Syndicate,

Features

King J

by

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Conceptis Puzzles,

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Adjusting to changing gender roles leaves wife feeling odd

Dear Dr. Brothers: My husband and I are not a two-career household, at least in terms of salaries. We have two lovely children, and I'm the one who goes to work every day.

I guess this should (and does) turn out OK for some couples, but we're not doing too well.

One reason this was a mutual agreement is because, frankly, I earn more money than my husband and suspect this might always be the

Oddly, he isn't the one having the trouble.

I am, because I feel the fact that I'm not doing the usual job with the house and children is an indication of a lack of femininity or something

What's the matter? I'm not conventional about most things. -G.E.

Dear G.E.: It's harder than most people know to break stereotypic thinking; it's not unlike trying to break a bad habit that we've had since childhood. Beliefs about gender roles have been around for centuries, but not necessarily because they're the right ones.

Some predict that in the not-sodistant future, few of either sex will be commuting to nearby cities to make their livelihood, but instead their office will be in their home.

Women in the future might not be carrying and bearing their own children, but chances are, they'll still continue to do most of the nurturing and caring for the very young out of maternal desire rather than necessity.

In the very near future, there'll be more nurseries and facilities in the buildings in which women and men work.

Like many women, you want to be with your children more, and you and your husband might need to make adjustments in order to make this possible ... such as both working part-time, even though it means less money.

Dear Dr. Brothers: I've always and provide insight.



Dr. Joyce Brothers

• Ask Dr. Brothers

had a close, quite rewarding relamarried to for 16 years.

Recently, my comfort and overto a golfing pal and co-worker who suggested he try Viagra.

We're hardly kids. We're both in him. our mid-50s, and I don't welcome this sudden surge of passion.

appreciated. - T.B.

Dear T.B.: The first thing I'd with your family doctor. He or she might consider small does of testosterone that can elevate sexual rable about having the strength desire in women — or, now I hear that there are several new medications on the market for this purpose.

There are many different psychological factors that can affect our libido and general sex drive - something as simple as lack of sleep resulting from stress or attempting to do too much in too little time, for example.

After a certain number of years, couples need to budget in time that allows and stimulates innovative, new approaches to sex.

It could be removing any emphasis on sex and instead looking for ways to make life itself more interesting, such as taking a brief holiday together.

Sometimes coldness toward sex can result from underlying resentment and unexpressed anger that have been swept under the rug

Should you find the need for some couples therapy, a few sessions might help clear things up





can she hold onto this guy and not lose him if she doesn't have sex with Then she'll be alone, no one will

ever want her and it'll be talked Anything you can suggest will be about — you know, like she's no fun. - C.C.

Dear C.C.: Most boys secretly suggest is that you discuss this respect a person who respects himself or herself.

There's something very admiand courage to stand up for one's beliefs, rather than caving in to pressure from others.

It's interesting that in studies of adult males, when asked about what qualities attract them to females, they ranked self-confidence among the top four listed.

I suspect the young man you've written about wouldn't reject this young woman permanently, but instead would remember her in a positive way, and if she could try to discuss her feelings honestly with him and tell him how much he means to her, he might even feel closer to her and would be willing to cease pressuring her to go beyond her own limits.

It might encourage him to express his feelings, to feel free to discuss his own problems, insecurities and fears.

Instead of this being one of those high-school crushes that often seem to explode or fade out, this could develop into a serious relationship that endures.

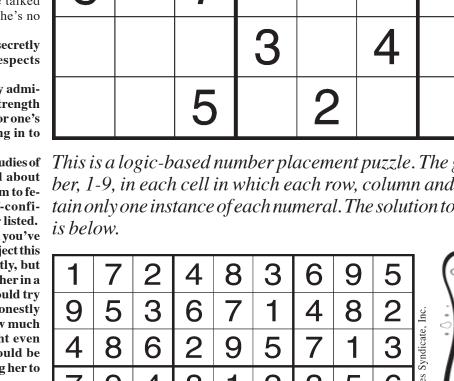
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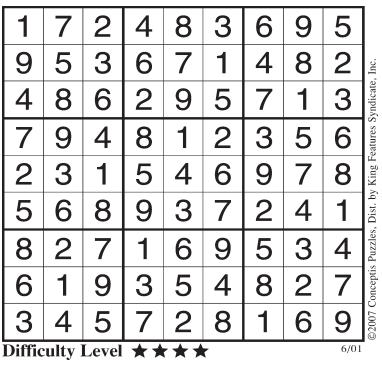
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This is a logic-based number placement puzzle. The goal is to enter a number, 1-9, in each cell in which each row, column and 3x3 region must contain only one instance of each numeral. The solution to today's Sudoku puzzle





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