

Dear Abby
with ABIGAIL VAN BUREN



It's never too soon for family to meet bride's family

Editor's Note: Abby is on a two-week vacation. Following is a selection of some of her favourite past letters.

Dear Abby: Our only son, Sammy, is a wonderful young professional man who practises in another state.

He recently became engaged to a girl who lives where he practises. We have met her and think she's a nice young woman, but we're wondering what kind of family she comes from.

Sammy telephoned last week, saying he wanted to bring the girl and her mother here to meet us.

I discouraged him, saying it was too soon — that I preferred to wait until after summer to have them here.

Today he called again to say they are coming! I was shocked to think that this girl and her mother would set aside formalities and come without my personal invitation. (I'm sure they pressured Sammy into it.)

Of course I'll be hospitable, but what do you think of people who would come without a personal invitation from the hostess?

Wondering

Dear Wondering: After a couple has announced their engagement, it is never "too soon" for the families to meet. (In fact, it's customary to meet before.)

I suspect you aren't too keen on Sammy's girl; your preference to "wait" reveals your reluctance to accept her.

If you don't want to lose your "wonderful son," you'd better mellow fast, Mother, and forego the "formalities."

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Dear Abby: My boyfriend asked me if he could borrow my car, so I said okay. (His was in the shop.)

When he brought it back I noticed a cigarette butt with lipstick on it in the ashtray. I asked him how it got there, and he said he didn't know.

Do you believe it's possible that he doesn't know how it got there? Or do you think he's lying to me?

Your answer is very important to me, so please give it some thought.

Hurt

Dear Hurt: One swallow doesn't make a spring, and one cigarette butt shouldn't necessarily hang a man.

I would have to know more about your boyfriend and his record or reliability before expressing an opinion.

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Dear Abby: Our widowed daughter, approaching 50, recently remarried and moved halfway across the country. When we visited her recently, I noticed only two pair of pajamas in the laundry and none in their drawers.

Doesn't it strike you as odd, if not improper, for middle-aged people to wear night clothes only when they have guests?

Shocked

Dear Shocked: What people wear (or don't wear) to bed is between them.

The only impropriety I see here is your concern about something that shouldn't concern you.

Recycle . . .
It's good for you!



Halton's Dairy Princess Sandi Brander competes tomorrow (Thursday) in the provincial pageant at the CNE.

Dairy princess seeks Ontario title at CNE

Halton's 1989-90 Dairy Princess Sandi Brander will seek the provincial title at the CNE tomorrow.

Vying to become Ontario Dairy Princess, the 18-year-old will compete among 43 contestants from regions across Ontario.

The pageant, which includes interviews and speeches, will be held in the Fraser pavilion.

The first stage of the contest will include three nights of competing which starts tomorrow (Thursday) at 4:30 p.m. Overall,

10 dairy princesses will be chosen to go on to compete in the semi-finals Monday.

Five contestants will make it to the finals Tuesday. They will be judged on their knowledge of the dairy industry, personality and appearance.

The winner will receive a chance to work with the Ontario Milk Marketing Board.

Miss Brander is the daughter of Don and Gwen Brander of RR #1, Norval. Seeking a career in teaching, she plans to attend the University of Guelph this fall.

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