



Dear Abby

BY ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

DEAR ABBY: My wife took a secretarial job with an insurance company just to keep herself busy as the kids are grown and gone. Suddenly she announces that she and a man she works with are going on a weight losing contest. The one who loses the most weight in 30 days has to treat the other one to a steak dinner in the best restaurant in town. (Just the two of them.) I trust my wife, but I don't like the idea of her going out to dinner with another man. He's mar-

Abby Says May The Biggest Loser Be Winner In This Contest

ried, altho there are times when I'm not so sure. My husband has not come near me in I don't know how long. When I go near him for a little affection, he says, "Don't bother me. I'm tired. Or, "I'm sleepy." Or, "It's too late." I am not a slob, Abby. I am neat and clean and have kept my figure. I am 32 and he is 34 but we both may as well be 90.

If I weren't able to support myself, the Salvation Army could keep me from starving. And I could look at television till my eyeballs fell out, but is that all there is to life? In other words, is it possible to live without love? NO LOVE

DEAR NO: Yes, it's possible to live without "love"—and a

lot of other things, if one must. But something is wrong with your picture. A normal, healthy 34 - year - old man doesn't behave this way.

Get your man to a doctor for an examination from the neck both ways.

DEAR ABBY: Not only does my salesman husband fly to exotic places for conventions, he is also expected (when in town) to wine and dine prospects nearly every evening until the wee hours.

Weekends are a nightmare. He's exhausted and sleeps every Saturday morning, plus all afternoon on Sunday. Meanwhile I'm supposed to keep our hyperactive youngsters quiet and out of

sight. Sex has long been forgotten. He hasn't time for me.

I'll stay until the youngsters are old enough, so I can get out with a clear conscience, and leave him alone to the "death of a salesman."

Sincerely, WAITING

DEAR WAITING: Have you tried to make your husband aware of what is happening to your marriage? If not, you must accept part of the blame for its failure.

DEAR ABBY: I am a happily married woman with no really big problems, but something has come up and I'd like your advice.

I have always wanted to have my ears pierced, but I asked my husband and he doesn't want me to do it. He says he just doesn't like pierced ears.

I suppose if I went ahead and got my ears pierced anyway, he'd get used to it (besides, there would be nothing he could do about it), but I hate to do something that might make him angry.

How do you feel about this personally, Abby? MRS. B.

DEAR MRS. B.: Personally, I feel if there's anything I don't need, it's two more holes in my head. If I were you, I'd remain intact.

DEAR ABBY: A very good friend of mine has asked me if she could ask my boyfriend to escort her to a debutante ball. She is being "presented." She cannot take her own boyfriend as he has long hair, and that is not permitted.

I am sure she has no personal interest in my boyfriend. In fact she has never met him, but she has heard much about him and knows that he is presentable. What is your advice?

QUESTION MARK

DEAR QUESTION MARK: Since when is a boyfriend "transferable"—like a ticket to a matinee? Assuming you say, "Go ahead, ask him," what makes her (or you) so sure he'd accept? After all, they don't know each other. It seems to me that a girl who is about to be "presented" should know at least one young man whose hair is the right length to es-

ried, too, but I understand his wife is all for it as she'll do anything to get him to lose weight.

Should I go along with this "contest" or not?

JEALOUS

DEAR JEALOUS: It sounds like a fun kind of contest with a healthy objective. Give them your blessings and may the biggest loser win.

DEAR ABBY: I have a marriage license signed by two witnesses, so I must be mar-

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