



ASK DEANNA!
*Real People,
Real Advice*

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

Dear Deanna!

My fiancé cheated before we were married and I recently learned that he's still seeing the woman he cheated with. I want to get out of the relationship but feel we should go to counseling. I find it hard to forgive him because I'm scared he'll do it again. What should I do about this?

Anisha
Washington, DC

Dear Anisha:

You had your warning signs before you got married and you knew what you were getting yourself into. Most women that are in tune with their relationship know when their mate is cheating. You should seek professional counseling not only for your marriage but yourself as well. If it doesn't work you'll be able to breathe instead of sharing your spouse or walking around being scared and worrying about a man.

Dear Deanna!

I am appalled at the response you gave DeLeisa in Bronx, N.Y., in regards to her hitting her child. There is a way that children can be disciplined without physical force. In essence, you are supporting child abuse and I feel you could have suggested a method of discipline that focused strictly on talking.

Ms. Tate
Dallas, TX

Dear Ms. Tate:

I hear you talking but like a lot of uptight parents, you need to remove the corn cob from you know where. You know good and well that you were probably touched with a switch, belt, or extension cord as your parents kept you in check. Today's baby boomers are taking over because they lack physical discipline. You're not the sharpest knife in the drawer but there is a big difference between discipline and child abuse.

Dear Deanna!

My boyfriend revealed to me that he's gay. On the outside everything about him is masculine, strong and reflects a genuine man. We do things together as a couple, have great intimacy and often talked about having children. How in the world did I miss the signs, and should I stay in this relationship?

Anonymous
Augusta, GA

Dear Anonymous:

In these days, you can't judge a book, man or woman by its cover. There's too many emotional and health risks if you choose to stay in this relationship. You didn't miss the signs because you simply didn't know to look for any. However, you should applaud his honesty because most down-low men are liars and don't tell the women about their lifestyle. Count your loss, be thankful for the blessed revelation and keep it moving.

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

Dee adjusts to life on own

By Genoa Barrow
Special to Sentinel-Voice
SACRAMENTO (NNPA) - The name Ruby Dee is forever linked with cinematic classics, such as "A Raisin in the Sun," "Purlie Victorious," "Do the Right Thing" and even Shakespeare's "King Lear."

But for 56 years she starred in the ultimate love story with her co-star, her husband Ossie Davis. While discussion of Davis' February death does weigh on her proud shoulders, she isn't shying away from talking about him and the time they shared — and their activist lives — together.

Dee, who will turn 81 on October 27, was in Sacramento recently to perform "My One Last Nerve," a one-woman show based on her short stories and poems, and to discuss the breadth of her career. She appeared before a near-sellout crowd at the



RUBY DEE

Sacramento Theatre Company.

In an interview, she discussed her beloved Ossie.

"He always said we have to say that change is in the hands of everyone and not sit back as if the world has to prove something to us. That was something that was very close to both of us," she shared. "I was born into the struggle. My first conscious recollection of [what cartoons were], were cartoons of people hung in the

Amsterdam News. I would hear my mother and father and their neighbors talking."

Dee recalls seeing picket lines where people were demanding to be treated like humans and holding her mother's hand while listening to street corner speeches about equal rights. Her mother rented rooms to celebrities like Duke Ellington, Lena Horne and Sammy Davis Jr. whose skin color barred them from White-owned hotels. On the way to school she passed the likes of Louis Armstrong getting his shoes shined by neighborhood youth.

"Harlem was everything," she shared. "I didn't have to come from somewhere else to learn about it. I was born right in the hub of it. I grew up in the hub of it. Not only in the struggle, but also the marvelous camaraderie that sometimes suffering gives us; it gives up a deep emo-

tional connection to each other."

The actress made one of her most lasting connections when she married Ossie Davis in 1948. Their relationship and their love became the example of what was possible.

"I hear that sometimes ...from people who weren't even born yet when we married, it's very gratifying," she shared.

The duo had three children together and starred in countless stage and film productions including "Jeb," "No Way Out" and Spike Lee's controversial films "Do The Right Thing" and "Jungle Fever."

They also became familiar faces on the world stage as civil rights issues exploded, or imploded, here in America. They supported organizations, like the NAACP, the Southern Christian Lead-

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Artifacts

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passed for failure to pay rent, he said, and he engaged in a dispute over whether he had paid on time.

"The bank's records showed that they already had deposited my rent check even though they were claiming that I was late," said Alozie.

His store generated more than \$500,000 in sales in 2000, including \$100,000 in December, he said. He made \$41,000 in January 2001, but monthly sales never hit that mark again, he said. He attributed the downturn to being closed for five months in 2001.

When the *Arizona Informant* first covered the story in 2002, mall management and the Mills Corp. refused to comment on the case or mall policy.

Now, they claim to have a zero-tolerance policy for discrimination of any kind, and adhere to state and federal guidelines.

However, the mall, which has about 175 stores, has not had any other Black-owned stores and lists very few diverse store offerings.

Megwa says the number of minority owners is likely very low. "We're hoping this (case) will be a clear message to them that they can't do business as usual," Megwa said.

Ron Busby, chairman of the Greater Phoenix Black Chamber of Commerce, said the court win is a victory for Black-owned businesses that

have long complained that landlords change leases or opt not to renew when the business attracts a "certain crowd."

He said the case has set an important precedent.

Alozie plans to open another shop, although he does not know where or when.

"It may not be Africana, let it be another Black-owned business."

Arne Williams writes for the *Arizona Informant*.

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