

Mother needs a social life of her own

DEAR ABBY: My live-in girlfriend, "Penny," and I are in our mid-30s. We have two young daughters from previous relationships. My problem is Penny's mother, "Marge," who insists on being included in everything we do. We can't make a move without Marge demanding to know what we did, where we went, who we



abigail van buren

• dear abby

met, etc. She even wants to know what we ate if we go out for a meal! Penny's mom invites herself on our shopping trips, to the movies and dinners out. If we do something without letting her know, we'll come home to multiple messages on the answering machine from Marge, using the excuse that she "worries" when she doesn't know where we are.

What I don't understand is the fact that this woman has a husband at home. Why she can't leave us alone, I'll never know. It's to the point that I am rethinking my future with her daughter, because I don't want to hang with "Mom" all the time. Please advise. — **THREE'S A CROWD IN SOUTHERN IDAHO**

DEAR THREE'S A CROWD: It appears that Marge's life has become so centered on Penny that she has no other social outlets. It is interesting to me that she and Penny's father do not seem to have a social life of their own, and

makes me wonder what she could be running from.

Penny and her mother could benefit from counseling together. While a close mother/daughter bond is important, you have described one in which the mother has become obsessive. Both of them need to understand that this behavior could cost Penny her relationship with you.

Please don't end the relationship yet. Your lady needs to learn how to set boundaries, and she needs your support now more than ever.

DEAR ABBY: My daughter's preschool teacher sent the follow-

ing letter home last week. If you think it would benefit your readers, would you please consider printing it? — **A PARENT IN TEXAS**

DEAR PARENT: The message in that letter is powerful. I hope other parents will heed it. Read on: "Dear Parents: Today I attended the funeral of my 3-week-old niece. She died of suffocation in bed with her mother, her father and her 2-year-old sister.

"I don't need to tell you the shock and sorrow this tragedy has caused. As parents, we can only imagine such a nightmare. It will

take a lifetime of healing and God's grace to get past this.

"Although my niece's death was tragic, she didn't die in vain if, through her death, other lives can be saved.

"I know it's popular and natural to gather your children into bed with you — whether for their safety and security, for bonding, or just to get a good night's sleep. We've all been there.

"So, it isn't out of judgment or criticism that I write this note but only out of caution — a warning. Be careful. It CAN happen. It happened to my family. Please, don't let it happen to yours."

SATURDAY EVENING										MAY 3, 2003			
		6 pm	6:30	7 pm	7:30	8 pm	8:30	9 pm	9:30	10 pm	10:30		
2	PBS	Art Auction						Keeping Up	Bless Me, Father	Austin City Limits ∩			
3	IND	★★★ "Uncle Buck" (1989) John Candy. An easygoing relative takes care of three children.				MLB Baseball Atlanta Braves at Arizona Diamondbacks. From Bank One Ballpark in Phoenix. (Live) [G]							
4	ABC	★★★ "Gladiator" (2000, Action) (PA) Russell Crowe, Joaquin Phoenix. A fugitive general becomes a gladiator in ancient Rome. ∩ [G] (DVS)				News [G]		Chris Matthews	Powerball-Millionaire	Ent. Tonight			
5	HBO	(5:30) ★★★ "What About Bob?" (1991) 'PG' [G]		(1:15) ★★ "Black Knight" (2001, Comedy) Martin Lawrence, Marsha Thomason. ∩ 'PG-13' [G]		★★★ "Spider-Man" (2002, Action) Tobey Maguire, Willem Dafoe. Premiere. ∩ 'PG-13' [G]							
7	CBS	Price Is Right Million Dollar Spectacular (N)		District "Rage" (N) ∩ [G]		Agency "Mi Cena Con Andrei" (N) ∩ [G]		News ∩ [G]	(:35) Drew Carey [G]	(:05) Drew Carey [G]	(:35) Drew Carey [G]		
8	NBC	Hunter "Dead Heat" (N) ∩ [G]		Law & Order "Star Crossed" ∩ [G]		Law & Order: Special Victims Unit ∩ [G]		News	Saturday Night Live Ashton Kutcher; 50 Cent. (N) ∩ [G]				
11	TVLND	Brady	Hap Days	Sanford	Gilligan	Griffith	Leave	I Love Lucy	Flying Nun	Kotter	Soap [G]		
12	ESPN	NBA Basketball Playoffs: First Round			NBA Basketball Playoffs: First Round Game 7 -- Teams TBA			Sportscenter (Live)					
13	FOX	Cops (N) [G]	Cops (N) [G]	America's Most Wanted-Fights Back		Equal Justice		Mad TV Missy Elliott. (N)	Sexwars	Sexwars			
15	MAX	(5:30) ★★★ "Home Alone 2: Lost in New York" (1992) ∩ 'PG' [G]		★★ "Evolution" (2001, Comedy) David Duchovny. ∩ 'PG-13' [G]		(1:15) ★★ "Liberty Stands Still" (2002, Suspense) Linda Fiorentino. ∩ 'R' [G]							
16	TNN	★½ "Soldier Boyz" (1995)		Michael Dudikoff. ∩	Blind Date	Blind Date	Real TV [G]	Real TV [G]	Elimination	Elimination			
17	DISN	Boy Meets World [G]	Sister, Sister ∩ [G]	Proud Family [G]	Kim Possible [G]	That's So Raven [G]	Lizzie McGuire	"Ready to Run" (2000) Krissy Perez. A teenage girl dreams of becoming a winning jockey. [G]					
18	LIFE	"Marriage-Conv."		"The Deliverance of Elaine" (1996, Drama) [G]		What Should You Do?		★★ "On the Line"					
20	USA	(5:30) ★★★ "Con Air" (1997) Nicolas Cage.		Nashville Star [G]		Law & Order		★★★ "Nurse Betty"					
21	SHOW	(5:00) ★★★ "Roxanne" (1987) 'PG' [G]		★★★ "Father of the Bride Part II" (1995, Comedy) Steve Martin, Diane Keaton. iTV. ∩ 'PG' [G]		★★★ "Sideways of New York" (2001) Edward Burns. 'R' [G]		"Captain Corelli"					
22	TMC	★★★ "In the Shadows" (2001, Suspense) James Caan. ∩ [G]		(4:45) ★★½ "Heartbreakers" (2001) Sigourney Weaver. Mother-daughter con artists steal hearts and cash. ∩ [G]		★★★ "The Medicine Show" (2001) [G]							
23	MTV	Real World	Real World	Real World	Real World	Real World	Sorority	Sorority	Frat Life	Frat Life	Sex 2k ∩		
24	DISC	Flight From Justice: The Story of D.B. Cooper [G]				Extreme Engineering		American Chopper "Fire-bike"	Monster Garage "PT Cruiser/Tree Mulcher"				
28	TNT	NBA Basketball Playoffs: Conf. Semi. Game 1 -- Teams TBA					Insde NBA	★★★★ "Rocky" (1976) Sylvester Stallone. [G]					
30	FXSP	(5:30) Soccer (Taped)			See This	Sports Emmy Awards From New York.			Rocky Mt.	Last Word			
32	FAM	★★★ "Joe Versus the Volcano" (1990)				★ "The Cowboy and the Movie Star" (1998)		Jesse [G]	Jesse [G]				
33	NBC	Entertainment Tonight [G]		Hunter "Dead Heat" (N) ∩ [G]		Law & Order "Star Crossed" ∩ [G]		Law & Order: Special Victims Unit ∩ [G]	News [G]	Saturday Night Live			
34	NICK	All That ∩		Nick	Amanda ∩	Skeeter	Cosby	Cosby	Cheers ∩	Coach [G]	All-Family ∩		
36	A&E	Cold Case Files [G]		Crossing Jordan "With Honor" ∩ [G]		Third Watch "Transformed" ∩ [G]		Paparazzi	Star Treatment [G]	Cold Case Files [G]			
38	SCIFI	(5:00) ★★ "Species" [G]		"Silent Warnings" (2003) Stephen Baldwin. [G]		★★★ "Species" (1995) (PA) Ben Kingsley. ∩							
39	TLC	Maternity Ward Mother becomes a midwife.		Trauma: Life in the ER "Demolition Derby"		While You Were Out		Trading Spaces "Missouri: Sunburst Lane"	Trading Spaces "Orlando: Smith Street" (N)				
40	FX	(5:30) NASCAR Racing Winston Cup Series -- Pontiac Excitement 400. (Live)					★★★★ "Lethal Weapon" (1987) Mel Gibson. [G]						
45	FMC	(:01) ★★ "Fraulein" (1958, Drama) Dana Wynter. [G]				(:01) Hour of Stars		(:01) ★★½ "The Manhattan Project" (1986)					
49	EITV	Showgirl [G]	Showgirls	Anna	Anna	Saturday Night Live [G]		Wild On...	Howard S.				
51	TRAV	Ten Wonders		Secrets of New Zealand		Nature's Fury		Ten Wonders	Secrets of New Zealand				
53	WB	(5:00) ★½ "Bloodsport" (1988) [G]		★★★★ "Boyz N the Hood" (1991, Drama) Cuba Gooding Jr., Morris Chestnut, Ice Cube.		News ∩ [G]		News ∩ [G]	Cosby Show [G]	"Delta Force 2"			
54	ESPN2	College Volleyball			NHRA Drag Racing Southern Nationals			Qualifying.	Races	NBA 2Night NBA			
58	HIST	Save Our History "Yellowstone National Park"		Louisiana Purchase The land deal. [G]		Technology of Lewis and Clark [G]		Hoover Dam [G]	Save Our History "Yellowstone National Park"				
59	HLTH	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Workout	Bodies	Health Specials ∩		Doctors Diaries ∩	Workout	Bodies			
60	UNIV	Sábado Gigante		Workout		P. Impacto		Noticiero	Otro Rollo				
62	HGTV	Decorating	Decorating	Designing	Mission	Designers' Design		Decorating	Decorating	Mission			
99	WGN	MLB Baseball: Mariners at White Sox				News ∩ [G]		Fresh Pr.	"Terminator 2: Judgment Day" ∩				



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MONDAY EVENING											MAY 5, 2003	
	6 pm	6:30	7 pm	7:30	8 pm	8:30	9 pm	9:30	10 pm	10:30		
2	PBS	Antiques Roadshow "Las Vegas, Nevada"		Ken Burns American Stories Baseball's attempts to survive the Great Depression and Babe Ruth's fading career. (N) [G]				News	Charlie Rose (N) [G]			
3	IND	★★ "Kindergarten Cop" (1990, Comedy) Arnold Schwarzenegger, Penelope Ann Miller. [G]		(:15) ★★ "Turner & Hooch" (1989, Comedy) Tom Hanks. A fastidious policeman is teamed with a slobbering canine. [G]		"Kindergarten Cop"						
4	ABC	ABC's 50th Anniversary Bloopster Celebration (N)		Practice Bobby comes clean with Lindsay about his affair; Bobby announces his resignation. [G]			News [G]	(:35) Nightline [G]	(:06) Jimmy Kimmel Live David Boreanaz. (N)			
5	HBO	(5:30) ★★ "House of Cards" (1993) Kathleen Turner. [G]		Legandy Nights [G]	On the Record John Cusack; "Bull Durham." [G]		★★★ "Joy Ride" (2001, Suspense) Steve Zahn, Paul Walker. [G] 'R' [G]	(:45) "Exit Wounds"				
7	CBS	King of Queens (N)	Yes, Dear (N) [G]	Everybody-Raymond [G]	Still Standing (N) [G]	CSI: Miami "Tinder Box" (N) [G]	News [G]	(:35) Late Show (N) [G]	(:37) Late Show			
8	NBC	Fear Factor "Semifinals" (N) [G] (Part 2 of 3) [G]			Crossing Jordan "Pandora's Trunk" [G]		News	(:35) Tonight Show (N) [G]	(:37) Late Night [G]			
11	TVLND	Brady	Hap Days	Sanford	Gilligan	Griffith	Leave	I Love Lucy	Flying Nun	MacGyver "The Hood"		
12	ESPN	Stanley Cup Playoffs: Conf. Semi. -- Teams TBA				Baseball Tonight (Live)		Sportscenter (Live)	Baseball Tonight (Live)			
13	FOX	Boston Public "Chapter Sixty-Five" (N) [G]		Mr. Personality (N) [G] [G]		Fox Report With Shepard Smith [G]		LAPD: Life on the Beat	LAPD: Life on the Beat	Paid Program	Paid Program	
15	MAX	(5:00) ★★ "Cheats" [G]		★★★ "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone" (2001) Daniel Radcliffe, J.K. Rowling's student wizard has his first adventure.				★ "Mr. Deeds" (2002, Comedy) Adam Sandler. [G] 'PG-13' [G]		On Set: In-somnia (N)		
16	TNN	Highlander [G]		Real TV [G]	Real TV [G]	Blind Date	Blind Date	Star Trek: Next Gener.	WWE Raw [G]			
17	DISN	Boy Meets World [G]	Smart Guy [G]	Sister, Sister [G]	Even Stevens [G]	Sister, Sister [G]	Lizzie McGuire	★★ "Jumping Ship" (2001, Adventure) Andy Lawrence, Joey Lawrence, Matt Lawrence. [G]				
18	LIFE	What Should You Do?			"Student Seduction" (2003) Elizabeth Berkley. [G]			"Student Seduction" (2003) Elizabeth Berkley. [G]				
20	USA	★ "The Waterboy" (1998) Adam Sandler. [G]			Eco-Challenge: Fiji (N)			JAG [G]	Eco-Challenge: Fiji [G]			
21	SHOW	(5:00) ★½ "Married to It" (1991) 'R' [G]		★★★ "Three Men and a Little Lady" (1990, Comedy) Tom Selleck. iTV. [G] 'PG' [G]		★★★ "Orange County" (2002, Comedy) Colin Hanks. 'PG-13' [G]			"Bill-Ted's Jour."			
22	TMC	"Daddy's Dyin'" [G]		★★ "The Hotel New Hampshire" (1984, Comedy) Jodie Foster, Beau Bridges. [G]			★★ "Down to Earth" (2001) Chris Rock, Regina King. [G]			★★★ "After the Rain" (1999) [G]		
23	MTV	Duets [G]	Video	Real World	Real World	Real World	Real World	Real World	Real World	Real World		
24	DISC	Serpent The snake's wide range of behavior.			Sharks of the Golden Triangle		Now See This! (N)	Monster Garage "Grim Ripper" [G]	Motorcycle Women			
28	TNT	NBA Basketball Playoffs: Conf. Semi. Game 1 -- Teams TBA				NBA Basketball Playoffs: Conf. Semi. Game 2 -- Teams TBA						
30	FXSP	NASCAR Rocky Mt.		Rocky Mt.	54321	Best Damn Sports Show Period (Live) [G]		Rocky Mt. 54321				
32	FAM	To Be Announced		Whose?		Whose?	700 Club [G]	Caroline Rhea Show (N)				
33	NBC	News [G]	Ent. Tonight	Fear Factor "Semifinals" (N) [G] (Part 2 of 3) [G]			Crossing Jordan "Pandora's Trunk" [G]		News [G]	(:35) Tonight Show		
34	NICK	SpongeBob	Amanda [G]	Cosby	Cosby	Cheers [G]	Cheers [G]	3's Co. [G]	3's Co. [G]	Cosby	Cosby	
36	A&E	Biography "Mary Martin" (N) [G]		★★ "Inspector Morse: Service of All the Dead" (1982, Mystery) John Thaw, Angela Morant. [G]				Third Watch "Impulse" [G]		Biography "Mary Martin" [G]		
38	SCIFI	Stargate SG-1 [G]		Stargate SG-1 [G]		Stargate SG-1 [G]		Crossing	Twilight Z.	Farscape [G]		
39	TLX	While You Were Out [G]		Home Savvy	Home Savvy [G]	Secrets of Forensic Science [G]		Trauma: Life in the ER "Keeping the Faith"		Maternity Ward Severe preclampsia. [G]		
40	FX	Married... [G]	Married... [G]	Buffy Vampire		Buffy Vampire		★★★ "Kalifornia" (1993)		Brad Pitt. Premiere.		
45	FMC	Making the Connection		(:01) ★★ ★★ "Patton" (1970, Biography) George C. Scott, Karl Malden. [G]				(:01) "Savage Harvest"				
49	EITV	Rosie O'Donnell: The El		True Hollywood Story [G]		Showgirls	Showgirl	Howard S.	Howard S.	Wild On... "Italy"		
51	TRAV	Beach Resorts		World's Best (N)		Secrets		Beach Resorts		World's Best		
53	WB	Friends [G]	Everybody-Raymond [G]	7th Heaven "Dick" (N) [G]		Everwood "Episode 20" (N) [G]		News [G]		Friends [G]	Will & Grace [G]	
54	ESPN2	Stanley Cup Playoffs: Conf. Semi. -- Teams TBA				NHL 2Night [G]	Jump Rope	Interruption		RPM 2Night	NHL 2Night	
58	HIST	Mail Call [G]	Conquest [G]	Last Mission A B-29 air strike ends World War II. (N) [G]				Halsey's Typhoons: Peril on the Sea [G]		Mail Call [G]	Conquest [G]	
59	HLTH	Doctors Diaries [G]		Workout	Bodies	Health Specials [G]		Doctors Diaries [G]		Workout	Bodies	
60	UNIV	Las Vias del Amor		Entre el Amor y el Odio		Cristina		P. Impacto	Noticiero	En las Mejores Familias		
62	HGTV	Interiors Mission		Curb	Designers'	Design	Weekend	Interiors	Mission	Curb	Designers'	
99	WGN	★★ "Kojak: Fatal Flaw" (1989) Telly Savalas. [G]		News [G]		News [G]		Rockford Files		In the Heat of the Night		