

She should take charge

DEAR ABBY: You missed an opportunity with the 13-year-old girl who is dissatisfied with her bedroom and always the recipient of hand-me-downs. Telling her to get a trusted adult to speak on her behalf was tantamount to advising her to recruit someone to help her whine. At 13, she's old enough to be more proactive in making her room the way she wants it.

Her dresser and closet are over-stuffed with hand-me-downs that no longer fit? Grab a box, pull out everything that doesn't fit, fold it neatly and put it in the box. These, and the neatly stacked hangers, can be donated to the Salvation Army — or another group — and she'll have a lot of new space.

Her furniture is rickety? Can it be glued, clamped, made sturdy again and repainted?

The computer is in the study? Maybe she should clear off her desk and make room for it in her room.

She doesn't like white walls? What if she offered to paint them herself if her parents supply the paint?

She should clear out, refurbish, re-decorate and grow up! She complains about her pitiable situation, which she has made no effort to remedy herself, and yet shows not one hint of understanding or compassion for her parents who are working, taking care of multiple children and who have just



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•dear abby

finished building a new house for them. Has she no concept of how much money and effort that requires?

It's time that girl stopped whining and did something for herself. She could make a tremendous change in her room by her own effort. She may also find that this independent effort may bring her the attention and respect she so obviously wants. — I DID IT, SHE CAN, TOO

DEAR DID IT: Thank you for offering the girl some other options. It's interesting that you interpreted her cry for help as "whining." I viewed her as a girl who is afraid or unable to speak up for herself because she has been raised to believe that her feelings don't count and her opinions don't matter.

Yes, she could do all of the things you suggested — but in the final analysis, her parents would have to permit it. That's why I advised her to get an adult relative or close family friend to help her talk to her parents.

Read on:

DEAR ABBY: I read between the

lines of the letter from the girl who wrote that she receives only discarded items and whose father will not paint her room. And yet, she expressed gratitude for having a home. Neglect, favoritism and enforced public gratitude could indicate an abusive, tyrannical parent or parents. While it's hard to know from so brief a letter, that child may be being punished for something that was beyond her control, and be unwilling or unable to express or admit deeper problems.

I know. I was such a child. —

READER IN HOUSTON

DEAR HOUSTON READER: That occurred to me, too. That's why I advised the writer to talk to a trusted adult.

DEAR ABBY: I don't know why that girl's room isn't furnished as nicely as her sisters', but her computer may have been placed in the study for a good reason: the child's safety.

My two children weren't allowed to have a computer in their bedrooms until they were 18. Before that, if they wanted to use the computer/Internet, they had to use the one in the family room, which was situated so the screen was visible to anyone who passed by. — CAUTIOUS MOM IN ALABAMA

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.

TUESDAY 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	Tattoo Fixation Influences: designs. (TVPG)		Dog Bounty (TVPG)	Dog Bounty (TVPG)	Decoding the Past: Beyond the Da Vinci Code The truth behind the bestseller. (TVPG)		Tattoo Fixation Influences: designs. (TVPG)			
4 6	ABC	According Jim (R)	Rodney (N) (HD)	According Jim (R)	Less Perfect (HD)	Boston Legal: Live Big (TV14) (R) (HD)		KAKE News (35) Nightline (N)		(05) Jimmy Kimmel Live (TV14)	
26 54	ANPL	The Secrets of Animal Magic (TV G)		The Most Extreme: Transformers (TV G)		Big Cat Magic A look at "Jubilee". (TV G)		The Secrets of Animal Magic (TV G)		The Most Extreme: Transformers (TV G)	
63 67	BRAVO	Actor's: Tim Allen		Kathy Griffin: Strong Black Woman		K-PAX" ('01, Drama) Kevin Spacey. A psychiatrist treats a delusional man who claims to be an alien from K-PAX.		K-PAX" ('01) ★★			
7 11	CBS	NCIS: Head Case (TVPG) (R) (HD)		The Unit: Stress (TVPG) (R) (HD)		48 Hours Mystery: Deadly Secrets (N)		Eyewitness News		Late Show with David Letterman (R) (HD)	
55 42	DISC	Deadliest Catch: On the Edge (TVPG)		Deadliest Catch: Pribilof Stare (TVPG)		Dirty Jobs: Mushroom Farmer (TV14)		Dirty Jobs: Hot Tar Roofer (TV14)		Deadliest Catch: On the Edge (TVPG)	
33 56	DISN	Kim: Two to Tug (TV G)		Lizzie (TV G)		So Raven (TVY7)		Zack: Forever Plaid			
49 66	E!TV	E! Special (TVPG)				10 Ways		Red Carpet Diva		SNL: Brittany Murphy	
22 28	ESPN	⊖ (5:00) MLB Baseball (Live) (HD)				Baseball Tonight (HD)		⚡ SportsCenter (HD)		Baseball Outside	
23 29	ESPN2	⊖ WNBA Game (Live)		⊖ WNBA Game (Live)				Quite from New York		Today-French	
32 58	FAM	"Love Don't Cost a Thing" ('03, Comedy) ★½				Line		The 700 Club		Home Video	
35 -	FMC	"The Fury" ('78, Paranormal) ★★ Kirk Douglas.				"Predator" ('87, Suspense/Thriller) ★★ (R)		"Predator 2" ('90) ★★			
53 45	FOOD	Emeril Live: FN Grilling Show (TV G)		Grill Girls (TV G)		\$40 a Day		\$40 a Day		Grill Girls (TV G)	
13 7	FOX	"Shanghai Knights" ('03, Action/Adventure) ★★ Jackie Chan, Owen Wilson. (PG-13) (HD)				Fox Report		Blind Date (TVPG)		Blind Date (TVPG)	
27 25	FX	Married		Married		King		King		70s	
30 27	FXSP	List		Rockies		Dbl. Play		Rockies		⊖ MLB Baseball Rockies at Padres (Live)	
- 60	HALL	Walker (TVPG)				"The Last Brickmaker in America" ('01)		MASH		MASH	
5 -	HBO	"Spider 2" (HD)		"The Terminal" ('04, Drama) A man is denied entrance to the U.S. and has to live in the airport terminal. (HD)				Big Love: Pilot Multi-tasking. (TVMA) (HD)		Big Love: Viagra Blue (TVMA) (HD)	
62 44	HGTV	Designed		Bad Bath		Decorating		Curb Appl.		House Hunt	
58 48	HIST	Decoding the Past: The Antichrist				Mega Disasters: American Volcano (TVPG)		Mega Movers: 900 Ton Building (TVPG)		Modern Marvels: Dynamite (TVPG)	
25 38	IND	Friends		Friends		Sex & City (TV14)		Sex & City (TV14)		Seinfeld: The Rye	
18 63	LIFE	"Abandon" ('02) ★★		"When Danger Follows You Home" ('97) ★★				Will (HD)		Will (HD)	
54 74	MTV	Parental		Parental		The Video		Sucker Free		Key West	
3 9	NBC	9 News (N)		ET (TV G)		Last Comic Standing: Premiere (TV14) (N)		Law & Order: Special Victims Unit (R) (HD)		9 News (N)	
8 8	NBC	Last Comic Standing: Premiere (TV14) (N)				Law & Order: Special Victims Unit (R) (HD)		KSN News at 10 (35) Tonight Show with Jay Leno (TV14)		Late Night (R) (HD)	
34 55	NICK	Spongebob		Zoey 101		Full House		Hi-Jinks		Bel-Air	
2 2	PBS	Nova: The Boldest Hoax (TV G) (R) (HD)				Texas Ranch House: The Great Divide		Frontline: The Age of AIDS Part 1 of two. "The Age of AIDS" looks at the pandemic (N)		Charlie Rose (N)	
38 71	SCIFI	"Falcon Down" ('00)		"Dark Breed" ('96) ★★		Alien possession. (R)		"Species" ('95) ★★½ Woman is alien. (R)			
61 72	SPK	Trek: Next (TVPG)		Police (TV14)		CSI: Cool Change		CSI: Getting Off		"Commando" ('85)	
39 43	TLC	Home Chef: Andrea		Home Chef: Julia		While You: Van Nuys: Nic's Island Broom (Live)		Overhaul'n: Monte Fuego (TV G)		Wrecks to Riches Shop is worn out. (TV G)	
28 40	TNT	⊖ NBA Pregame (Live)		⊖ NBA Basketball: Playoffs - Teams TBA (Live) (HD)				Inside NBA		X-Files: Fire Walker	
51 49	TRAV	Taste		Taste		Made		Made		Alaskan Wild (TV G)	
21 59	TVLND	Little House (TV G)		Griffith		Sanford		Times		All Family	
60 79	UNIV	La fea más bella		Barrera de amor		Ver para Times		Primer imp		Noticiero	
20 37	USA	Law & Order (HD)		Law & Order (HD)		Gilmore Girls: A Vineyard Valentine (R) (HD)		Pepper Dennis (TV14) (N) (HD)		WB2 News at Nine (N)	
12 3	WB	Friends (TVPG)		Raymond (TVPG)		Blue Collar: TV (R) (HD)		Blue Collar: TV (R) (HD)		One Tree Hill (TV14) (R) (HD)	
99 39	WGN	"In the Line of Duty" ('94) ★½ Murder for hire.				WGN News at Nine		Sex & City		Becker	

THURSDAY 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	48: House of Blood; The Last Man Standing		48 Critical hours. (TVPG)		Dallas SWAT Officer rides bulls. (TV14)		Crossing Jordan: John Doe (TV14) (HD)		48: House of Blood; The Last Man Standing	
4 6	ABC	National Spelling Bee The championship rounds of the annual event (HD)				Primetime (N)		KAKE News (35) Nightline (N)		(05) Jimmy Kimmel Live (TV14)	
26 54	ANPL	Get Out There!: Hawaii (TV G)		The Planet's Funniest Animals (TV G)		Little Zoo That Could: 24 Hours to Go		Get Out There!: Hawaii (TV G)		The Planet's Funniest Animals (TV G)	
63 67	BRAVO	"To Wong Foo, Thanks For Everything, Julie Newmar" ('95) ★½ Stranded drag queens				Last Comic Standing (TV14)		Last Comic Standing (TV14)		Kathy Griffin	"To Wong Foo" ★½
7 11	CBS	Gameshow Marathon (TVPG) (N)		CSI: Crime Scene Investigation (R) (HD)		Without a Trace: Patient X (TV14) (R) (HD)		Eyewitness News		Late Show with David Letterman (R) (HD)	
55 42	DISC	The Rise of Man First signs of humanization.				Touma: Man's Oldest Ancestor (TV G)		Deadliest Catch: Pribilof Stare (TVPG)		The Rise of Man Humanization. (TVPG)	
33 56	DISN	Kim: Gorilla G		Lizzie (TV G)		So Raven (TVY7)		Zack: Forever Plaid			
49 66	E!TV	Child Star		Child Star		EI Story: The Women of Sex and the City		SNL: Jennifer Aniston		Dr. 90210 (TV14)	
22 28	ESPN	⊖ (5:00) MLB Baseball: Teams TBA (Live) (HD)				Baseball Tonight (HD)		⚡ SportsCenter (HD)		Baseball Outside	
23 29	ESPN2	⊖ Women's College Softball (HD)				⊖ Women's College Softball (Live) (HD)				Quite from New York	
32 58	FAM	"The Waterboy" ('98) ★★½ "Football" hero.				Line		The 700 Club		Home Video	
35 -	FMC	"Bad Girls" ('94, Western) Madeleine Stowe.				"The Good Son" ('93, Suspense/Thriller) ★★				"Mischief" ('85) ★★ (R)	
53 45	FOOD	Emeril Live: Dueling Barbecue (TV G)		Throwdown with Bobby Flay		Iron Chef America: Cora vs. Simon (TV G)		Good Eats (TV G)		\$40 a Day	
13 7	FOX	That '70s Show (R)		That '70s Show (R)		So You Think You Can Dance (TVPG) (N)		Fox Report		Blind Date (TVPG)	
27 25	FX	Married		Married		King		King		70s	
30 27	FXSP	KOs		Crush Wkly		Spotlight		College (Taped)		Best Sports	
- 60	HALL	Walker (TVPG)		"Thicker Than Water" ('05) A father's past.				MASH		MASH	
5 -	HBO	"Batman Begins" ('05) Caped Crusader.		"Envoy" ('04, Comedy) ★½ Man mad-dened by friend's huge success.				(45) HBO First		Big Love: Roberta's Funeral (TVMA) (HD)	
62 44	HGTV	Open House		reDesign		Divine		Landscaper		House Hunt	
58 48	HIST	Modern Marvels: Bible Tech (TVPG)				Fatima Secrets Unveiled (TVPG)		Declassified (TVPG)		Death of Marilyn Monroe (TVPG)	
25 38	IND	⊖ (5:30) MLB Baseball Arizona Diamondbacks at Atlanta Braves from Turner Field (Live) (HD)				"Orange County" ('02) ★★ A California teen tries to correct his counselor's transcript error.				"Encino Man" ('92)	
18 63	LIFE	"Ties That Bind"		"Lethal Vows" ('99, Drama) Ex seeks justice.				Will (HD)		Will (HD)	
54 74	MTV	Fresh Meat		Jamie		Sucker Free		MADE: Girly Girl		Yo Momma	
3 9	NBC	9 News (N)		ET (TV G)		The Office (R) (HD)		The Office (R) (HD)		(59) ER: Two Ships (TV14) (R) (HD)	
8 8	NBC	The Office (R) (HD)		The Office (R) (HD)		The Office (R) (HD)		The Office (R) (HD)		(59) ER: Two Ships (TV14) (R) (HD)	
34 55	NICK	Sponge		Romeo!		Full House		Bel-Air		Roseanne	
2 2	PBS	Sunflow.		Farmers TV (TV G)		Metropolitan Opera Presents: The Met Salutes Joseph Volpe Placido Domingo, Denyce Graves and Luciano Pavarotti (N) (HD)				Roseanne	
38 71	SCIFI	"The Fear" ('95)		"Abominable" ('06, Horror) Killer Bigfoot.				"Sasquatch" ('02) ★ People become prey. (R)			
61 72	SPK	Trek: Next: Interface		Police (TV14)		CSI (TVPG)		CSI: Bad to the Bone		Unleashed (TVPG)	
39 43	TLC	Home Chef (TV G)		Home Chef (TV G)		While You: El Cajon: Hacienda del Sol		Now See This! (TVPG)		Now See This! (TVPG)	
28 40	TNT	NBA Pregame ⊕ NBA Basketball: Playoffs - Teams TBA (Live) (HD)						Inside the NBA (TVG)		"The Crown" ('94) ★★	
51 49	TRAV	Great Cruises (TV G)		NBA Basketball: Queen Mary 2 (TV G)		5 Takes: Queenstown		Great Cruises (TV G)		Queen Mary 2 (TV G)	
21 59	TVLND	Little House (TV G)		Griffith		Sanford		Sanford		Times	
60 79	UNIV	La fea más bella		Barrera de amor		Aquí y ahora (TVMA)		Primer imp		Noticiero	
20 37	USA	Law & Order (HD)		Law & Order (HD)		Law & Order (HD)		Law & Order (HD)		Law & Order (HD)	
12 3	WB	Friends (TVPG)		Raymond (TVPG)		Smallville: Mortal (TVPG) (R) (HD)		Supernatural: Dead in the Water (R) (HD)		WB2 News at Nine (N)	
99 39	WGN	That's Just Wrong		Ghosts: Fact		WGN News at Nine		Sex & City		Becker	