

CAROLE'S CORNER



Carole

My Grandson Has Nightmares

Dear Carole:
Two week ago I visited my son and his family in another state. To my surprise I learned that my son and daughter-in-law let my grandson, age 5, sleep in the bed with them. I was horrified. My son said the only time that he and his wife allow their son in their bed is whenever he has a nightmare. Well, while I was visiting, my grandson had nightmares at least once a night. I think he does that on purpose. What I can't understand is how my son and his wife can be blind enough to let this go on. When I tried to tell them that I didn't think it was a good idea for my grandson to sleep with them, they told me I was interfering. Tell me if parents should allow children to sleep in the bed with them.

O.E.

Dear O.E.:
It is not a good idea for children to sleep with their parents. During a time when a child needs extra attention, explore other ways of offering that attention. When a child has a nightmare encourage the child to talk about that dream experience. Offer the understanding and patience to hear what your child is saying. Go to the child with affection and reassure him that his room is a safe place, then leave (him in his own room). If nightmares continue—often without an apparent reason—professional help may be needed. Show this column to

your son and daughter-in-law and tell them you are trying to be helpful and caring, not interfering.

Carole

Dear Carole:
—My husband tells me that I belong home and nowhere else now that our baby has come. I'm not sure that I agree with him but right now there's nothing else I can do. Is a mother's place in the home?

Stuck and helpless

Dear "Stuck":
A mother's place is in the home only if she wants to be there. But a man's place is in the home, too, with her (and the baby). Your time at home with your child can be a time of enjoyment if you and your husband share the work and the play. If you are home and feel "stuck" there, tell your husband how you feel. Even though you are not working, it is important for you to have a few outside activities. Responsibilities of parenthood are great enough to be shared by both parents.

Carole

Editor's Note: Carole B. Ricks, A.C.S.W., is a marriage and family therapist with a private practice in Charlotte, N.C. If you have personal, parent-child, or marriage problems, write to:

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Provides Strong Competition

Peacock Lounge Has It All

By Loretta Manago
Entertainment Editor
If first impressions are lasting, then the newly opened Peacock Lounge should be strong competition for the other black nightclubs that cater to the party crowd.

The nightclub, which is located at 1527 West Blvd., may lack a prime spot, but it indeed makes up for that deficiency in atmosphere, comfort, and live entertainment.

Under the management of Wilburn Jones, Fred Foster and a third partner, Willie Tate, the Peacock Lounge is elegantly decorated. Upon entering the lounge the wall is part mirror and partly covered with a suede rose cloth backing. Once inside, the main room, the floor is carpeted with a plush gray and square pattern. Tables aren't bare, but have wine colored tablecloths on them and are complemented by the deep rose chairs that are constructed for both style and comfort. Throughout the room lightly glittered sculptures of peacocks accentuate the feeling that this is a nice place to be, that this is the kind of establishment that you would like to come back to again and again.

Had the managers stopped with just the decor the Peacock Lounge would have been a welcome change to some of the city's other clubs. But they didn't. They added an attraction that few black club owners have taken the initiative to do and that is to sponsor live entertainment.

For four nights a week (Thursdays through Sundays), the sound of Sweet Dreams, featuring local en-

tertainers Michael Porter, flutist, and Fred Mills, vocalist and keyboardist, is providing nightclub supporters with something different from the DJ spinning the discs and something more creative, too.

It was a Thursday night at the Peacock Lounge—Ladies' Night. But the lounge had more men in the audience than anything else. If women are still wondering where are all the men, then it might be wise to stop by the Peacock Lounge.

The crowd was rather small. But then it was only 9 p.m. and according to Sweet Dreams' member, Michael Porter, most of the crowd only come around 10:30 or 11 p.m.

Onstage was Fred Mills and bassist Pervis Lee. They were working out some technical problems that delayed the first set for a half hour. Around 9:30 the lights dimmed and the music began.

The quartet, which also included Allen Vann,

drummer, started off with an upbeat number, spotlighting the mastery of flutist Porter. From that the combo jumped to a tune that alternated from the somber to the racy tempo and played up Mills' proficient handling of the keyboards. It wasn't long before the jazz turned to blues and Sweet Dreams was playing one of those funky pieces that reminded you of the day that some blues singers used to sing about when the creditors foreclosed on your mortgage and your baby left you in your car.

On this particular Thursday night, the blues was making its premiere. Just for the ladies only and for the others who cared to venture in, the treat was theirs. From "Sunny" to "Autumn Leaves" the combo cruised, in what seemed to be an effortless manner, from one tune to another.

There was more to this talented quartet that had been seen previously.



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