

# Beckermann Exquisite Kitchens

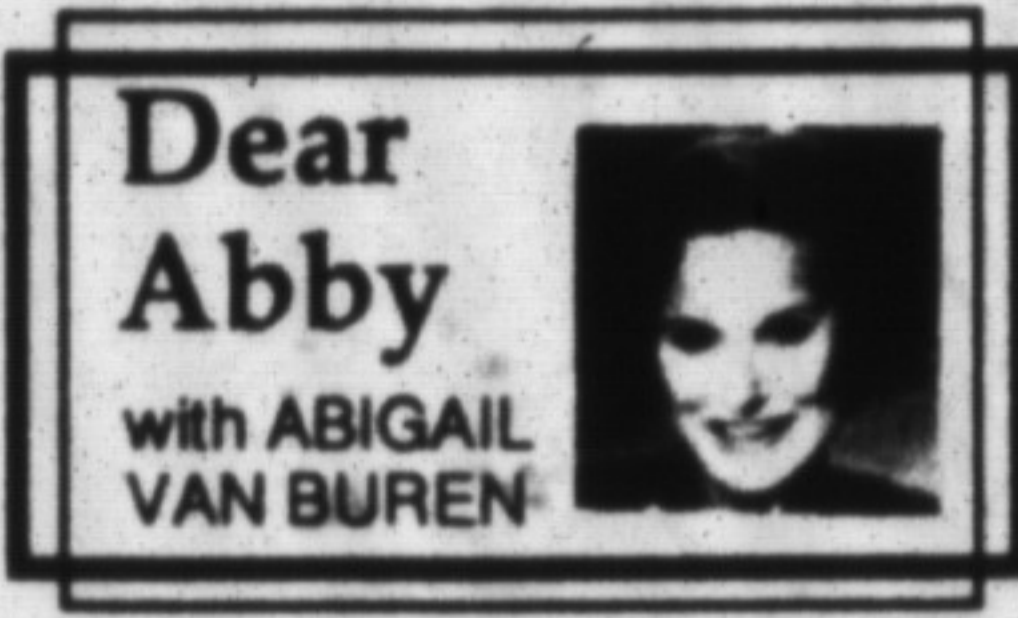
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## Any standard can lead to sexual disaster

**Dear Abby:** Back in the '50s when I was a teenager, I dated a 17-year-old boy who told me his parents thought it was okay for him to have sex, but they didn't want his twin sister to have sex until she was married. I am sorry to see that we are heading into the '90s with the same double standards that existed in the '50s.



**Cindy**  
Dear Cindy: To carry the old double standard of the '50s into the '90s would be a tragedy because today we must deal with a new sexually transmitted disease for which there is no cure.

The Centers for Disease Control has estimated that on college campuses, one in 300 students is infected with the AIDS virus.

Adolescents have always thought themselves to be invulnerable. Everyone, regardless of age, should know how to protect him or herself from the AIDS virus.

Parents who cling to the '50s philosophy that their adolescent daughters should just say no while encouraging their sons to do whatever comes naturally are foolish, unrealistic and gambling against enormous odds.

A surprising number of adults today deny that AIDS can happen to them. Otherwise sophisticated people insist that they can tell from a conversation what another's sexual history is — when sexual behaviour has, historically, been something about which most people are inclined to be dishonest.

Those who take responsibility for their own actions, and practise safe sex to protect themselves and their partners, will survive the '90s and multiply.

□ □ □

Dear Abby: My spouse and I are

separated and are in the process of discussing divorce. We have a difference of opinion about what happens to the wedding rings. Perhaps you can help us. (We had a double-ring ceremony.)

Although both of us have stopped wearing our wedding bands, one of us feels that each ring belongs to the person who has worn it over the years.

The other believes that because of the symbolism of the rings, when the marriage has ended, each ring should be returned to its giver.

**Puzzled**

Dear Puzzled: I vote with the party who believes that the wedding ring belongs to the person to whom it was given.

Whether it's worn or tossed into a jewelry box is the decision of the owner — not the giver.

□ □ □

Dear Abby: I never thought I'd see anything to beat the chutzpah of that couple who requested a gift of money in their wedding invitations, but here it is: The bride telephoned to say that she knew we'd be spending at least \$50 on a gift, and they found something they wanted on sale for \$50, so would we mind sending our cheque for \$50 immediately so they could buy it?

I later learned that she had phoned several other people with similar requests for sale items they had seen.



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