

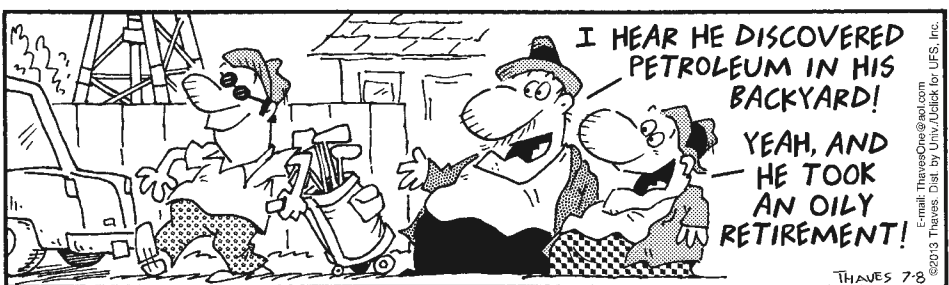
FAMILY CIRCUS | BIL KEANE



ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



DICK TRACY | JOE STATON AND MIKE CURTIS



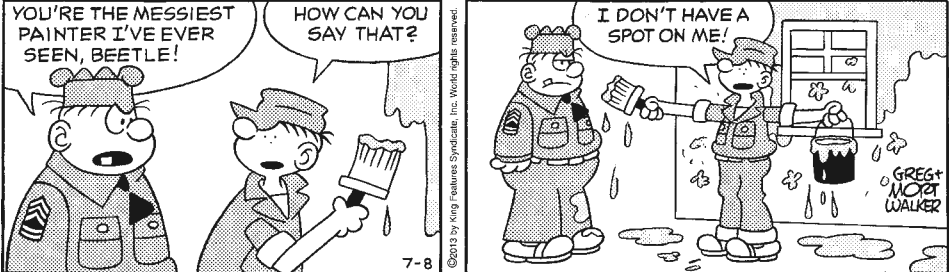
BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



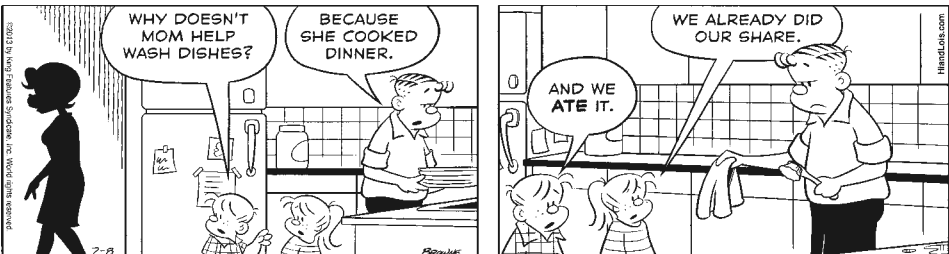
GARFIELD | JIM DAVIS



BEETLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



THE BORN LOSER | ART SANSON



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS



# Husband, Wife Don't Agree On What Cheating Means

DEAR ABBY: At what point is a relationship with a member of the opposite sex considered "cheating"? I have recently discovered that my husband was having a more-than-friendly relationship with a co-worker. He set up a post office box for her so she could write to him while she was away for an extended period.

I found her letters and read them. They described how she missed my husband and "couldn't wait to feel" his arms around her and his lips on hers again. She said he had shown her what real true love can be. She is 12 years younger than he is.

My husband says they never had sex, but did kiss on several occasions, and he enjoyed their deep, open conversations. Because my husband is not a big conversationalist, that has been very hard for me. The idea that he had meaningful conversations with this woman hurts me more than the physical things they admit to.

He says it's not actually cheating if they never slept together. I say, with everything he has admitted to and the fact he has opened up to her in ways I have begged him to with me, he has DEFINITELY cheated!

This is the second time in our 16-year marriage this kind of thing has happened. Obviously, his definition of cheating is not the same as mine. I say an emotional affair is almost worse than a physical one. He sees cheating as sex only. — HURT AND LONELY IN NEW ENGLAND

DEAR HURT AND LONELY: When someone gets a post office box so that he or she can carry on a furtive romantic correspondence, it is cheating. When he kisses and embraces someone in a romantic fashion, that's cheating too. When he confides his deepest feelings to a woman other than his wife, what he does is widen the gulf between them.

On the deepest levels, your husband has been unfaithful to you. It appears he has perfected the "art" of lying to himself in order to

justify his behavior. My heart goes out to you.

DEAR ABBY: I was seeing a therapist for several years. I began going because of abandonment and trust issues. Over time we became friends outside of therapy, talking to each other several times a week. I trusted her completely. During our therapy sessions she shared her life and problems with me to the point that I feel I know as much about her as she knows about me.

A couple of months ago, she suddenly decided that ethics had been breached and she was setting new boundaries. She said there would be no contact outside our sessions, but during the sessions she would say how much she missed me and thought of me as a daughter, and she would cry.

Now she has decided that she can no longer be my therapist. She has blocked my number and expects me to respect her demands. I know you can't speak for her, but is this normal behavior for a mental health therapist? I no longer trust therapists. — CONFUSED IN TEXAS

DEAR CONFUSED: No, it is not normal behavior; it is highly inappropriate. Your therapist appears to have had as many or more unresolved emotional issues than you did. By ending your sessions together, she has done you an enormous favor.

While you may not trust "therapists," it may require the efforts of another one to help you work through this. When you go for your initial interview, be sure to tell the therapist what was done to you.

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable — and most frequently requested — poems and essays, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby — Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

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## JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS

EDITOR'S NOTE: Bigar's Stars is based on the degree of your sun at birth. The sign name is simply a label astrologers put on a set of degrees for convenience. For best results, readers should refer to the dates following each sign.

A baby born today has a Sun and Moon in Cancer.

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR MONDAY, JULY 8, 2013:

This year your determination couples with luck, which takes you to a high point that you will remember for years to come. You also will be unusually creative and dynamic. If you are single, you attract quite a few potential suitors. One of them could be significant to your life history. If you are attached, avoid being too me-oriented. Remember that a partnership is a duo. If you stay aware of your sweetie, this year could be significant for both of you. CANCER can close down.

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

### ARIES (MARCH 21-APRIL 19)

★★★ You'll be unusually feisty or touchy. Someone comes out of the doldrums and expresses his or her interest in a key project. Greet the change positively, and let this person take the lead -- you might be amazed at how helpful this adjustment could be. Tonight: Homeward bound.

### TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

★★★★ Keep reaching out to someone. Answers might be hard to get if you don't have a chat with this person. You could be wondering about a forthcoming choice, as you do not have a sense of what you are facing. A loved one becomes far more easygoing. Tonight: Out and about.

### GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

★★★★ Your finances could be changing considerably, and for the better, especially if you nix any wild risk-taking. You have been rather down in the dumps lately, and you will be wondering why. Your mood could change before you find the answer. Go with the flow. Tonight: Pay bills.

### CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

★★★★ Your creativity emerges, and in some way, it will cause you to approach an issue in a more positive way. A new friend who has been giving you the cold shoulder for the past few weeks finally might lighten up. What has been difficult becomes easy. Tonight: Be spontaneous!

### LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

★★★ Know when saying little is the best course of action. Sometimes you push very hard to get your way. Lighten up, and do what you want. At other times, you hold yourself back. Stop interfering with your success. Enjoy the laughter around you. Tonight: Get a good night's sleep.

### VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

★★★★ Zero in on what you want. A situation or relationship might be shaky. You know when you need to head in a new direction. You could be surprised by the other party's agreement. Finally, you'll be able to see eye to eye with this person! Tonight: Where your friends are.

### LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

★★★ Dealing with a boss will give you new insights, regardless of whether or not that was your goal or intention. You have felt stressed out when interacting with this person in the past, mainly because you couldn't ask for what you wanted. Be open to change. Tonight: Do what you want.

### SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

★★★★ Detach in order to see the big picture. Be willing to let go of a need to have certain matters go a particular way. Once you lose this attachment for situations to conform to your goals, you will be able to see where others are coming from. Tonight: Hop on the Internet.

### SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

★★★★ You will feel less of a need to hold back, once a partner decides to reveal more of what is going on with him or her. This person might realize that there is no reason to sit on his or her feelings. Both of you will gain a new insight as a result. Tonight: Discussion over dinner.

### CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

★★★★ What seemed impossible now seems very possible. Doors will open up because of a partner's willingness to walk through them. You might not know what direction to head. Open up to a positive change, and you'll see the path to a particular goal. Tonight: Where the action is.

### AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

★★★ You finally make a decision, but the question remains: Will it hold? Whether you opt for a more organized approach to work or a new exercise program, it is likely that it will require some self-discipline. You have the energy to get through a big project. Tonight: Put your feet up.

### PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

★★★★ A key relationship, perhaps one with a child or new friend, will lighten up. You might be wondering what sparked this change. Attempt to move through a problem, but only when the other party seems more willing. Know when to say "no." Tonight: Be more childlike.

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BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON

