

### Son's girlfriend enjoys being popular

DEAR ABBY: My son, "Glenn," and his girlfriend of two years, "Nancy," have started college at different universities. Nancy made the cheerleading squad, and now it has gone to her head. Nancy was never popular in high school, but now that she is, she has decided she no longer wants anything to do with Glenn. She acts very spoiled and wants everything her



### abigail van buren

• dear abby

way. Nancy told my son she likes being away from her parents and him, so she can do what she wants, when she wants. Glenn is worried sick about her. He thinks she's going to get in over her head. His father and I tell him he needs to move on. I know he loves Nancy, so how can we get him to do with Glenn. She acts very spoiled and wants everything her

DEAR WORRIED: College is a time for growth, and in this case, the two young lovers have grown in different directions. Encourage your son to become more active at school, to study hard and to make a point of meeting new people. As much as he cares about Nancy, she has declared her independence. Since he can't protect her, he should concentrate his energies on taking care of himself. Time and distraction will heal what's ailing him.

DEAR ABBY: Ten years ago, my fiance, "Rick," and his then-wife, "Kim," lost their son shortly after birth. They had him cremated. Much to Rick's horror, Kim disposed of their baby's ashes in a Dumpster. She

said she never wanted the baby in the first place.

Rick was devastated, as was the entire family. Kim acted very shut off and cold, not only during this tragic event, but with their other children as well.

Every year on the anniversary of his son's death, Rick breaks down and I grieve beside him.

Is there anything I can have made (or make myself) in honor of the child? I feel it would ease the minds of those who were truly bereaved and let the baby boy rest in peace. — WANTS TO HELP

DEAR WANTS: I'm unclear from your letter whether Rick's wife was distant during their entire marriage,

or whether she might have been suffering from depression (and possibly psychosis) after the death of the baby. Because her behavior was bizarre, I can only hope she received medical and psychological care.

That you want to honor your fiance's child is commendable, but before doing anything, talk to Rick and ask what he would like. Planting a tree in a park with a small plaque would make a nice memorial or perhaps a scholarship in the baby's name.

DEAR ABBY: During professional meetings or events, people I work with ask me if I'm married or seeing anyone. Since these are not friends, but rather professional asso-

ciates, I don't feel this question is appropriate.

I would never think to ask someone such a personal question.

What is an appropriate response to these individuals that conveys it's none of their business without coming across as rude? — STRICTLY BUSINESS IN D.C.

DEAR STRICTLY BUSINESS: The people who are asking you that question are probably just trying to be friendly or to get to know you better.

However, since you prefer not to answer the question directly, reply, "When I know you better, perhaps we can discuss it," and change the subject.

SATURDAY EVENING NOV. 20, 2004. Table with columns for time slots (6pm to 10:30pm) and channels (A&E, ABC, ANPL, BRAVO, CBS, DISC, DISN, EITV, ESPN, ESPN2, FIM, FMC, FOOD, FOX, FX, FXSP, HBO, HGTV, HIST, IND, LIFE, MTV, NBC, PBS, SCIFI, SPK, TLC, TNT, TRAV, TVLND, UNIV, USA, WB, WGN). Lists various programs like 'Cold Case Files', 'City Confidential', 'The First 48', 'American Hot Rod', etc.

SUNDAY EVENING NOV. 21, 2004. Table with columns for time slots (6pm to 10:30pm) and channels (A&E, ABC, ANPL, BRAVO, CBS, DISC, DISN, EITV, ESPN, ESPN2, FIM, FMC, FOOD, FOX, FX, FXSP, HBO, HGTV, HIST, IND, LIFE, MTV, NBC, PBS, SCIFI, SPK, TLC, TNT, TRAV, TVLND, UNIV, USA, WB, WGN). Lists various programs like 'Hollywood Home Movies', 'Extreme Makeover: Home Edition', 'The Crocodile Hunter', etc.

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MONDAY EVENING NOV. 22, 2004. Table with columns for time slots (6pm to 10:30pm) and channels (A&E, ABC, ANPL, BRAVO, CBS, DISC, DISN, EITV, ESPN, ESPN2, FIM, FMC, FOOD, FOX, FX, FXSP, HBO, HGTV, HIST, IND, LIFE, MTV, NBC, PBS, SCIFI, SPK, TLC, TNT, TRAV, TVLND, UNIV, USA, WB, WGN). Lists various programs like 'Rampage Killers: Looking for Signs', 'NFL Football', 'The West Wing', etc.

Saturday and Sunday Movies. Lists movie titles, times, and descriptions for Saturday Morning, Afternoon, and Sunday Morning. Includes titles like 'The Last of the Mohicans', 'The Godfather Part II', 'The Untouchables', etc.