

Sexually active women must be vigilant about protection

DEAR ABBY: I'm writing to warn as many other young women as I can about the dangers of unprotected sex. I thought I had met the man of my dreams. I knew from the beginning he had a girlfriend in his hometown, but he assured me he was breaking it off, so I didn't think twice about starting a relationship.

Well, she moved here and found out about us. He swore to me that there was no one else besides her and me. We have now discovered a third girl -- his roommate -- with whom he was involved.

Abby, he used no protection with any of us. He swore to us all that he always used it and was regularly tested for STDs. Another lie.

Now his former girlfriend thinks she may have picked up an STD from him, and we all have to be tested to ensure we don't have one.

I now know you can't trust anything you're being told unless there's proof. Go with the guy to get tested and demand to be there for the results. If you suspect (or know) he's seeing someone else, always use protection and insist he be tested regularly.

All three of us could have saved our hearts, our bodies and a lot of turmoil if we hadn't been so trusting. This has left a lasting impression, and now we wonder whether we will be



DEAR ABBY

able to trust another man again. — **AWAITING THE RESULTS**

DEAR AWAITING: Your "boyfriend" was dishonest and irresponsible. You can't be blamed for feeling bitter. Now might be a good time to re-evaluate whether premarital sex is worth the headache and the heartache.

That said, I can't help but wonder how you intended to avoid infection if you and the man of your dreams were having unprotected sex.

Please take this sad experience as a wake-up call, and schedule an appointment with your doctor to discuss all of the consequences that may result from unprotected sex in the 21st century. There are many -- and an inability to trust is among the least of them. If a man doesn't protect his partner, then it's up to her to protect herself -- both from pregnancy and

from sexually transmitted diseases, which are rampant.

DEAR ABBY: I recently bought a new cellphone and was assigned a number by the company that sold it to me. I have been receiving calls and messages for the person who had the number before it was given to me. While the number of the person calling or texting comes up, I do not know the numbers of all my friends and associates, so I have been accepting the calls or texts.

At first, I would let the caller or texter know that the person he/she was trying to reach no longer had this number. However, it takes up my expensive minutes to make those replies. Am I under any obligation to contact these folks, or can I just ignore their contacts? — **POLITE IN PENNSYLVANIA**

DEAR POLITE: No rule of etiquette "compels" you to respond to these callers and texters, so consider yourself off the hook.

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

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.

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

HELOISE'S KITCHENEERING BY HELOISE

Peanut-Butter Treats

Dear Heloise: Instead of scraping the jar for that LAST BIT OF PEANUT BUTTER, I stick the jar in the microwave for a few seconds, allowing the "dregs" to reach a very soft to liquid stage. Timing depends on the amount left in the jar, so keep an eye on it.

I mix the softened peanut butter into pancake batter. Even 1 or 2 tablespoons adds noticeable flavor. I also use this mixture to make "poor man's crepes," spreading them with a thin layer of jam or jelly. — Betsy S., Fredericksburg, Va.

Betsy, poor man, rich man, old man, young man (and gals) -- this sounds delicious to me! I make "peanut-butter milk" by pouring some low-fat milk into what's left in the jar. I add a teaspoon of honey and a dash of cinnamon. Add some ice, and I'm set! — Heloise

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Email: [Heloise\(at\)Heloise.com](mailto:Heloise(at)Heloise.com)

Turnip Trouble

Dear Heloise: Once again, I am going to have to toss a batch of turnip greens! Although I rinsed and drained them thoroughly, some sand or grit remained. Do you have any hints for this problem? — Karen C., Clinton, Miss.

Karen, don't throw out the greens just yet! Washing (really, rinsing, since you don't use soap) turnip greens can take some time. But they are worth it when you are eating them along with a slice of corn bread and a cut-up red, ripe tomato. Fill the sink or a very large pot with cold water. You should cut up the greens first, removing the stems and ribs. Let them soak a short while, then rinse thoroughly to remove all of the grit. Do repeat this process a few times to get out all of the sand and grit. Some folks add a glug or two of vinegar to the water -- they say it helps release the grit. Sure can't hurt. Good luck! — Heloise

Freezing Parsley

Dear Heloise: Many recipes I want to try call for fresh minced parsley. I hate buying a bunch for just a couple of teaspoons or tablespoons full.

Now I get one bunch of parsley. I pull the leaves off and place them, about a cup at a time, in the mini food chopper. I put them into a section of an ice-cube tray and add cold water to cover. Once frozen, pop out the cubes and store in a plastic, zipper-top bag in the freezer. When needed, take out one or two cubes and place them in a strainer over a cup to thaw. — John C., via email

Cold Drinks

Dear Heloise: Whenever I am almost finished with a 2-liter bottle of soda, I place another one behind it in the refrigerator. When I finish the first one, there is another that is cold and ready. — Arlene in Texas

Dry Dishes

Dear Heloise: Use old, pretty table napkins as dish-drying towels. They work great on dishes and stemware, and are easy to wash. — Donna D. in California

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Sullen

5 Insolent talk

9 Urge

11 Solitary sort

12 Italian seaport

13 Extreme

14 Historic time

15 Schedule C, e.g.

17 CPA's study

19 Golf position

20 Remains

21 Music store

22 Syrup source

24 Phone download

26 Brings in

29 Massage setting

30 CPA's pointers

32 Government revenue increaser

34 Pasture grazer

35 Took steps

36 Alarm trigger

38 Resort site

39 Like some roofs

40 Coop group

41 Heredity unit

DOWN

1 Probe

2 Last

3 On deck

4 Old auto

5 Course activity

6 Incalculable

7 Wheel maker

8 Bowling round

10 Sister of Janet and Michael

23 Least strict

24 Cochise's people

C	I	T	E	S		S	A	M	B	A
E	N	E	M	Y		O	D	O	R	S
A	T	T	I	C		D	O	J	O	S
S	O	R	T	O	F		I	K	E	
E	T	A		P	E	S	E	T	A	S
S	O	S		H	A	Y	M	O	W	
				M	A	R	C	O		
		C	R	E	N	N	A		D	E
		P	H	A	N	T	O	M		E
		L	A	T		T	O	M	C	A
		A	C	H	E	D		R	A	I
		C	H	E	E	R		E	L	D
		E	A	R	L		S	E	E	D

Previous Puzzle

- 11 Sumptuousness
- 16 Marketing lingo
- 18 Tent city
- 21 "Dead —"
- 25 Bill of "Big Love"
- 27 Kidman of film
- 28 Said
- 29 Secret supply
- 30 Ocean motion
- 31 Garbo, for one
- 33 Towel word
- 37 Soviet jet

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
				10		11		
9								
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		

4-15

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Sharpen

5 1973 loser to King

10 Take on

11 "Wild, man!"

12 Related

13 Like some bagels

14 Round starters

16 Cheap criticisms

20 Luminous rings

23 "My word!"

24 Touches on

25 Steak choice

27 Grazing spot

28 Sheets and such

29 Seasonal safe-guards

32 Wanted poster features

36 Washington city

39 Met song

40 Singer Frankie

41 Prepare for a trip

42 Alma —

43 Fraternal group

2 Walk in the woods

3 Buffalo's lake

4 Sawbuck

5 Tirades

6 Limerick people

7 Sticky gunk

8 Colt creation

9 Messy digs

11 Picks up, as a bill

15 Works the soil

17 Eyeball

18 New driver, usually

19 Hardens

20 Sports period

R	E	A	C	T		D	A	R	T	H
I	G	L	O	O		O	H	A	R	A
P	O	L	A	R		C	A	N	I	T
			S	C	O	T		T	O	E
H	E	A	T	H		T	H	R	O	W
E	V	I	L		E	R	A	S	E	S
M	E	D	I	C		S	I	T	U	P
P	R	E	N	U	P		S	A	R	A
			E	L	E	C	T	R	O	N
A	L	E		P	A	U	L			
B	O	X	E	R		B	I	D	E	N
C	A	P	R	I		I	N	A	W	E
S	N	O	R	T		C	E	A	D	E

Previous Puzzle

- 21 Cain's victim
- 22 Hawaiian do
- 25 Is the right size
- 26 Slim and trim
- 28 Boston airport
- 30 Beam
- 31 Comic's forte
- 33 Vaccine type
- 34 Watch sound
- 35 "The Odd Couple" director Gene
- 36 Orange tuber
- 37 Gardner of movies
- 38 Krazy —

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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						28			
29			30	31					
		32					33	34	35
36	37	38				39			
40						41			
42							43		

4-16

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.

4-15

CRYPTOQUOTE

Y E N W G O C T V W A Z V G O U W

Y Q A R U K V A R V G U V A J Y W

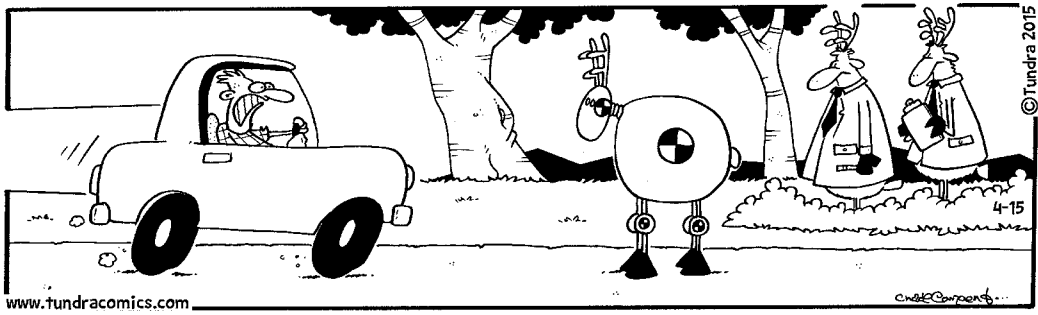
R W B B R V G U W G V O C K T Y E

G Q D W . — Q T V G O K O B W

Previous Cryptoquote: CIENCE IS THE GREAT ANTIDOTE TO THE POISON OF ENTHUSIASM AND SUPERSTITION. — Adam Smith

COMICS

Tundra



Hagar the Horrible



Peanuts



Baby Blues



Dilbert

