

Mother uses snapshots to embarrass

DEAR ABBY: I am not a pretty woman, and I'm certainly not photogenic. Over the years I have been in numerous pictures — some with family members, some alone on special occasions.



abigail van buren

• dear abby

stances. I have told her this is hurtful and asked her to please stop. She says I'm a "poor sport" and that people aren't laughing at me, just at the picture.

DEAR NEGATIVE: You're not a poor sport; your mother has a cruel streak. No one ever taught her that true humor lies in the ability to laugh WITH people rather than AT them.

Because this has been her pattern for 50 years, it's unlikely you will ever change her. However, it may console you to know that by insisting on displaying those unflattering pictures, your mother is revealing more about her character than anything in the photos.

carry. What should I tell my daughter-in-law who weighs at least that much when she wants to sit on my living room sofa and chairs? She has already split the wood frame on one of them. It was less than seven months old. I had it repaired, but I can't afford new furniture.

Their living room furniture is less than five years old, but it already looks 20 years old. The fabric is sagging and the springs are broken.

I asked my son to say something to her, but he hasn't. I feel he should be

the one to tell her. They'll be visiting again soon. What should I say to her? Or should I insist that my son tell her?

DEAR MINNESOTAM.I.L.: Before your son and daughter-in-law arrive, put one of the sturdy kitchen chairs in the living room. When your daughter-in-law comes in, guide her to the chair you want her to use.

DEAR ABBY: How do you ask a friend not to include you in fund-raising and parties? I have never been

much of a party-goer. I dislike them and avoid them if I can. But I get tired of saying no. If I go, I can hardly wait to get back home — and sometimes I get several invites to parties for pets, jewelry, pots and pans, etc., which I neither need nor can afford.

DEAR STUCK: You are only as "stuck" as you choose to be. As I see it, you have two choices: Refuse the invitations as they are received, or tell these hostess/entrepreneurs that you do not want to be invited to parties of this kind.

SATURDAY EVENING AUG. 27, 2005. Table with columns for time slots (6 pm, 6:30, 7 pm, 7:30, 8 pm, 8:30, 9 pm, 9:30, 10 pm, 10:30) and rows for various TV channels (A&E, ABC, ANPL, BRAVO, CBS, DISC, DISN, EITV, ESPN, ESPN2, FAN, FIM, FOOD, FOX, FX, FXSP, HALL, HBO, HGTV, HIST, IND, LIFE, MTV, NBC, PBS, SCIFI, SPK, TLC, TNT, TRAV, TVLND, UNIV, USA, WB, WGN).

SUNDAY EVENING AUG. 28, 2005. Table with columns for time slots (6 pm, 6:30, 7 pm, 7:30, 8 pm, 8:30, 9 pm, 9:30, 10 pm, 10:30) and rows for various TV channels (A&E, ABC, ANPL, BRAVO, CBS, DISC, DISN, EITV, ESPN, ESPN2, FAN, FIM, FOOD, FOX, FX, FXSP, HALL, HBO, HGTV, HIST, IND, LIFE, MTV, NBC, PBS, SCIFI, SPK, TLC, TNT, TRAV, TVLND, UNIV, USA, WB, WGN).



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MONDAY EVENING AUG. 29, 2005. Table with columns for time slots (6 pm, 6:30, 7 pm, 7:30, 8 pm, 8:30, 9 pm, 9:30, 10 pm, 10:30) and rows for various TV channels (A&E, ABC, ANPL, BRAVO, CBS, DISC, DISN, EITV, ESPN, ESPN2, FAN, FIM, FOOD, FOX, FX, FXSP, HALL, HBO, HGTV, HIST, IND, LIFE, MTV, NBC, PBS, SCIFI, SPK, TLC, TNT, TRAV, TVLND, UNIV, USA, WB, WGN).

SATURDAY and SUNDAY MOVIES. Table with columns for movie titles, times, and descriptions. Includes sections for SATURDAY MORNING, AFTERNOON, and SUNDAY MORNING.