

LIFESTYLES

The Biggest
Little
Brewery



Wife worried husband isn't attractive enough

Dear Ann Landers: I have been married for 11 years to a terrific guy. "Chad" is a devoted husband and wonderful father. He is also a hard worker and a kind, loving person. One thing about him disturbs me, though — he is not very good-looking.

I realize this makes me seem shallow, but I can't help it. Chad has a nice build, but his face isn't attractive. He is not ugly, by any means, but he is not handsome, or even cute — just average-looking. When I first started dating him, I loved his personality, and thought he would become more appealing to me, but it hasn't happened. In fact, his looks have started to bother me a lot. I analyze his face all the time to see if there is some particular feature I dislike, but I can't find one.

Why am I so obsessed with his looks, Ann? I want to stop feeling this way and accept him as he is, because he deserves to be cherished. Please help me.

— **Council Bluffs, Iowa**

Dear Council Bluffs: After 11 years of marriage, you are suddenly bothered by the fact that your husband isn't very good-looking? Something else about him is bothering you, and I suggest you see a psychologist and get to the real problem. It's not his looks, Dear.

Dear Ann Landers: Four years ago, my son's wife gave birth to a beautiful baby boy. The couple later divorced, but we remained close to the child. A few months ago, my son asked for a DNA test on his son. He obviously



ADVICE ON LIFE

by Ann Landers

suspected the boy was not his, and the results indicated that he was right.

This lovely child is not our grandson after all. We would like to know how to handle this without hurting the boy. My ex-daughter-in-law would like us out of her life, since we are no longer related to the child. He still calls us "Poppa and Nana," and thinks my son is his father. We would like to detach from him with the least amount of emotional pain for everyone concerned. Please tell us what to do. — **Heartbroken in Ontario, Canada**

Dear Heartbroken: Since you have been in the child's life for four years and, I am sure, provided him with love and affection, it is going to be hard on the boy as well as on you if you should suddenly disappear.

I suggest that you get some professional counseling to find out how to make the separation with as little trauma as possible if it becomes necessary.

Now is a time for your former daughter-in-law to prove whether or not she is a classy lady, willing to put her son's welfare ahead of her desire to be punitive. I hope she comes through for you and her son.

Dear Ann Landers: I am a 26-year-old, college-educated male. I have never seen a letter in your column with my complaint, and wonder why.

Here is my problem: I recently started to take swimming lessons. I undress in the locker room, but always disrobe in a curtained booth. I see males who choose to walk around nude, and it bothers me. They get undressed in the aisles, even though there are curtained booths available.

I keep my swim trunks on before and after class, but I seem to be the only one who does this. I refuse to use the showers or the sauna if it means being naked with a group of men. Is there something wrong with me, or are these males exhibitionists? Please enlighten me. — **Anti-Buffer in Buffalo, N.Y.**

Dear Anti-Buffer: I would not go so far as to say there is something "wrong" with you, but most males would not be uncomfortable under the circumstances you describe. You were probably raised in a family where nudity was frowned upon, but your problem is nothing to be overly concerned about.

Plan ahead to prevent death being a real pain

TORONTO (CP) — The will's in order. But that's only part of the process of making sure those close to you get everything you want them to have.

If thorough records of assets don't exist, their disbursement according to a will can turn into a waste of money and time.

"People die without getting everything organized and it's a real burden on everybody involved," says Brendan Caldwell, president and CEO of Caldwell Securities Ltd., an investment management firm. "You can take years trying to get everything sorted through, on top of all the emotional pain."

Caldwell says one of his clients is still fighting with his brother's family over their father's estate 10 years after his death.

Many times families and individuals hire lawyers to track down all the assets they're entitled to. This can take countless hours of legal time costing upwards of \$200 an hour.

Other times, cash, property, insurance money, stock dividends and securities go unclaimed.

In the case of bank accounts, for instance, at the end of 1998 there were 770,000 unclaimed accounts worth \$132 million, according to the Internet Web site Missing Assets and Unclaimed Property in Canada (www.unclaimedassets.com). Accounts that have gone 10 years without a transaction are transferred to the Bank of Canada.

Caldwell encourages his clients to keep track of their assets and debts so there's a reduced risk of any complications after death. They can do this on their own or with the help of different resources.

There are special securities binders which firms like Caldwell's give to clients. Another resource is a special document-recording book published by Walter and Esther Dueck, retired teachers in St. Catharines, Ont.

The Duecks first drafted the book 10 years ago to chronicle their personal information, assets and debts before travelling to Lithuania for one year to help set up an educational institute.

With the help of financial advisers and lawyers, the Duecks completed Family Documents: What They Are, Where They Are (Waterside House Publishing), which is sold at more than 200 bookstores in Canada and the U.S.

"My daughter is our executor, and she knows



CP photo

Walter, left, and Esther Dueck publishers of a book called Family Documents: What They Are, Where They Are. It is sold at more than 200 book stores in Canada and the U.S.

where every bank account, our marriage certificates, deeds to our property, insurance, RRSPs and record of our investments are," says Dueck, 66. "And she also has records of our bank account, and everything from our Internet provider to our paper boy so she can settle up with them. These things have ways of slipping through."

For instance, Dueck says that while visiting an insurance company, he was told of a woman who found out that a year after her husband had died, his insurer was still taking premiums from his bank account. The woman hadn't cashed in the policy because she didn't have all the information she needed.

Dueck's 52-page book (about \$10 in softcover and about \$25 in hardcover) has blank spaces in each section to fill out different types of information.

For more information about the Duecks' book, call 800-665-6420 or 905-935-5047 or e-mail [edueck\(at\)becom.org](mailto:edueck(at)becom.org).

Ibuprofen cure for preemie problem

by Associated Press

Ibuprofen works just as well as a drug used to cure a blood-vessel problem common in premature babies and is less likely to cause a dangerous side effect, researchers reported.

The study was released by the New England Journal of Medicine two months before its Sept. 7 publication because of its potential value for treatment.

The study, by doctors at five Belgian intensive care units for newborns, compared ibuprofen to a drug called indomethacin for closing the short duct that lets blood bypass the lungs before birth.

Because fetuses do not breathe, blood does not need to flow through the artery, which pumps blood into the lungs to pick up oxygen.

Instead, just outside the heart, it is shunted from that artery through a very short link to the aorta, the big artery that carries oxygen-laden blood to the body.

Normally, this closes within a day or two after birth. However, it often stays open in premature babies. Blood which should go to the body returns to the underdeveloped lungs, which can be overloaded along with the heart.

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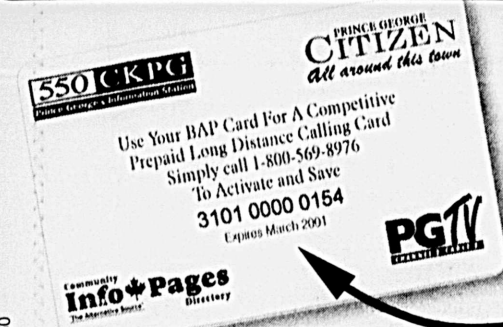
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