

Opening door to strangers risky business

DEAR ABBY: You printed a letter from "Better Safe Than Sorry," a woman who was reluctant to open her door to solicitors. Her husband insisted that if she didn't open the door and respond face-to-face, she was being rude. You advised that no rule of etiquette demands a person open the door to a stranger, and the way to avoid "buying" anything is to not listen to the pitch in the first



abigail van buren

• dear abby

place. I'd like to share what a police officer told us at our community watch meeting. He said that burglars often knock on doors to see if anyone is home. The way to handle a stranger at the door is to say loudly, "Honey, I'll get it," then ask through the door, "Who is it?" Even if no one is with you, it gives the impression that you're not alone and vulnerable. —

HELPFUL ADVICE FROM PLANO, TEXAS
DEAR HELPFUL: Thank you. I heard from many readers who also pointed out that a stranger at the door could be a criminal "casing the joint," or a prelude to a home invasion and assault.
DEAR ABBY: While attending school at the University of California in San Diego in the late '80s, I was working on a report at the home of a classmate. One of his roommates answered the door to a couple of solicitors for so-called cheap magazine subscriptions. Once the door was opened, the "salesmen" pulled out weapons, tied us up, and robbed us

of money and valuables. Dangerous? I'll say. I had a shotgun pointed at the back of my head. — JOHN M., NEWPORT BEACH, CALIF.
DEAR JOHN M.: It could have been worse. Read on:
DEAR ABBY: When I was 12, a neighbor who lived only two doors down was severely beaten and raped after she "politely" opened her door to a stranger. She was lucky the man didn't kill her.
I used to have a "No Soliciting" sign on my door, but I continued to be bothered so I changed it. Now I have one that reads, "Don't sell me anything, give me anything, leave me anything or offer me anything. If

you don't know me or my family, don't knock on my door and bother us!" —ANNA IN BAKERSFIELD
DEAR ANNA: I'd say you've covered all your bases.
DEAR ABBY: It's a different world today. Caution is needed even with children. One week after I moved into my new house, the doorbell rang. Two boys who appeared to be about 8 and 10 were on my porch asking to use our bathroom. Something about them hit me wrong so I told them no, they should go home.
A week later, I read in the newspaper that a woman let two boys in to use her bathroom. They came out with a gun drawn and robbed her. Thankfully, they didn't shoot, but to

my knowledge they were never caught. Adults aren't always the danger. — EYES WIDE OPEN IN MISSOURI
DEAR EYES WIDE OPEN: I'm sad to say that's true.
DEAR ABBY: I do crime prevention as a volunteer with the Las Vegas Metro Police. What I tell people to do when I help them set up neighborhood watch programs is to post a sign by their doorbell that reads, "We shoot every third salesman — and the second one just left!" — TOMIN LAS VEGAS
DEAR TOM: Now that's a powerful message. It would even discourage the winner's committee from Publishers Clearinghouse.

TUESDAY EVENING										E-Eagle Cable S-S&T Telephone		MAR. 1, 2005		
E	S	6 pm		6:30	7 pm	7:30	8 pm	8:30	9 pm	9:30	10 pm	10:30		
36	53	A&E		Cold Case Files [E]		Cold Case Files "A Man Scorned: The Dungeon"		Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Crossing Jordan "The Gift of Life" [E]		Cold Case Files [E]		
4	6	ABC		My Wife and Kids	George Lopez (N) [E]	NYPD Blue "A Final Tribute" (N) [E]		NYPD Blue "Moving Day" (Series Finale) (N)		News [E]	(35) Nightline [E]	(06) Jimmy Kimmel Live (N) [E]		
26	48	ANPL		Austin Stevens: Snake-master Pit viper. (N)		The Most Extreme "Super Dogs" Dog breeds.		Animal Cops Detroit "Intentional Cruelty" [E]		Austin Stevens: Snake-master Pit viper. (N)		The Most Extreme "Super Dogs" Dog breeds.		
63	54	BRAVO		Celebrity Poker Showdown "Championship Tournament" Previous winners compete. (N) [E]		Queer Eye for the Straight Guy "Alex M"		Celebrity Poker Showdown "Championship Tournament" Previous winners compete. (N)						
7	11	CBS		NCIS [E] [E]		The Amazing Race 7 "Courteous? This Is a Race!" (Season Premiere) (N) [E]		News [E]	(35) Late Show With David Letterman (N) [E]	Late Late Show				
24	50	DISC		Monster Nation Building a demon pet. [E]		Monster Garage "Corvette/Mud Bogger" [E]		American Chopper "Carroll Shelby Bike 1"		Mummy Autopsy (N)		Undetectables		
33	44	DISN		Braceface [E]	Kim Possible [E]	Lizzie McGuire [E]	Sister, Sister [E]	That's So Raven [E]	That's So Raven [E]	*** "Tarzan" (1999, Adventure) Voices of Tony Goldwyn, Glenn Close. [E] 'G' [E]				
49	81	E!TV		True H'wood		Tawny Kitaen: THS		Gastineau	Heir	Howard S.	Howard S.	Saturday Night Live [E]		
22	56	ESPN		College Basketball		College Basketball Teams TBA. (Live)		SportsCenter (Live) [E]		Outside		Gamenight		
54	57	ESPN2		College Basketball		Streetball		Streetball	Streetball	Vermont	Streetball	Fastbreak	Dream Job	
32	46	FAM		*** "The Sandlot" (1993) Tom Guiry.		Who's? Who's?		The 700 Club [E]		Videos		Videos		
59	-	FIT TV		Ultimate Goals (N) [E]		Extremists		Peak Performance [E]		Ultimate Goals [E]		Extremists	Extremists	
35	31	FMC		*** "Oh, Men! Oh, Women!" (1957, Comedy)		*** "Modesty Blaise" (1966) Monica Vitti.		Altman: Terms						
53	68	FOOD		Emeril Live "Quick Breads"		Roker on the Road		Roker on the Road		\$40-a-Day		\$40-a-Day	Iron Chef "Battle Squid" Squid.	Emeril Live "Quick Breads"
13	7	FOX		American Idol (Live) [E]		House "Cursed" (N) [E]		The Fox Report With Shepard Smith [E]		Bob Newhart	Bob Newhart	Mary Tyler Moore	Mary Tyler Moore	
40	38	FX		King of Hill		Fear Factor [E] [E]	King of Hill	King of Hill	*** "Vertical Limit" (2000) Chris O'Donnell, Bill Paxton.					
30	55	FXSP		Sports List		Rocky Mt. [E]	AFL	Championship Poker	Best Damn Sports Show/Rocky Mt.		Sports List	Best-Sports		
5	14	HBO		(5:30) *** "Sister Act" (1992) [E] 'PG' [E]		(15) *** "Just Married" (2003, Comedy) Kutcher, Brittany Murphy. [E] 'PG-13' [E]		Ashton Kutcher, Brittany Murphy. [E] 'PG-13' [E]		*** "Win a Date With Tad Hamilton!" (2004) Kate Bosworth. [E]		Robot-1st Look		
62	67	HGTV		Designed		Designer	Decorating	Mission	Designers' Designers'	Design	House	Designed	Designer	
58	52	HIST		Bible Code II: Apocalypse and Beyond [E]		Breaking Vegas "The Ultimate Cheat" [E]		Breaking Vegas Nearly undetectable scams. (N)		True Crime Lefty Rosenthal. [E]		Bible Code II: Apocalypse and Beyond [E]		
25	35	IND		Friends [E]		Friends [E]	Sex and the City [E]	Sex and the City [E]	(10) *** "Austin Powers: The Spy Who Shagged Me" (1999) Mike Myers. [E] (DVS)		(10) *** "Stripes" (1981) Bill Murray. [E]			
18	63	LIFE		"Overkill"		"Mary Kay Letourneau Story: Girl"		Story: Girl"		The Nanny	Golden	The Nanny	Golden	
23	77	MTV		TRL (TV) [E] [E]		Challenge		MTV Spec	Direct Effect [E]	Pimp Ride	Pimp Ride	Real World	Real World	
3	9	NBC		News [E]		Ent. Tonight	Law & Order: Criminal Intent	"Best Defense"	Scrubs (N) [E]	Committed (N) [E]	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Rage" (N)	News [E]	Tonight Show	
8	8	NBC		Law & Order: Criminal Intent		"Best Defense"	Scrubs (N) [E]	Committed (N) [E]	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Rage" (N)	News [E]	(35) The Tonight Show With Jay Leno (N) [E]	Late Night		
34	43	NICK		SpongeBob		School	Full House	Kids Say	Fresh Pr.	Fresh Pr.	Fresh Pr.	Fresh Pr.	Fresh Pr.	
2	2	PBS		Nova "Crash of Flight III" [E] (DVS)		A Woman's Heart Research, treatment. [E]		Frontline "The Soldier's Heart" (N) [E]		BBC World News		That's My Boy	Charlie Rose (N) [E] [E]	
38	83	SCIFI		Legend of Earthsea		Legend of Earthsea [E] (Part 2 of 2)		CSI: Crime Scn		CSI: Crime Scn		*** "Bloodsport" [E]		
61	41	SPK		Maximum Exposure [E]		Wildest Police Videos		CSI: Crime Scn		CSI: Crime Scn		*** "Bloodsport" [E]		
39	51	TLC		While You Were Out [E]		Clean Sweep Providing tools for organization.		In a Fix "Par Le Floor"		Mega Machines "Monster Beasts"		Overhaulin'		
28	37	TNT		Law & Order [E] (DVS)		Law & Order "Return"		Charmed [E] [E]		Law & Order "Guardian"		The X-Files "Fire" [E]		
51	86	TRAV		Fun Food Factory		Made		Made	Taste	Taste	Fun Food Factory	Made	Made	
21	82	TVLND		Highway to Heaven		Griffith		Leave	Sanford	All-Family	3's Co.	3's Co.	Cheers [E]	Cheers [E]
60	89	UNIV		Rubi		Amor Real		Jugando al Amor		Impacto		Noticiero	La Hora Derbez	
20	34	USA		*** "Coyote Ugly" (2000)		Piper Perabo. [E]		Nashville Star [E]		Law Order: Cl		Nashville Star [E]		
12	3	WB		Friends [E]		Everybody-Ramond	Gilmore Girls "So... Good Talk" [E]		One Tree Hill (N) [E]		News [E]		Friends [E]	Will & Grace [E]
99	36	WGN		(5:30) *** "Eraser" (1996) [E]		WGN News at Nine [E]		Becker [E]		Becker [E]	Home Delivery			

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WEDNESDAY EVENING										E-Eagle Cable S=S&T Telephone										MAR. 2, 2005						
E	S		6 pm	6:30	7 pm	7:30	8 pm	8:30	9 pm	9:30	10 pm	10:30														
36	53	A&E	American Justice "Death of a Bride" [E]			The Michael Jackson Case [E]		Biography "Sylvester Stallone" Sylvester Stallone. [N] [E]			American Justice "Death of a Bride" [E]															
4	6	ABC	Lost "Numbers" (N) [E]			(03) Alias "A Man of His Word" (N) [E] [E]		(02) Wife Swap "Patrick/Leierwood" (N) [E]			News [E]		(35) Night- line [E]		(06) Jimmy Kimmel Live (N) [E] [E]											
26	48	ANPL	Dog Show "AKC Eukanuba National Championship"						From Tampa, Fla. [E]						Dog Show "AKC Eukanuba National Championship"						From Tampa, Fla. [E]					
63	54	BRAVO	Queer Eye for the Straight Girl "Laura L."			Queer Eye for the Straight Girl [E]		Queer Eye for the Straight Girl (N) [E]			The West Wing "The Supremes" [E]			Queer Eye for the Straight Girl [E]												
7	11	CBS	60 Minutes Wednesday [E]			The King of Yes, Dear Queens (N) "Headshot"		CSI: NY "The Fall" (N) [E]			News [E]		(35) Late Show With David Letterman (N) [E]		Late Late Show											
24	50	DISC	Monster Nation Butler blimp. [E]			Monster Garage "Grim Ripper" [E]		American Chopper "Car- roll Shelby Bike 2"			Life of Grime			MythBusters Pole-vault- ing cars. (N) [E]												
33	44	DISN	Braceface [E]	Kim Possi- ble [E]	Lizzie McGuire	Sister, Sis- ter [E]	That's So Raven [E]	That's So Raven [E]	★★★ "Cool Runnings" (1993) Leon. Based on the true story of Jamaica's 1988 bobsled team.																	
49	81	E!TV	Hollywood Wives' Tales Dr. 90210			Fashion Police			Howard S. Howard S.			Saturday Night Live [E]														
22	56	ESPN	College Basketball			NBA Nation: Rivalry Week Special (Live)			SportsCenter (Live) [E]			Outside			Gamenight											
54	57	ESPN2	College Basketball			College Basketball Kansas State at Kansas. [E]			Dream Job 2005 [E]			Fastbreak			Streetball											
32	46	FAM	★★★ "Love & Basketball" (2000, Drama) Sanaa			Lathan. [E]			Whose?			The 700 Club [E]			Videos			Videos								
59	-	FIT TV	Low Carb	Low Carb	Extremists	Extremists	Star for a Day [E]	Low Carb			Low Carb	Extremists	Extremists													
35	31	FMC	★★★ "The Man in the Gray Flannel Suit" (1956, Frico crisps; bean and pork soup.			BBQ With Bobby Play			Foodnation			Good Eats (N)			Good Eats			Iron Chef America Bob- by. [E]			Emeril Live Frico crisps; bean and pork soup.					
53	68	FOOD	Emeril Live Frico crisps; bean and pork soup.			BBQ With Bobby Play			Foodnation			Good Eats (N)			Good Eats			Iron Chef America Bob- by. [E]			Emeril Live Frico crisps; bean and pork soup.					
13	7	FOX	That '70s Show (N)		Simple Life [E]		American Idol (Live) [E]		The Fox Report With Shepard Smith [E]			Bob Newhart		Bob Newhart		Mary Tyler Moore		Mary Tyler Moore								
40	38	FX	(4:00) "Vertical Limit"			Fear Factor [E] [E]		King of Hill		King of Hill		★★★ "There's Something About Mary" (1998)														
30	55	FXSP	College Basketball Colorado at Nebraska. (Live)			Rocky Mt.		Best Damn Sports Show			Rocky Mt.			Sports List			Best-Sports									
5	14	HBO	"Real Women"		★★ "Straight Talk" (1992, Comedy) Dolly Parton. Premiere. [E] "PG"		★★★ "In America" (2002, Drama) Samantha Morton. [E] "PG-13"		Making- April			Carnivale "Outcasts, Damascus, NE" [E] [E]														
62	67	HGTV	Renovation Weekend			Home 2005 /Landscape		Curb		Curb		Design House [E]			Renovation Weekend											
58	52	HIST	Modern Marvels The Overseas Highway. [E]			Modern Marvels "Ice Road Truckers" [E]		Full Throttle VW Beetles become drag racers.			Artillery Games [E]			Modern Marvels The Overseas Highway. [E]												
25	35	IND	Everybody- Raymond			Seinfeld [E]		Sex and the City [E]		Sex and the City [E]			(10) ★★★ "Dave" (1993) Kevin Kline. A presiden- tial look-alike takes over for the ailing leader.													
18	63	LIVE	(5:00) "Twisted Desire"			"Love's Deadly Triangle: Texas Cadet Murder"		The Nanny			Golden		The Nanny			Golden										
23	77	MTV	TRL (TV) [E] [E]			Ashlee [E]		Direct Effect [E]			Newlywed			Newlywed			Newlywed									
3	9	NBC	News [E]		Ent. To- night		Dateline NBC (N) [E] [E]		The West Wing "A Good Day" (N) [E] [E]			Law & Order "Dining Out" (N) [E] [E]			News [E]			Tonight Show								
8	8	NBC	Dateline NBC (N) [E] [E]			The West Wing "A Good Day" (N) [E] [E]		Law & Order "Dining Out" (N) [E] [E]			News [E]			(35) The Tonight Show With Jay Leno (N) [E]			Late Night									
34	43	NICK	SpongeBob Unfabulous			Full House /Full House		Fresh Pr.		Fresh Pr.		Fresh Pr.		Fresh Pr.		Fresh Pr.										
2	2	PBS	Roadshow Fly!		Scientific- Frontiers		On Stage at the Kennedy The Mark Twain Prize (N)		Center:		Life of Mil- lie		BBC World News			Two's Com- pany		Charlie Rose (N) [E] [E]								
38	83	SCIFI	Ripley-Believe			Ripley-Believe		Ripley-Believe		★ "Devil's Prey" (2001) Patrick Bergin. [E]																
61	41	SPK	Maximum Exposure [E]			Wildest Police Videos		CSI: Crime Scn			CSI: Crime Scn			The Hoop Life [E] [E]												
39	51	TLC	While You Were Out			Clean Sweep "Joning for Organization" [E]		In a Fix "Half and Half"			Clean Sweep Clothes lit- ter a bedroom. (N)			In a Fix Making home im- provements for love.												
28	37	TNT	Law & Order [E] (DVS)			Law & Order "Harm" [E]		★★★ "True Crime" (1999, Suspense) Clint Eastwood.						True Crime												
51	86	TRAV	Player's-Vegas			World Poker Tour "Mirage Griffith Leave		Poker Showdown" (N)			Player's-Vegas			World Poker Tour												
21	82	TVLND	Highway to Heaven [E]			Griffith Leave		TV Moments			TV Moments			TV Moments												
60	89	UNIV	Rubi			Amor Real		Don Francisco Presenta			Impacto			Noticiero			La Hora Derbez									
20	34	USA	Law & Order: SVU			Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order: SVU			Law Order: CI			"Ladies' Night" (2005)												
12	3	WB	Friends [E]		Everybody- Raymond		Smallville "Lucy" (N) [E]		Jack & Bobby "Querida Grace" (N) [E]			News [E] [E]			Friends [E]			Will & Grace [E]								
99	36	WGN	★★★ "Rocky III" (1982)			Sylvester Stallone. [E]		WGN News at Nine [E]			Recker [E]			Recker [E]			Home Delivery									