

# Reader finds man's attitude offensive

DEAR READERS: A 38-year-old man wrote to me saying he has never married — that when he was in his 20s, women ignored him or told him he was “nice, but boring,” or that he didn’t have enough money. He said that women want only “bad guys” or men with deep pockets, “but now that they’re past their prime and have two kids the bad boy left them with” —he is now good enough. He concluded by saying, “If I wasn’t good enough for



## abigail van buren

• dear abby

them then, why should I be good enough now?”  
Frankly, I found his attitude offensive. I advised him that if he was still dating women as shallow as those he’d tried to date in his 20s, he should not involve himself with any of them —that he would be single forever, and I suspected that’s the way he wants it.  
Some readers felt I didn’t look deeply enough. Read on:  
DEAR ABBY: Please suggest to

that man that it’s possible the women he mentioned have now matured and realize what qualities are important in a mate, father and role model. Too often, young women think that a fast, wild, carefree romance is the ticket to happiness. Too often, by the time they wake up and realize the “boring,” kind, stable guy was a far better choice, they have children, a broken heart, shattered dreams, and are trying to piece their lives back together.  
I don’t believe those women are looking for a meal ticket, but rather someone they can love, respect and trust to help raise their children in a safe, loving environment.  
It’s sad that man is so negative and stuck in the past instead of trying to build a future with someone. You

were right, Abby. He probably will end up alone, because there ARE men who will step up to the challenge of being kind, loving stepfathers to the children, and loving husbands to women who made unfortunate choices in the past. I know, because I married one. — HAPPY MOTHER OF FOUR IN CALIFORNIA  
DEAR HAPPY: I agree, he is “stuck.” And until he makes up his mind to live in the moment, he will stay that way.  
DEAR ABBY: I have encountered the same attitude that writer describes, and the women weren’t all shallow or conceited. They simply believed they were due more than a decent, loyal and honest guy. It’s no different than the man past his prime

claiming a trophy wife because he feels he “deserves” it — and everyone agrees that’s a despicable attitude.  
Both come from the same source, I suspect: Media that constantly tell us from every direction, more than ever before, that only the highest level of physical attractiveness is acceptable in a mate. That concept is shallow, but it affects an awful lot of people who aren’t. It feeds on our deepest insecurities, the junior-high self who was ostracized for being different, and who never truly goes away.  
By placing the blame for the man not dating back on the women, you ignored the true problem for both men and women, and invalidated someone who may have an accurate view of his world. Seeing reality is the first step

toward changing it. — MADISON, WIS. (MALE) READER  
DEAR READER: I think you hit the nail on the head. Thank you for your shrewd analysis. You taught me something today.  
DEAR ABBY: The fact the writer views women so negatively is sabotaging any good relationship he might have. That writer needs to realize that women are individuals; some make good choices, others poor ones. He needs to figure out why the only women he meets are the ones who make poor choices, and the good women avoid him. He blames women for his woes, but chances are that he’s the real problem. — GOOD GUY WHO GOT THE GIRL, HOUSTON  
DEAR GOOD GUY: I agree.

TUESDAY EVENING										E-Eagle Cable S-S&T Telephone										MAY 31, 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 (N) [G]		Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Knivel's Wild Ride "Robbie Jumps China"		Crossing Jordan "Blood Relatives" [G]		Cold Case Files [G]																			
4	6	ABC		My Wife and Kids		George Lopez [G]	According to Jim [G]	According to Jim [G]	Blind Justice "Under the Gun" (N) [G] (DVS)		News [G]	(:35) Night-line [G]	(:06) Jimmy Kimmel Live [G]																		
26	48	ANPL		Big Cat Magic [G]		Animal X Earth's supreme animal.		Animal Precinct Menacing-looking mastiff. [G]		Big Cat Magic [G]		Animal X Earth's supreme animal.																			
63	54	BRAVO		Blow Out Jonathan is forced to confront Alicia.		Blow Out Kimberly fails her cutting test. [G]		Queer Eye for the Straight Guy "John D"		Kathy Griffin: The D-List Comedian performs.		The West Wing "College Kids" [G]																			
7	11	CBS		NCIS "Call of Silence" [G]		NCIS "Doppelganger" [G]		48 Hours Mystery "True Story" (N) [G]		News [G]	(:35) Late Show With David Letterman [G]	Late Late Show																			
24	50	DISC		Supermax "The SHU Nurse" [G]		Monster Garage "Jet Boat/Car" [G]		American Chopper "Liberty Bike 1" [G]		Deadliest Catch "High Hopes"		Deadliest Catch "Good Fishing" (N)																			
33	44	DISN		Braceface [G]		Kim Possible [G]	Lizzie McGuire [G]	Sister, Sister [G]	That's So Raven [G]	That's So Raven [G]	*** "Homeward Bound: The Incredible Journey" (1993, Adventure) Robert Hays. [G]																				
49	81	E!TV		Janet Jackson: THS		Uncut "Mariah Carey" [G]		Gastineau	Showgirls	Howard S.	Howard S.	Saturday Night Live [G]																			
22	56	ESPN		MLB Baseball: Orioles at Red Sox		Baseball Tonight [G]		SportsCenter (Live) [G]		Fastbreak		Baseball																			
54	57	ESPN2		Boxing: Armando Guerrero vs. Israel Vasquez		Today at the French Open (N) [G]		The Life		Braddock																					
32	46	FAM		*** "Picture Perfect" (1997) Jennifer Aniston.		Who? [G]		Who? [G]		The 700 Club [G]		Videos		Videos																	
59	-	FIT TV		Ultimate Goals [G]		Insider Training [G]		Extremists		Extremists		Ultimate Goals [G]		Insider Training [G]																	
35	31	FMC		*** "In Old Chicago" (1938) Tyrone Power.		*** "Barton Fink" (1991) John Turturro.		*** "Cleopatra" [G]																							
53	68	FOOD		Emeril Live "Fun Fried Foods" Fried foods.		Roker on the Road		Roker on the Road		\$40-a-Day		\$40-a-Day		Iron Chef "Sakai Spotlight" Sakai.		Emeril Live Snacks for men.															
13	7	FOX		Trading Spouses: Meet Your New Mommy [G]		House "DNR" [G] (PA) [G]		The Fox Report With Shepard Smith [G]		Bob Newhart	Bob Newhart	Mary Tyler Moore		Mary Tyler Moore																	
40	38	FX		Fear Factor		King of Hill		King of Hill		*** "Independence Day" (1996) Will Smith, Bill Pullman.																					
30	55	FXSP		Rockies [G]		Pregame [G]		MLB Baseball St. Louis Cardinals at Colorado Rockies. (Subject to Blackout)		Rocky Mt.		Best-Sports																			
5	14	HBO		(5:30) *** "What a Girl Wants" (2003) PG		(15) *** "Vanishing Point" (1997, Drama) Viggo Mortensen, Christine Elise. [G] NR		Real Sports [G]		*** "Man on Fire" (2004) [G] R																					
62	67	HGTV		Designed [G]		Get Color [G]		Decorating [G]		Mission [G]		Designers' [G]		Design [G]		House [G]		Designed [G]		Get Color [G]											
58	52	HIST		Wild West Tech "Gambing Tech" [G]		Breaking Vegas Gangs of Vegas cheats. (N)		Modern Marvels "Engineering Disasters 6" [G]		Secrets of Soviet Space Disasters [G]		Wild West Tech "Gambing Tech" [G]																			
25	35	IND		Friends [G]		Friends [G]		Sex and the City [G]		Sex and the City [G]		Everybody-Raymond		Everybody-Raymond		*** "Mars Attacks!" (1996, Comedy) (PA) Jack Nicholson, Glenn Close. [G]															
18	63	LIFE		"Fatal Lessons" [G]		(Second to the City) (2002) Erika Eleniak. Premiere.		Golden		Golden		The Nanny		The Nanny																	
23	77	MTV		TRL (iTV) [G]		MTV Cribs		MTV Cribs		Direct Effect [G]		Challenge		Challenge		MTV Cribs		MTV Cribs													
3	9	NBC		News [G]		Ent. Tonight		*** "Traffic" (2000, Drama) (PA) Michael Douglas, Don Cheadle. The war on drugs brings many casualties and few victories. [G]		News [G]		(:35) The Tonight Show With Jay Leno [G]		Late Night																	
8	8	NBC		*** "Traffic" (2000, Drama) (PA) Michael Douglas, Don Cheadle. The war on drugs brings many casualties and few victories. [G]				News		(:35) The Tonight Show With Jay Leno [G]		Late Night																			
34	43	NICK		SpongeBob School		Full House		Fatherhood		Fresh Pr.		Cosby		Roseanne		Roseanne		Fresh Pr.		Fresh Pr.											
2	2	PBS		Nova "Flying Casanovas" [G] (DVS)		Colonial House "Judgment Day" [G] (DVS)		Frontline "A Jew Among the Germans" (N) [G]		BBC World News		That's My Boy		Charlie Rose (N) [G]																	
38	83	SCIFI		Storm of the Century		Storm of the Century [G]		(Part 2 of 3) [G]		Storm of the Century [G]		(Part 3 of 3) [G]																			
61	41	SPK		Maximum Exposure [G]		Wildest Police Videos		CSI: Crime Scn		CSI: Crime Scn		"American Dragons" [G]																			
39	51	TLC		While You Were Out West Point project. [G]		Clean Sweep Tackling living room clutter. [G]		In a Fix "Creative Playroom" [G]		Mega Machines Fear-some carving machines.		Overhaul'n' Customizing a 1963 Ford Falcon.																			
28	37	TNT		NBA Basketball: Eastern Conf. Final Game 4 -- Heat at Pistons				Inside the NBA [G]		*** "Rocky V" [G]																					
51	86	TRAV		Taste		Taste		Made		Made		National Parks [G]		Taste		Taste		Made		Made											
21	82	TVLND		Highway to Heaven [G]		Griffith		Leave		Sanford		All-Family		Top 10		Cheers [G]		Cheers [G]													
60	89	UNIV		Apuesta por un Amor		La Madrastra		Casos de la Vida Real		Impacto		Noticiero		La Hora Derbez																	
20	34	USA		Law & Order: SVU		*** "Red Dragon" (2002, Suspense) Anthony Hopkins. [G]		Law & Order: SVU		Dead Zone																					
12	3	WB		Friends [G]		Everybody-Raymond [G]		Gilmore Girls "Blame Boozie and Melville" [G]		News [G]		Friends [G]		Will & Grace [G]																	
99	36	WGN		*** "We Married Margo" (2000) J.D. Shapiro.		MLB Baseball Chicago Cubs at Los Angeles Dodgers. (Live) [G]																									

WEDNESDAY EVENING						E-Eagle Cable S-S&T Telephone			JUNE 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	Biography: Ron Howard: Favorite Son		Cold Case Files [E]		"Faith of My Fathers" (2005, Docudrama) Shawn Hatosy, Scott Glenn. [E]				Biography: Ron Howard: Favorite Son	
4	6	ABC	Supernanny "Weston Family" [E]		Dancing With the Stars (Series Premiere) [E]		Lost "Pilot" (Part 1 of 2) [E]		News [E]		(:35) Night-line [E]	
26	48	ANPL	Animal Face-Off "Lion vs. Croc" [E]		The Most Extreme "Movers" (N)		Animal Precinct Starved dog; nerve damage. [E]		Animal Face-Off "Lion vs. Croc" [E]		The Most Extreme "Movers"	
63	54	BRAVO	(5:00) ★★★ "Apollo 13" (1995, Drama) Tom Hanks, Bill Paxton. 'PG'				Sports Kids Moms & Dads [E]		Sports Kids Moms & Dads [E]		The West Wing "The Red Mass" [E]	
7	11	CBS	60 Minutes Wednesday		The King of Queens [E]		Yes, Dear [E]		CSI: NY "Blink" [E]		News [E]	
24	50	DISC	Supermax "Internal Affairs" [E]		Monster Garage "Swamp Buggy" [E]		American Chopper "Liberty Bike 2" [E]		Dambreak Disasters [E]		MythBusters "Boom Lift Catapult" [E]	
33	44	DISN	Braceface [E]		Kim Possible [E]		Lizzie McGuire [E]		Sister, Sister [E]		★★★ "The Emperor's New Groove" (2000, Comedy) 'G' [E]	
49	81	EITV	Saturday Night Live [E]		Jack Nicholson: The E!		True Hollywood Story [E]		Howard S.		Howard S.	
22	56	ESPN	NBA Shootaround [E]		NBA Basketball: Western		Conf. Final Game 5 -- Spurs at Suns		SportsCenter (Live) [E]		Saturday Night Live [E]	
54	57	ESPN2	MLB Baseball: Angels at White Sox				MLB Baseball Chicago Cubs at Los Angeles Dodgers. (Live) [E]					
42	66	FAM	★★ "My Favorite Martian" (1999, Comedy) [E]				Whoze? [E]		Whoze? [E]		The 700 Club [E]	
59	-	FIT TV	Low Carb [E]		Low Carb [E]		Insider Training (N) [E]		Extremists [E]		Extremists [E]	
35	31	FMC	"There's No Business Like Show Business"				★★★ "Let's Make Love" (1960) Yves Montand				"All About Eve" (1950)	
53	68	FOOD	Emeril Live The cocoa bean takes center stage.		BBQ With Bobby Play [E]		Foodnation [E]		Good Eats [E]		Good Eats [E]	
13	7	FOX	That '70s Show [E]		That '70s Show [E]		That '70s Show [E]		That '70s Show [E]		The Fox Report With Shepard Smith [E]	
40	38	FX	Fear Factor [E]		Fear Factor [E]		King of Hill [E]		King of Hill [E]		★★ "Planet of the Apes" (2001) Tim Roth	
30	55	FXSP	Rockies [E]		Pregame [E]		MLB Baseball St. Louis Cardinals at Colorado Rockies. (Subject to Blackout)		Rocky Mt.		Best-Sports	
5	14	HBO	(5:00) "Mr. Wrong" [E]		(45) ★★★ "The Rainmaker" (1997, Drama) Matt Damon, A rookie lawyer goes up against a big insurance company. [E]				"Empire Falls" (2005) Ed Harris. A restaurant worker lives in a declining New England town. [E]			
62	67	HGTV	Kitchen [E]		Weekend [E]		Want That [E]		Landscap [E]		Curb [E]	
58	52	HIST	Rumrunners, Moonshiners and Bootleggers Prohibition is a boon for smugglers. [E]				Automaniac "Gangster Cars" Gangster cars. (N)		Automaniac "Gangster Cars" Gangster cars. (N)		Automaniac Motorcycles for hard-core bikers. [E]	
25	35	IND	Everybody-Raymond [E]		Everybody-Raymond [E]		Seinfeld [E]		Seinfeld "The Wife" [E]		Sex and the City [E]	
18	63	LIVE	"She's Too Young" [E]				"Selling Innocence" (2005) Mimi Rogers. [E]		Golden [E]		Golden [E]	
23	77	MTV	TRL (TV) [E]		Challenge [E]		Challenge [E]		Direct Effect [E]		MTV Cribs [E]	
3	9	NBC	News [E]		Ent. To-night [E]		Eagles Farewell I Tour [E]		The band performs. (N) [E]		Law & Order "Cry Wolf" [E]	
8	8	NBC	Eagles Farewell I Tour [E]		The band performs. (N) [E]		Law & Order "Cry Wolf" [E]		News [E]		(:35) The Tonight Show With Jay Leno [E]	
34	43	NICK	SpongeBob Unfabulous [E]		Full House [E]		Full House [E]		Fresh Pr. [E]		Cosby [E]	
2	2	PBS	Roadshow FYI [E]		Cooking Under Fire [E]		Ella Fitzgerald: Something to Live For "An American Masters Special" [E]		Loreena McKennitt [E]		BBC World News [E]	
38	83	SCIFI	Ripley-Believe [E]		Ripley-Believe [E]		Ripley-Believe [E]		★★ "The Uninvited" (1996) Sharon Lawrence. [E]			
61	41	SPK	Maximum Exposure [E]		Wildest Police Videos [E]		CSI: Crime Scn [E]		CSI: Crime Scn [E]		"Johnny Dangerously" [E]	
39	51	TLC	While You Were Out [E]		Clean Sweep "Micro-Brewery, Macro-Mess" [E]		In a Fix Repairing a childhood home. [E]		While You Were Out Kitchen makeover. (N)		America's Ugliest Bedroom [E]	
28	37	TRT	Law & Order [E]		(DVS) [E]		★★★ "The Contender" (2000) Joan Allen, Gary Oldman. [E]		★★★ "The Contender" (2000) [E]			
51	86	TNAV	American Casino [E]		World Poker Tour (N)				American Casino [E]		World Poker Tour [E]	
21	82	TVLND	Highway to Heaven [E]		Griffith [E]		Beaver [E]		Top 10 (N)		Inside TV Land (N) [E]	
60	89	UNIV	Apuesta por un Amor [E]		La Madrastra [E]		Don Francisco Presenta [E]		Impacto [E]		Noticiero [E]	
20	34	USA	Law & Order: SVU [E]		★★★★ "The Silence of the Lambs" (1991) Jodie Foster. [E]		Foster. [E]		Law Order: CI [E]		Law SVU [E]	
12	3	WB	Friends [E]		WB [E]		Beauty and the Geek (Series Premiere) (N) [E]		Smallville "Facade" [E]		News [E]	
90	36	WGN	★★ "Double Whammy" (2001) Denis Leary. [E]		WGN News at Nine [E]		Becker [E]		Becker [E]		Home Delivery [E]	