



Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren

8/1/69

DEAR ABBY: I usually go along with your advice, but you and I part company when it comes to one subject:

When a woman writes that her friend's husband is cheating on his wife, and asks if she should tip off the wife, you always say, "KEEP QUIET!"

I think you're wrong. I knew of three cases where the husbands were cheating on their wives, and I tipped off the wives, and every one of them THANKED me for telling her.

If MY husband ever cheats on me, I would certainly want my friends to tip ME off.

Sincerely,
FORT DODGE

DEAR FORT: Don't worry. They will.

DEAR ABBY: I am a middle-aged, happily married husband, and the father of three wonderful daughters, 18, 17, and 14.

I have had to travel much of the time, but when I'm home we share rather close quarters, and our daughters have grown up with very little "modesty"—even in front of their father.

For the last year I have found myself becoming embarrassingly stimulated by seeing my daughters in various stages of undress, and lounging around in their shorty-see-thru nighties.

With revealing my problem to my wife, I suggested that she impress upon the girls the need for modesty, even around their father. She, too scoffed until I cut out your column dealing with this subject, and placed it on her breakfast plate. Without a spoken word, all is now well.

Abby, I never would have touched my daughters, but the sight of a beautiful, nude female can excite any normal male, and he need not be "perverted" or a dirty old man to be aroused by his own daughter.

EMBARRASSED
BUT HONEST

DEAR EMBARRASSED: I may interest you to know that I received many letters saying exactly what you have said. (And a few calling me a "dirty old lady" for having published the first one.)

DEAR ABBY: Interesting that a recent correspondent's brother with "girlish ways" was not permitted to express them, and then became an alcoholic.

We allowed my younger brother to "express himself" in what we thought were harmless ways at Halloween, masquerades, and school plays. He is now 22, and the best dressed girl on the block! (At least in private and on his solitary walks in the evening.)

It is incredible! He doesn't just roll up his trouser legs and use a little lipstick. He goes in for girdles, bras, heels, wigs and every type of make-up conceivable. It's gotten so that now I borrow things from HIM.

All we can do now is to protect him from detection and social embarrassment. It's all very puzzling, but we live with it and try to understand and be sympathetic to our "Barbara."

"HER" OLDER SISTER

CONFIDENTIAL TO "ALL KEYED UP:" I still don't believe that the "key game" is as popular among sophisticated suburbanites as you say it is. There is more talk about "wife swapping" than there is actual "swapping."

Everybody has a problem. What's yours? For a personal reply write to Abby, Box 69700, Los Angeles, Calif. 90069, and enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

Vienna is offering 125 concerts this summer, of which 73 are free.