

I know I am gay

DEAR ABBY: I am a 23-year-old male. Ever since I was in middle school, I have been dealing with the possibility that I might be a homosexual. Today I no longer think it's a "possibility." I know it's a fact.

For years, not a day has gone by that I have not had homosexual thoughts and urges. I have dated a few females to try to "change," but those attempts have been unsuccessful.

I am depressed, confused and angry with myself. I am becoming reclusive. I have withdrawn from most of my classes in college, and I don't want to socialize with people. Sometimes I think my life is over before it ever began.

I come from a religious family in south Georgia who believe that homosexuality is a sin and God will punish gays. In my part of the country, homophobia is everywhere. If I ever told anyone what I am feeling, I could never show my face around here again.

I keep asking myself whether or not my life would be better if I told people that I am a homosexual. I am beginning to believe that if I come out, my life would be better. I'd do it now, but I couldn't stand that my family would be disappointed with me — and I don't want to lose what friends I have left. I also can't bear the thought that my religious community would condemn me. What would you do if you



abigail van buren

• dear abby

were in my situation? — CONFUSED IN GEORGIA

DEAR CONFUSED: If I were you, I'd accept that my life wasn't working and I'd probably come out. However, I am NOT you. If you come out to your family and friends, it's important that you understand that you will change. It will be better, but it will also be different. How close can any of these people really be to you if they don't know who you are?

Before making up your mind, I urge you to go online to www.lgbtcenters.org and locate some gay and lesbian centers where you can get counseling. (Atlanta might be a good place to start.) You can't hide forever. With emotional support, taking such a big step will be easier.

P.S. Eventually it might be better if you move to a more diverse community to complete your education and begin your new life.

DEAR ABBY: I have a delicate problem concerning my daughter-in-law, "Sheila," and my 1-year-old grandson, "Cary." I consider Sheila to be an unfit mother. Her house is filthy, including the kitchen. She allows

Cary to eat cat food when he crawls around on the dirty floors.

Sheila has been giving Cary various medications since he was only a week old. When he would cry, she would give him drops to relieve "the gas." Next, it was a gel for his teething ailments when he was only 3 months old — she still gives it to him three times a day. She has also been giving him Tylenol every day "to help him sleep."

Abby, our grandson is beginning to look a bit yellow, and we're afraid he may have some liver damage. We're afraid to speak out because we don't want to cause a rift in the family. I have considered writing a letter to his pediatrician, but I'm not sure it would be taken seriously. What can we do? — WORRIED SICK IN PENNSYLVANIA

DEAR WORRIED SICK: You are justifiably concerned about your grandson's safety and welfare, so pick up the phone and call Childhelp USA. All calls are confidential, and your anonymity will be preserved. The number to call is (800) 422-4453. It's a 24-hour toll-free helpline, and the people who man those phones can help you report what's happening to the proper authorities in your state. You may also log on to www.childhelpusa.org.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

SATURDAY EVENING

		6PM	6:30	7PM	7:30	8PM	8:30	9PM	9:30	10PM	10:30
E S		E = Eagle Cable				S = S&T Telephone					
36 47	A&E	Cold Case: The Sunday Morning Slasher		Cold Case Files (TVPG)		American Justice: Love Triangle (TVPG)		American Justice: Death of a Bride (TVPG)		Cold Case: The Sunday Morning Slasher	
4 6	ABC	"Minority Report" (02) ★★ Tom Cruise. A 'pre-crime' unit identifies murderers before they kill. (PG-13) (R) (HD)									
26 54	ANPL	Seven Deadly Strikes (TV G)		The Big Squeeze (TVPG)		Mutual of Omaha's Wild: King Cobra and I		Seven Deadly Strikes (TV G)		The Big Squeeze (TVPG)	
63 67	BRAVO	"The Beach" (00) ★★½ An adventurer trekking through Thailand discovers an island utopia.				"The Beach" (00) ★★½ An adventurer trekking through Thailand discovers an island utopia.				Law & Order: Criminal Intent: Faith (HD)	
7 11	CBS	Without a Trace: Doppel-ganger II (R) (HD)		Criminal Minds (TVPG) (R) (HD)		48 Hours Mystery: Love Lost (N)		Eyewitness News		(.35) Drew Carey	
55 42	DISC	Amazon Abyss Exploring life of the Amazon. (TVPG)				Cracking The Ocean Code (TV G)		Science of Survival: Lost in the Snow		Amazon Abyss Amazon life. (TVPG)	
33 56	DISN	Emperor's (TV G)		The Buzz (TVY7)		Life Derek (TV G)		The Suite (TVY7)			
49 66	EITV	GB		El Story (TVPG)		SNL (TV14)		Dr. 90210 (TV14)		Dr. 90210 (TV14)	
22 28	ESPN	J Coll. Hock: Frozen Four Championship (Live)				Baseball Tonight (HD)		SportsCenter (HD)		Baseball Tonight (HD)	
23 29	ESPN2	NHRA Qualifying from Las Vegas (Taped)				LA Auto Show		Auto Show		City Slam	
32 58	FAM	"The Waterboy" (98) ★★½ "Fooball" hero.				On Campus		On Campus		"Everything You" ★★	
35 -	FMC	"The Gods Must Be Crazy" (81, Comedy)				"Big Trouble in Little China" (86) ★★				"Gods Be Crazy"	
53 45	FOOD	Emeril Live: A New Orleans Easter (TV G)		Celebrity Food Fight		Food Challenge: Veggie Pastry Battle		Iron Chef America: Play vs. Bayless (TV G)		Great Feasts of the Bible	
13 7	FOX	Cops (TVPG) (R)		Cops (TV14) (N)		America's Most Wanted (TVPG)		St. Elsewhere: Dog Day Hospital		Blind Date (TVPG)	
27 25	FX	"Above the Law" ★★				"Out for Justice" (91) A cop seeks revenge.		"S.W.A.T.:" (03, Action) SWAT foils jailbreak			
30 27	FXSP	Rodeo (Taped)		Dbl. Play		Rockies		MLB Baseball Rockies at Padres (Live)			
- 60	HALL	(5:00) "Places" (06)		"Though None Go With Me" (06, Drama)				"Though None Go With Me" (06, Drama)			
5 -	HBO	(5:00) "Walkout" (06) High school walkout.		"Flight of the Phoenix" (04, Adventure) ★★½ Crash survivors build new plane. (PG-13) (HD)				"Constantine" (05, Horror) ★★½ Keanu Reeves. Investigator finds reason behind suicide. (R)			
62 44	HGTV	Overboard (TV G)		Up on the Roof (TV G)		Design		Design		Trading Up	
58 48	HIST	Time Machine: Kennedys: The Curse of Power Kennedy clan weathers tragic loss. (TVPG)				The Kennedy Assassination: Beyond Conspiracy Americans' conspiracy beliefs. (TVPG)				Time Mach. Clan weathers loss. (TVPG)	
25 38	IND	"Jurassic Park III" (01) Grant finds lost boy		(:10) "The Fifth Element" (97) Bruce Willis. A cabbie becomes involved with a woman destined to save the world.				(:45) "Starship Troopers" (97) ★★½ Giant alien insects attack. (R)			
18 63	LIFE	(5:00) "Lover" (00)		"Another Day" (01) ★★ A new relationship.		Family		"Other People's Money" (91) (R)			
54 74	MTV	Sweet 16		Sweet 16		Ocean		Ocean		Key West	
3 9	NBC	Entertainment Tonight		Dateline NBC (N)		Conviction: Madness (TV14) (N) (HD)		Law & Order: Criminal Intent (TV14) (R) (HD)		KSN News at 10	
8 8	NBC	Dateline NBC (N)		Conviction: Madness (TV14) (N) (HD)		Law & Order: Criminal Intent (TV14) (R) (HD)		Full House		Bel-Air	
34 55	NICK	Guide		Drake		All That		Amanda		Lawrence Welk: Spring (TV G)	
2 2	PBS	Appearance		As Time Go		RedGreen (TVPG)		Austin City Limits: Jack Johnson; Rilo Kiley		Monty P.: John Cleese's Personal Best	
38 71	SCIFI	"Arabian Nights"		(5:00) Fight		UFC's Ultimate Tim Sylvia vs. Assuerio Silva		UFC's Ultimate Hard Rock Hotel in Las Vegas			
61 72	SPK	Clean Sweep: Viva La Clean Sweep (TV G)		While You Were Out: Miami: Africa 3000 (TV G)		People (TV G)		People (TV G)		People (TV G)	
39 43	TLC	Clean Sweep: Viva La Clean Sweep (TV G)		While You Were Out: Miami: Africa 3000 (TV G)		People (TV G)		People (TV G)		People (TV G)	
28 40	TNT	"Saving Private Ryan" (98, War) ★★★★★ Soldiers risk their lives to save a man.						"Crimson Tide" (95, Suspense)			
51 49	TRAV	World Poker				Cocktail		Cocktail		World Poker	
25 19	TVLND	Prairie (TV G)		Griffith		Sanford		Happening		Cheers	
60 79	UNIV	(5:00) Casos de familia (TV G)						Primer imp		Noticiero	
20 37	USA	Law & Order (HD)		Law & Order (HD)		Law & Order (HD)		Law & Order (HD)		Law & Order (HD)	
12 3	WB	Star Trek: Enterprise: The Aenar (TVPG)		Friends (TV14)		Friends (TV14)		Will (TVPG)		WB2 News at Nine (N)	
99 39	WGN	Bulls Eye		NBA Basketball (Live) (HD)				WGN News		Becker	

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36	42	DISC	Amazon Abyss Exploring life of the Amazon. (TVPG)				Cracking The Ocean Code (TV G)		Science of Survival: Lost in The Snow		Amazon Abyss Amazon life. (TVPG)	
33	56	DISN	Emperor's (TV G)	The Buzz (TVY7)	Life Derek (TV G)	The Suite (TVY7)	Hannah	So Raven (TVY7)	Emperor's (TV G)	Emperor's (TV G)	Emperor's (TV G)	Emperor's (TV G)
49	66	E!TV	GB		E! Story (TVPG)		SNL (TV14)		Dr. 90210 (TV14)		Dr. 90210 (TV14)	
22	28	ESPN	Coll. Hoof: Frozen Four Championship (Live)				Baseball Tonight (HD)		SportsCenter (HD)		Baseball Tonight (HD)	
23	29	ESPN2	NHRA Qualifying from Las Vegas (Taped)				LA Auto Show		Auto Show		City Slam NBA Match	
32	58	FAM	"The Waterboy" (98) ★★½ "Football" hero.				On Campus	On Campus	On Campus	On Campus	"Everything You" ★★	
35	-	FMC	"The Gods Must Be Crazy" (81, Comedy)				"Big Trouble in Little China" (86) ★★				"Gods Be Crazy"	
53	45	FOOD	Emeril Live: A New Orleans Easter (TV G)		Celebrity Food Fight		Food Challenge: Veggie Pasta Battle		Iron Chef America: Play vs. Bayless (TV G)		Great Feasts of the Bible	
13	7	FOX	Cops (TVPG) (R)	Cops (TV14) (N)	America's Most Wanted (TVPG)		St. Elsewhere: Dog Day Hospital		Mad TV (TV14) (N)		Blind Date (TVPG)	Blind Date (TVPG)
27	25	FX	"Above the Law" ★★				"Out for Justice" (91) A cop seeks revenge.		"S.W.A.T.:" (03, Action)		SWAT foils jailbreak	
30	27	FXSP	Rodeo (Taped)		Dbl. Play Rockies		MLB Baseball Rockies at Padres (Live)					
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5	-	HBO	5:00 "Walkout" (06) High school walkout.				"Flight of the Phoenix" (04, Adventure) ★★½ Crash survivors build new plane. (PG-13) (HD)		"Constantine" (05, Horror) ★★½ Keanu Reeves. Investigator finds reason behind suicide (R)			
62	44	HGTV	Overboard (TV G)		Up on the Roof (TV G)		Design	Design	Gardener	Trading Up	Overboard (TV G)	
58	48	HIST	Time Machine: Kennedy's The Curse of Power Kennedy clan weathers tragic loss. (TVPG)				The Kennedy Assassination: Beyond Conspiracy Americans' conspiracy beliefs. (TVPG)				Time Mach. Clan weathers loss. (TVPG)	
25	38	IND	"Jurassic Park III" (01) Grant finds lost boy		(10) "The Fifth Element" (97) Bruce Willis. A cabbie becomes involved with a woman destined to save the world.				(45) "Starship Troopers" (97) ★★½ Giant alien insects attack. (R)			
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54	74	MTV	Sweet 16	Sweet 16	Ocean	Ocean	Key West	Key West	Key West	Key West	N. Cannon	N. Cannon
3	9	NBC	Entertainment Tonight		Dateline NBC (N)		Conviction: Madness (TV14) (N) (HD)		Law & Order: Criminal Intent (TV14) (R) (HD)		9 News (N) (HD)	Saturday Night (HD)
8	8	NBC	Dateline NBC (N)		Conviction: Madness (TV14) (N) (HD)		Law & Order: Criminal Intent (TV14) (R) (HD)		KSN News at 10		Saturday Night Live: Antonio Banderas; Mary J. Blige (TV14) (HD)	
34	55	NICK	Guide	Drake	All That	Amanda	Full House	Bel-Air	Bel-Air	Cosby	Roseanne	Roseanne
2	2	PBS	Appearance	As Time Go	Lawrence Welk: Spring		RedGreen (TVPG)	Austin City Limits: Jack Johnson; Rilo Kiley	Monty P.: John Cleese's Personal Best	Tavis Smiley (N)		
38	71	SCIFI	"Arabian Nights"		"Arabian Nights" (00) Tales of heroes. (NR)				"Kill the Conqueror" ★★ Warrior fights evil.			
61	72	SPK	5:00) Fight		UFC's Ultimate Tim Sylvia vs. Assuerio Silva				UFC's Ultimate Hard Rock Hotel in Las Vegas			
39	43	TLC	Clean Sweep: Viva La Clean Sweep (TV G)		While You Were Out: Mi-ami: Africa 3000		People (TV G)	People (TV G)	People (TV G)	People (TV G)	Trading Spaces: Memphis: Verling Drive	
28	40	TNT	"Saving Private Ryan" (98, War) ★★★★★ Soldiers risk their lives to save a man.						"Crimson Tide" (95, Suspense)			
51	49	TRAV	Wild Poker				Cocktail	Cocktail	Wild Poker			
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60	79	UNIV	5:00) Casos de familia (TV G)						Primer imp	Noticiero	Otro rollo (TV14)	
20	37	USA	Law & Order (HD)		Law & Order (HD)		Law & Order (HD)		Law & Order (HD)		Law & Order (HD)	
12	3	WB	Star Trek: Enterprise: The Aenar (TVPG)		Friends (TV14)	Friends (TV14)	Will (TVPG)	Raymond (TVPG)	WB2 News at Nine (N)		Star Trek: Enterprise: United (TVPG)	
99	39	WGN	Bulls Eve		NBA Basketball (Live) (HD)				WGN News	Becker	Home Innin	"Prime Gini"