six months ago I ran across an ad from a woman in prison who was looking for a pen pal. Having served time in the past, I know how it feels to be locked up and wanting contact with the outside world, be it friends, family, etc. I wrote her and she wrote back, and we exchanged pictures.

I am twice her age. I tried to get permission to visit her but was denied because I had served prior jail time. Our communica-

tion has been emails, letters and phone calls. I buy her things, and she is appreciative of everything I have done for her.

She says she wants to be with me when she gets out, which is not far off, and I’d love for it to happen, but I don’t know how my daughters will react because she’s their age. Right now it’s friendship, but I know it could quickly evolve into love. I have prayed about it. All the signs keep saying we are good for each other. Abby, what to do? — **A GENERATION OLDER**

DEAR G.O.: If you can, find out from the warden what the woman is incarcerated for. (Could it have been for conning people? Armed robbery?) Close your wallet and see how your “pen” pal reacts, because you may not be her only benefactor.

After she has been released, there’s no guarantee your relationship will evolve into love. In fact, she could have a change of heart about committing to someone who’s old enough to be her father. Please stop and look both ways before proceeding further.

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 or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

su | do | ku

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

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.

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

Previous Puzzle

HELOISE’S KITCHENEERING BY HELOISE

Eggs Take a Turn for the Worse

Dear Heloise: I scrambled six dozen EGGS and placed them in a hot slow cooker for Sunday brunch after church services. I covered the pot with aluminum foil, put the lid on, then covered with more aluminum foil for transport. The eggs were fine when I left the house and fine when I got to church.

We left the foil on the slow cooker until the brunch. When we removed it, the eggs were yucky! They looked grayish-green and smelled somewhere between sulfur and fish. We had to throw them out. What a waste! I guess the sulfur in the eggs reacted with the aluminum. Never again! — Z., via email

Don’t give up! There was a reaction – yes, the sulfur, but not with the aluminum foil. The iron and sulfur in the eggs caused the reaction, turning them green, which is not harmful to eat. Follow these Heloise hints next time:

- Don’t cook at a high temperature – lower is better.
- Don’t “hold” them too long.
- Don’t hold them using a direct heat source. They will continue to cook!
- Don’t use a cast-iron skillet.
- Do “undercook” the scrambled eggs, or they become rubbery.
- Do use stainless steel to cook.
- Do use indirect heat to hold them, such as hot water, like at a steam table.
- Do cook in smaller batches so you don’t have one BIG pot of eggs! — Heloise

Microwave Topper

Dear Heloise: Cooking a cup or mug of soup, stew or other food in a microwave and don’t want it to “explode” in the oven? Cover the top with a coffee filter. Works like a charm. — A Reader, via email

Baking-Soda Uses

Dear Heloise: I use baking soda in my refrigerator to absorb odors. When I change the box every month or so, I use the old baking soda as scouring powder rather than throwing it away. — Lynda C., via email

Lynda, this is a classic Heloise hint. You are getting double duty from one of my favorite products, are saving money and are using an environmentally friendly cleaner to boot! My Heloise’s Baking Soda Hints and Recipes pamphlet is a perfect resource for my favorite hints for cleaning, deodorizing and baking some great recipes with baking soda. You can order a pamphlet online at www.Heloise.com, or by sending \$5 and a long, self-addressed, stamped (70 cents) envelope to: Heloise/Baking Soda, P.O. Box 795001, San Antonio, TX 78279-5001. Did dinner leave stuck-on food that just won’t come clean with dishwashing liquid alone? Add a sprinkle of baking soda, then a squirt of dish soap, and yuck begone! — Heloise

Less Mess

Dear Heloise: Every morning for breakfast, I eat a large shredded biscuit made of wheat. I found that when I “scrunched” it up, some of it went flying all over the countertops. Here is my hint: I scrunch it in the sink on the disposal side. Flying debris goes down the drain! — Linda W., Bella Vista, Ark

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Appropriate
- 7 Gush forth
- 11 SEAL’s employer
- 12 Choir voice
- 13 Jon Hamm series
- 14 Bad writer
- 15 Settle in advance
- 17 Pulls along
- 20 Verdi pieces
- 23 Wall St. debut
- 24 Dry wine
- 26 For every
- 27 Trip segment
- 28 Obtained
- 29 Annoying
- 31 One, for Juan
- 32 Manicure targets
- 33 Start the bidding
- 34 “Taken” star
- 37 Perimeter
- 39 Luke’s mentor
- 43 Lacking slack
- 44 Place
- 45 Guitar boosters
- 46 Transferred, in a way

DOWN

- 1 Total

B	U	S	Y		C	R	A	P	S
E	N	T	E	R		R	I	V	E
A	C	U	T	E		A	B	A	T
S	O	P		M	L	B		L	I
T	O	O		T	O		L	O	T
P	R	O	V	O		L	O	N	E
J	A	R	L	S		B	E	R	G
R	U	L	E			E	A	S	E
A	N	T		P	E	N		L	I
N	E	A	T	O		O	R	A	T
T	A	R	O			N	A	T	A
O	U	S	T				H	E	R

Previous Puzzle

- 19 Producing
- 21 Make amends
- 22 Squelch
- 24 Nearby
- 25 Dress edge
- 30 Winter showers
- 33 Kept in reserve
- 35 Auctioneer’s cry
- 36 Bassoon’s kin
- 37 Greek vowel
- 38 River stopper
- 40 Gum mass
- 41 Saloon supply
- 42 Homer’s neighbor

THOMAS CROSSWORD BOOKS 1 AND 2! Send \$4.75 (check/m.o.) for each book to 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
43						44			
45						46			

5-20

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 “Brian’s Song” star
- 5 VCR inserts
- 10 Boxing ring border
- 12 Clearly stunned
- 13 Quiver item
- 14 Daughter of Lear
- 15 Skater Midori
- 16 Best Picture of 1984
- 18 Best Picture of 1982
- 20 Pub pint
- 21 Stream sediment
- 23 Outlaw Kelly
- 24 Phone pioneer
- 26 Power unit
- 28 Young fellow
- 29 Pop star
- 31 Tennis feat
- 32 Best Picture of 1968
- 36 Best Picture of 1940
- 39 Peyton’s brother
- 40 Nurse Barton
- 41 Low cards in pinochle

DOWN

- 1 Bond portrayal
- 2 Main artery
- 3 Cook’s wear
- 4 “The Matrix” hero
- 5 Scarlett’s home
- 6 Like some wines
- 7 Beauty contest
- 8 Shoulder ornament
- 9 Detected
- 11 African tongue
- 17 Wire measure
- 19 Cable modem
- 22 Like many roads
- 24 Tenor Andrea
- 25 Look over
- 27 Boxing great
- 28 Spot for commuter cocktails
- 30 Clinic nickname
- 33 Place
- 34 Choose alternative
- 35 Gets up
- 37 Lake near Buffalo
- 38 Soup buys
- 42 Check-cashing needs

T	E	E	M		P	A	C	T
C	A	R	L	O		A	P	A
A	C	R	I	D		L	U	N
S	K	A	T	E	S		U	S
T	O	N	E		A	P	A	C
E	N	D		S	N	A	R	K
					A	U	D	I
					C	O	R	R
					C	A	R	M
					U	R	N	
					S	T	A	R
					S	E	T	U
					D	E	N	Y
					S	H	E	D

Previous Puzzle

THOMAS CROSSWORD BOOKS 1 AND 2! Send \$4.75 (check/m.o.) for each book to 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
36			37	38				39	
40						41	42		
43						44			
45						46			

5-21

Daily Cryptoquote – Here’s how to work it:

A X Y D L B A A X R
is LONGFELLOW

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.

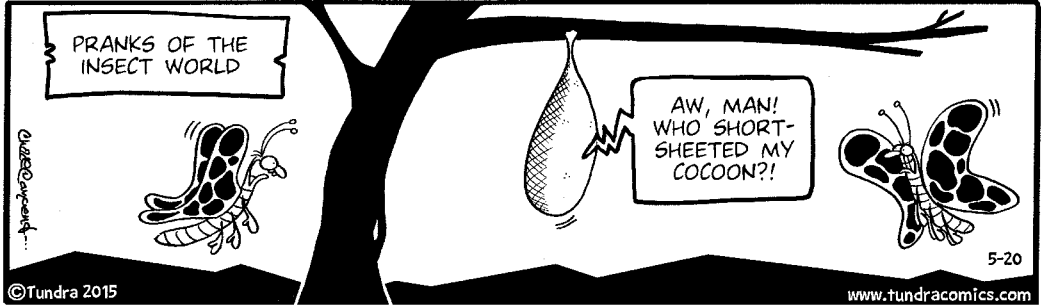
5-20 CRYPTOQUOTE

Q F Q U I S Y S J B K K V B E X Q F F S E
F N B F X R U F I J R G Y - T Z Z S R Z K S ,
N R G S A S J J S I S F F B C K V , G Q K K
F J V F R N B A S B I R R E F Q X S .
— C S J F J B Y E J T U S K K

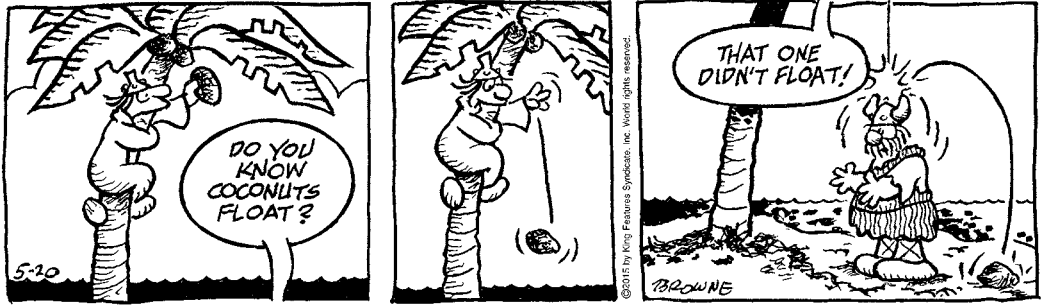
Previous Cryptoquote: A TRUE CONSERVATIONIST IS A MAN WHO KNOWS THAT THE WORLD IS NOT GIVEN BY HIS FATHERS, BUT BORROWED FROM HIS CHILDREN. – Audubon

COMICS

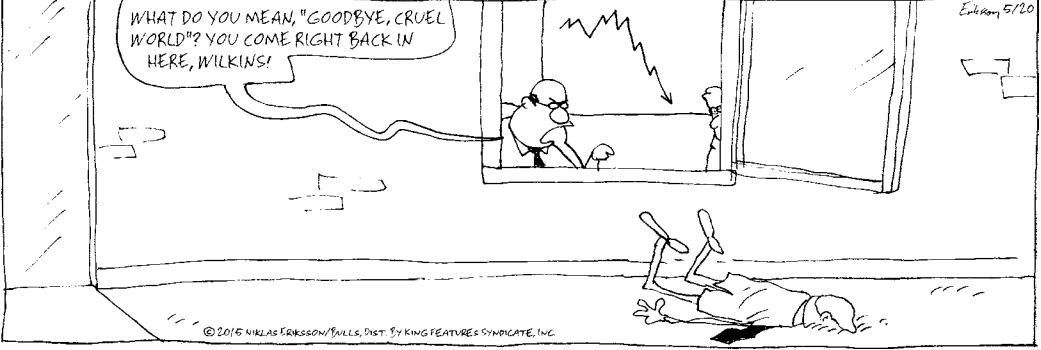
Tundra



Hagar the Horrible



Carpe Diem



Baby Blues



Dilbert

