

Asking the right questions prevent trouble

DEAR ABBY: I read with interest your suggestions to “Young Lady Who Needs to Know in Memphis,” who asked what important questions should be asked before marriage to ensure a happy union. You listed such subjects as monogamy, emotional and financial independence, child-rearing and discipline, compatible career goals, sex, religion and politics. I agree with those recommenda-



abigail van buren

• dear abby

tions, but I think someone should ask: Have you had previous sexual experience? If the answer is no, this is important information. If the answer is yes, further discussion regarding safe sex, HIV testing, birth control, etc., should ensue, which may also prompt another important question: “Have YOU?” — M.D. IN HILLSBOROUGH, CALIF.

DEAR DOCTOR: If the couple

does not already know that information, I agree, that is another important question. Read on: DEAR ABBY: As a pastor who regularly provides premarital counseling to couples who are considering marriage, I would like to say that the “questions” you ask each other are not so important. It’s how you LISTEN to each other and the ways in which you communicate your opinions, philosophies and feelings for each other that are most important. Most often it’s not the subject that causes disagreements in marriages, although the issues are always blamed as the cause for the disagreements. Rather, it is the lack of ability to openly and honestly communicate about a

variety of subjects, and the inability or unwillingness to really listen and hear each other that causes marital discord. May God continue to bless your ministry, Abby. — REV. ANN T. FEW, NEW HOLLAND, PA. DEAR ABBY: Thank you for your kind words. Readers, listen up! There is much wisdom in the reverend’s letter. DEAR ABBY: Having been through one divorce and, fortunately, a much happier second marriage, I would like to share some thoughts on another topic that should be addressed before marriage. It is: How does he or she and his or her family spend each and every holiday and birthday? This is something

that will affect you for the rest of your life. — HAPPILY REMARRIED IN OREGON DEAR REMARRIED: That’s another good one. DEAR ABBY: You omitted some important questions from your list. May I add a few? Have you or anyone in your family suffered from mental illness? Borderline personality disorder? Addictions? Trouble with the law? And most important — do you get along with his or her mother? — BEEN THERE, DONE THAT IN SAN DIEGO DEAR B.T., D.T. IN S.D.: I agree. Asking about skeletons in the closet would be wise. At that point, both parties should be prepared to “shake the

family tree.” DEAR ABBY: I have been a family mediator for more than 20 years. The one topic I would rank near the top of the list of questions that should be discussed is financial compatibility. Disagreements over financial matters rank as one of the most frequent causes of divorce. If more couples had a mutual understanding of how they plan to earn, save and spend money, it would go a long way in reducing the divorce rate. — SHIRLEY P. SEYMOUR, ESQ., POTOMAC, MD. DEAR SHIRLEY: Right. Mutual goals go a long way toward keeping a couple together.

TUESDAY EVENING											E-Eagle Cable S-S&T Telephone											AUG. 26, 2003										
E	S		6 pm	6:30	7 pm	7:30	8 pm	8:30	9 pm	9:30	10 pm	10:30																				
2	2	PBS	Nova "Secrets, Lies & Atomic Spies" (N) ∩			Nova "Secrets, Lies & Atomic Spies" ∩			Understanding the Di- vide ∩			As Time Goes By			Being Served			Business Rpt.			BBC World News											
3	35	IND	(5:30) MLB Baseball New York Mets at Atlanta Braves. From Turner Field in Atlanta. (Live) ∩						Seinfeld ∩			★ ★ "The Golden Child" (1986, Comedy) Eddie Murphy, Charles Dance, Charlotte Lewis. ∩																				
4	6	ABC	8 Simple Rules		Life With Bonnie ∩		According to Jim ∩		Less Than Perfect ∩		NYPD Blue "Meet the Grandparents" ∩			News ∩			(:35) Night-line ∩			(:06) Jimmy Kimmel Live ∩												
5	14	HBO	"A.I.: Artificial Intelligence" (1997) (Comedy) Chevy Chase. ∩		★ ★ "Man of the House" (1995, Comedy) Chevy Chase. ∩		PG ∩		(:15) ★ ★ "Eight Legged Freaks" (2002, Science Fiction) David Arquette. ∩			PG-13 ∩			★ ★ "Like Mike" (2002) Lil' Bow Wow. ∩																	
7	11	CBS	Big Brother 4 (TV) (N) ∩			Cupid (TV) (Live) ∩			Judging Amy "Picture Perfect" ∩			News ∩			(:35) Late Show (N) ∩			Tennis: U.S. Open														
8	8	NBC	Dog Eat Dog ∩ ∩			Dog Eat Dog (N) ∩ ∩			Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Grief" ∩			News			(:35) Tonight Show ∩			(:37) Late Night														
11	82	TVLND	Fantasy Island ∩			Fantasy Island ∩			Fantasy Island ∩			Griffith			Sanford			MacGyver ∩ ∩														
12	56	ESPN	World-Poker			Playmakers			Lines			Playmakers			(:45) SportsCenter (Live) ∩			Playmakers			SportsCtr.											
13	7	FOX	Performing As... (Series Premiere) (N) ∩			The O.C. "The Debut" (N)			Fox Report With Shepard Smith ∩			Blind Date ∩			Blind Date ∩			Paid Pro- gram			Guthy-Renker											
15	29	MAX	(4:35) ★ ★ ★ ★ "The Godfather" (1972) Marlon Brando. ∩			R ∩			★ ★ ★ ★ "The Godfather, Part II" (1974, Drama) Al Pacino, Robert De Niro, Robert Duvall. ∩																							
16	41	SPK	Real TV ∩		Real TV ∩		Real TV ∩		Real TV ∩		Blind Date		Blind Date		Star Trek: Next Gener.			★ ★ "Boiling Point" ∩														
17	44	DISN	Boy Meets World ∩		Smart Guy ∩		Sister, Sister ∩		Even Stevens ∩		Sister, Sister ∩		Lizzie McGuire		"Zenon: Girl of the 21st Century" (1999, Science Fiction) Kirsten Storms, Raven-Symone. ∩																	
18	63	LIFE	(5:00) "Snowbound"			★ ★ "Moment of Truth: Stalking Back" (1993)						Golden			Golden			Nanny ∩			Nanny ∩											
20	34	USA	(5:00) U.S. Open Tennis Early Rounds. (Live) ∩									Monk ∩						Nash Bridges ∩ ∩														
21	24	SHOW	(4:25) "Moll Flanders" ★ ★ ★ "Sour Grapes" (1998, Comedy) Steven Weber. iTV. ∩			R ∩			(:05) ★ ★ "Focus" (2001, Drama) William H. Macy, Laura Dern. iTV. ∩			PG-13 ∩			★ ★ "Novocaine" (2001) Steve Martin. 'R'																	
22	26	TMC	(4:00) "Valmont" ∩			★ ★ ★ "The Mean Season" (1985, Drama) Kurt Russell, Mariel Hemingway, Richard Jordan. ∩						(:25) ★ ★ "100 Girls" (2000) Jonathan Tucker, Larisa Oleynik. ∩			★ ★ "Domestic Disturbance" (2001) ∩																	
23	77	MTV	Direct Effect ∩			MTV Special ∩			MTV Special ∩			Players			Newlyweds			Real World			Real World											
24	50	DISC	Pataparuz: Monkeys Without Thumbs			Web of the Spider Monkey ∩			FBI Files "Backstage Murder" ∩			New Detectives: Forensic Science			Real World			New Detectives: Forensic Science														
28	37	TNT	Law & Order (DVS)			Homicide: Life			Charmed ∩			Law & Order (DVS)			X-Files "SureKill" ∩																	
30	55	FXSP	NASCAR			Rocky Mt.			Rocky Mt. 54321			Best Damn Sports Show			Period (Live) ∩			Rocky Mt.			Rocky Mt.											
32	46	FAM	★ ★ "Air Bud: Golden Receiver" (1998)						Who's? Who's?			700 Club ∩			Caroline Rhea Show																	
33	9	NBC	News ∩		Broncos' Huddle		Dog Eat Dog ∩ ∩		DVS		Dog Eat Dog (N) ∩ ∩		DVS		Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Grief" ∩			News ∩			(:45) Tonight Show											
34	43	NICK	Oddparents			Amanda ∩		Cosby		Cosby		Cheers ∩		Cheers ∩		3's Co.		3's Co.		Cosby		Cosby										
36	53	A&E	Biography "The Dixie Chicks" (N) ∩			Cold Case Files ∩			MI-5 An Irish terrorist group. (N) ∩			Third Watch "Duty" ∩			Biography "The Dixie Chicks" ∩																	
38	83	SCI FI	Beyond Bizarre ∩			Beyond Bizarre ∩			Beyond Bizarre ∩			★ ★ "The Hidden II" (1993) Raphael Sbarge. ∩																				
39	51	TLC	While You Were Out			Home Again ∩		Home Again ∩		Police, Camera, Action! (N)			What Were You Thinking? ∩			Mostly True Stories: Urban Legends Revealed																
40	38	FX	(5:30) ★ ★ "Bachelor Party" (1984) Tom Hanks. ∩						"44 Minutes: The North Hollywood Shootout"			Shield "Dead Soldiers"																				
45	31	FMC	"I'd Climb the Highest Mountain"			(:31) ★ ★ "Point Break" (1991, Drama) Patrick Swayze. ∩						"Heart Like a Wheel"																				
49	81	E!TV	Real World: The E! True Hollywood Story ∩			∩ ∩			Wild On... (N)			Howard S.			Howard S.			Wild On...														
51	86	TRAV	Great Rides "Laconia"			Secrets			Secrets			Great Rides "Laconia"			Secrets																	
53	3	WB	Friends ∩		Everybody- Raymond		Gilmore Girls "Happy Birthday, Baby" ∩		∩ ∩		Smallville "Fever" ∩			News ∩ ∩			Friends ∩			Will & Grace ∩												
54	57	ESPN2	Boxing: Tuesday -- Murphy vs. Trujillo						Track and Field IAAF World Championships. ∩			Outside			Baseball																	
58	52	HIST	Failure Is Not an Option ∩						Modern Marvels "Space Shuttle Columbia" (N)			Hardcore History Mars.			Failure Is Not an Option ∩																	
59	-	HLTH	Doctors Diaries ∩			Workout		Bodies		Health Specials ∩			Doctors Diaries ∩			Workout		Bodies														
60	89	UNIV	Velo de Novia			Niña... Amada Mia			Ver Para Creer			P. Impacto			Noticiero			En las Mejores Familias														
62	67	HGTV	Ground		Landscap		Room		Decorating		House			Curb			Ground		Landscap		Room		Decorating									
99	36	WGN	MLB Baseball: White Sox at Yankees						News ∩ ∩			Rockford Files			In the Heat of the Night																	

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THURSDAY EVENING						E=Eagle Cable S=S&T Telephone		AUG. 28, 2003			
E	S	6 pm	6:30	7 pm	7:30	8 pm	8:30	9 pm	9:30	10 pm	10:30
2	2	PBS	Sunflower Journeys	Kansas Arts Today	New This Old House Hour	Wide Angle "Road to Riches" (N)	"As Time Goes By"	Keeping Up	Business Rpt.	BBC World News	
3	35	IND	(5:30) MLB Baseball Turner Field in Atlanta. (Live)	New York Mets at Atlanta Braves. (Live)	Seinfeld	★★★ "K-9" (1989) (PA) James Belushi. A narcotics agent and a unique police dog join forces.	News	(:35) Night-line	(:06) Jimmy Kimmel		
4	6	ABC	Laverne & Shirley Together Again	St. Jude's Children's Hospital	Peter Jennings Reporting (N)	News	(:35) Night-line	(:06) Jimmy Kimmel			
5	14	HBO	★★ "Excess Baggage" (1997) Alicia Silverstone.	PG-13	(:45) ★★ "The Fifth Element" (1997) Bruce Willis. A cable finds a woman who may save Earth from disaster. PG-13	★★ "The Mothman Prophecies" (2002)					
7	11	CBS	NFL Preseason Football	Kansas City Chiefs at St. Louis Rams. From the Edward Jones Dome in St. Louis. (Live)	News	(:35) Late Show (N)	Tennis: U.S. Open				
8	8	NBC	Friends	(:36) Will & Grace "Dolls and Dolls"	(:17) Scrubs	(7:59) ER "Things Change"	News	(:35) Tonight Show	(:37) Late Night		
11	82	TVLND	Fantasy Island	Fantasy Island	Fantasy Island	Griffith	Sanford	MacGyver			
12	56	ESPN	(5:30) College Football	Miami at Louisiana Tech. (Live)	SportsCenter (Live)	Outside	Baseball				
13	7	FOX	Stupid Behavior	Anything for Love	Temptation Island (TV Season Premiere) (N)	Fox Report With Shepard Smith	Blind Date	Blind Date	Paid Program	Paid Program	
15	29	MAX	★★★ "Juice" (1992, Drama) Omar Epps, Tupac Shakur.	R'	(:45) ★★ ★ "Unfaithful" (2002, Drama) Richard Gere. A housewife has an affair with a charming stranger.	R'	In the Name of God: Scenes From Extreme				
16	41	SPK	Real TV	Real TV	Real TV	Blind Date	Blind Date	Star Trek: Next Gener.	Elimination	Elimination	
17	44	DISN	Boy Meets World	Smart Guy	Sister, Sister	Even Stevens	Sister, Sister	Lizzie McGuire	"An Extremely Goofy Movie" (2000, Comedy) Voices of Bill Farmer, Jason Marsden. 'NR'		
18	63	LIFE	"Broken Promises"	★★★ "Bastard out of Carolina" (1996)	Golden	Golden	Nanny	Nanny			
20	34	USA	(5:00) U.S. Open Tennis	Early Rounds. (Live)	Monk	Nash Bridges					
21	24	SHOW	(5:00) ★★ ★ "Green Card" (1990) "PG-13"	★★★ "Palmetto" (1998) Woody Harrelson. An ex-con gets involved in a bizarre kidnapping plot. 'R'	★★★ "Spy Kids" (2001, Adventure) Antonio Banderas.	ITV.	PG'	"National-Van"			
22	26	TMC	(5:00) "Radio Days"	"A Small Circle of Friends" (1980) Brad Davis, Karen Allen.	(:15) ★★ "Tart" (2001) Dominique Swain. A student will do anything to get in with the "in-crowd."	★★★ "Wyatt Earp" (1994) Kevin Costner.					
23	77	MTV	Real World	Real World	Real World	2003 Video Music Awards Pre-Show	2003 MTV Video Music Awards (Same-day Tape)				
24	50	DISC	Clever Critters	More Clever Critters	New Detectives: Forensic Science	Critical Rescue	Extreme Rides (2003) (N)				
28	37	TNT	★★★ "Hard to Kill" (1990) Steven Seagal.	★★★ "Hard to Kill" (1990) Steven Seagal.	★★★ "Psycho II" (1993)						
30	55	FXSP	(5:30) College Football	Maryland at Northern Illinois. (Live)	Sports	See This	Rocky Mt.	Rocky Mt.			
32	46	FAM	"See Jane Date" (2003) Charisma Carpenter.	Whose?	Whose?	700 Club	Caroline Rhea Show				
33	9	NBC	News	Ent. Tonight	Friends	(:36) Will & Grace "Dolls and Dolls"	(:17) Scrubs	(8:59) ER "Things Change"	News	(:45) Tonight Show	
34	43	NICK	Oddparents	Amanda	Cosby	Cosby	Cheers	Cheers	3's Co.	3's Co.	Cosby
36	53	A&E	Biography "Nick Nolte: Acting Up"	★★★ "Columbo: A Bird in the Hand" (1992, Mystery) Peter Falk, Tyne Daly, Greg Evigan.	Third Watch "Requiem for a Bantamweight"	★★★ "Leprechaun" (1992) Warwick Davis.					
38	83	SCIFI	(5:00) ★★ ★ "It" (1990, Horror) John Ritter, Richard Thomas.	Secrets of Forensic Science	Secrets of Forensic Science	Crime Scenes Uncovered					
39	51	TL	While You Were Out	Home Again	Home Again	★★★ "The Sight" (2000) Andrew McCarthy.	Shield "Scar Tissue"				
40	38	FX	(5:00) ★★ "Me, Myself & Irene" (2000)	★★★ "Wilson" (1944, Biography) Alexander Knox.	(:35) ★★ "Zoo in Budapest" (1933)	"The Star Chamber"					
45	31	FMC	Jerry Lewis: The El True Hollywood Story	Little Rascals: THS	Howard S.	Howard S.	Wild On...				
49	81	E!TV	Revolution on Wheels	Motorcycle	Sports Fan's Road Trip	Revolution on Wheels	Motorcycle				
51	86	TRV	Friends	Everybody-Raymond	Jamie Kennedy Experiment	What I Like About You	What I Like About You	News	Friends	Will & Grace	
53	3	WAB	WNBA Basketball	College Football	Georgia Tech at Brigham Young. (Live)	X Games					
54	57	ESPN2	After Saddam: Back to Basra (N)	Deadmen's Secrets "Hunting Nazi Fugitives"	Modern Marvels "Nordhausen"	Hardcore History "Sex and the Swastika"	After Saddam: Back to Basra				
58	52	HIST	Doctors Diaries	Workout	Bodies	Doctors Diaries	Workout	Bodies			
59	-	HLTH	Velo de Novia	Niña... Amada Mia	Aquí y Ahora	P. Impacto	Noticiero	En las Mejores Familias			
60	89	UNIV	Weekend Landscap	Designing Designers' House	House	Weekend Landscap	Designing Designers' House				
62	67	HGTV	MLB Baseball Chicago Cubs at St. Louis Cardinals. (Live)	News	Justice	In the Heat of the Night					
99	36	WGN									