



ASK DEANNA!
*Real People,
Real Advice*

Ask Deanna! Is an advice column known for its fearless approach to reality based subjects!

Dear Deanna!

I just finished high school and I don't want to go to college. I worked as a stripper my entire senior year and now I want to do it full-time because I can make more money. My mother's having a fit and my dad is going off on me. Why can't they understand I can make more money now than with a college degree?

Anonymous
Los Angeles, CA

Dear Anonymous:

Sounds like you bumped your head on the stripper pole. Your parents are right in their feelings because they probably sacrificed and went without things to save for your education. You are very childish in your thinking. What happens in two years when you're 20 years old looking 40, run down, and tired? Right now you make a dollar per song and if you think you'll make less with a degree, I suggest you wake up and come back to the real world—fast.

Dear Deanna!

My wife cheated and destroyed our family 6 years ago. I paid child support but she was vindictive and kept my kids from me. Now my daughter's pregnant and ran to me because her mother kicked her out of the house. I took her in but she disrespects me, and throws up the past and I want this to stop.

James Todd
Milwaukee, WI

Dear James:

If your daughter lives under your roof, she has to abide by your rules. Put your foot down and let her know what the deal is and start the process of explaining and healing from the past. It's not too late to share good values with your daughter that your silly ex-wife never had to begin with. Stay firm and do what you need in order to ensure your daughter's a better mother than your ex-wife was.

Dear Deanna!

I'm in prison and I read your column every week. I've looked at people's lives and situations and realize my life wasn't that bad and I messed it up with stupidity and crime. I'm also glad to see you don't judge the inmates and criminals that are locked up and help us as well. When I get out, I'm staying out of trouble.

Chris
Raleigh, NC Prison

Dear Chris:

A mind is a terrible thing to waste if idle and it's good to see you're reading while in prison. Continue to receive wisdom from all venues that will make your life better when you're released. Stay positive and encouraged and you'll be able to stay on the right path when you get back into society. Besides, criminals and inmates are still people and need love and support too.

Ask Deanna is written by Deanna M. Write Ask Deanna! Email: askdeanna1@yahoo.com or 264 S. LaCienega Blvd. Suite 1283 Beverly Hills, CA 90211 Website: www.askdeanna.com

PBS station dumps popular host

By Bankole Thompson
Special to Sentinel-Voice

DETROIT (NNPA) - Detroit Public Television (WTVS channel 56) a part of Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) has fired Darrell Dawsey, host of the "American Black Journal," the station's only program that deals specifically with African-American political and social issues in Detroit.

The program, now in its 35th year, had been through several hosts in recent years until Dawsey, a native Detroit and prolific writer, took over and the ratings for the show went up.

The show, which airs on Thursdays and Sundays, captivated the interests of many Detroiters who liked the progressive leaning of the host.

"We disagreed on how we should do the program, and so we'll be going with other hosts in the future," said Jeff Forester, the station's vice president for production.

"There will probably be a guest host until we have a permanent host in the future. I don't care to go any deeper." But Dawsey said the station's management did not like his progressive-leaning views and saw an opportunity to let him go after he had a rapid-fire interview with the pastor of Word of Faith International Christian Center, Keith Butler.

Dawsey said the station's management insisted he do an interview with Butler, even after the pastor repeatedly refused an invitation from the show's producer, Tony Motley.

"It was clear he [Butler] didn't want to be there," Dawsey said.

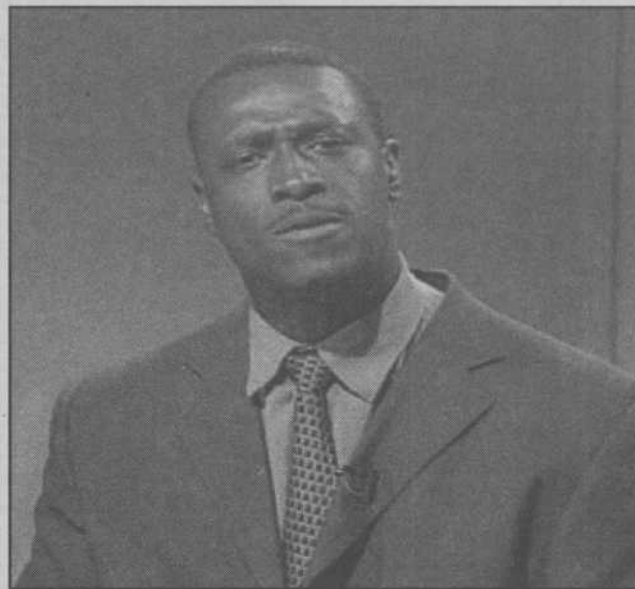
But Butler finally agreed to the interview, which centered on his anti-gay marriage platform and his preaching of prosperity messages — i.e., that faith (and giving money to the church) could translate into a Mercedes Benz or a luxury house in suburban and affluent Grosse Pointe Woods.

A strong supporter of President George W. Bush, Butler is a leading Black conservative minister.

During the interview, Dawsey questioned why Butler has not stood up against Bush's cuts to programs important to Blacks instead of focusing on polarizing issues like gay marriage.

Butler got upset and said he would not answer any more questions.

Dawsey ended the show



Darrell Dawsey hosted Detroit's "American Black Journal."

by saying that maybe there is no difference between Butler and the Rev. Frederick Ike, a renowned television minister who anchors his preaching on money.

"He bristled, looked like he wanted to come after me — hurled a very un-Christian insult at me and threw off his mike," Dawsey said.

"In an effort to avoid telling him what I really think of him and his politics and his cult ministry, I walked off the set and went to my other job." The tape was never

aired and was then erased at Butler's request.

When contacted on his cell phone, Butler said, "I've got nothing to say. Have a nice evening. See you later."

"The Butler interview was a convenient excuse to dump me," Dawsey said.

"After all, Butler never asked to be on. Tony and I didn't want him on. I repeatedly told them I didn't want to talk to him." Dawsey said he felt Butler had nothing to say that would be important to the city's Black popula-

tion.

"A week later," he said, "after hearing nothing about this from management, the little man [Forester] called me and told me he felt compelled to 'sever our relationship.' It was such a weak move," Dawsey said.

"He didn't like the unapologetically pro-Black tone of the show. I'd also asked for more money; he'd lied and said I'd get it. I think this was also an attempt to not have to pay me more." But Dawsey admits he took a particularly tough stance with Butler.

"I admit that my line of questioning was tough, even hostile. I wasn't very polite to this man who I consider a functionary of White supremacy. All I kept thinking was, 'What am I doing here? I'm being used. The show's being used. This is wrong.' So I grilled him." Forester denied talks about salary increase had anything to do with the matter.

"That had nothing to do with it," Forester said. "We just disagreed on programming." Forester also denied (See Dawsey, Page 9)

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