



ASK DEANNA!
*Real People,
Real Advice*

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

Dear Deanna!

My high school sweetheart who is a senior in college dumped me. He told me that he's grown up now and ready to start a career and doesn't want a relationship to hold him back. I was crushed because I didn't see this coming. I supported him by working two jobs and many late nights helping him study. He lied to me, and I thought he was going to marry me and support me as I got my degree. How do I tell my parents I messed up their money?

Foolish in College
Online Reader

Dear Foolish:

Your selfish boyfriend used you like toilet paper and reaped all the benefits. There is no way you could've been very close to this man without an idea he was growing apart from you. Unfortunately, that's the way the college love story goes and you could've prevented some of this by putting yourself first. You must tell your parents immediately because they'll be more upset and embarrassed if you wait and tell them when graduation arrives without you.

Dear Deanna!

I had a party and invited a few co-workers. Our boss surprised us by bringing a woman that wasn't his wife. He was the highlight of the party and didn't care that we knew he was having an affair. I felt the secret would be safe, but the bomb dropped when his wife called and asked about his date. I feel betrayed that someone from the office discussed what goes on in my house. This is an uncomfortable situation, and I don't know what to do when I go to the office.

Anita
Tacoma, WA

Dear Anita:

You should keep your work life separate from your personal life. Your boss only needs you to make money for the company and he isn't interested in being a moral compass for you, his wife or anyone else. Your co-workers are people you see during office hours and as humans, they won't resist an opportunity for gossip and drama. You can't do anything but tell the boss his wife called, do your job and remove the office staff from your next party invitation.

Dear Deanna!

My marriage is in shambles because my husband is a slob. I'm stressed because I find myself cleaning the house 3 or 4 times a day and I never know what I'll get when I walk in the door. We argue about this on a regular basis because he refuses to change. Once, I didn't clean and his dirty underwear stayed in the same spot for a week. His hygiene is bad, as well, and we're not intimate. How can I get him to choose his marriage before it's too late and I leave him?

Joyce
Dallas, TX

Dear Joyce:

It's amazing you were so in love with Pig Pen that you didn't smell or see any of this coming. You need to realize he has always been a slob, this is who you married and he's comfortable. The next time you clean, toss everything in the garbage including clothes, personal items and dishes and let him know that you're tired and have a new cleaning method. Make it clear that from this point forward everything out of place has a new place called the garbage and keep it moving.

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Media consolidation ban targeted

By Stephanie Gadline
Special to Sentinel-Voice
CHICAGO (NNPA) -

Despite the impassioned and at times virulent testimony of hundreds of media activists, civil rights leaders and public policy experts here, it appears that Kevin Martin, Commissioner of the Federal Communications Commission, remains poised to lift the 30-year cross-ownership ban, which would allow a new flood of media consolidation to sweep the nation.

About 1,000 people crowded the Rainbow/PUSH Coalition's headquarters on September 20 for the fifth FCC public hearing before all five commissioners.

"I encourage the FCC to re-examine media rules which have created an environment of unchecked disregard for its minority listenership and viewership," said Dorothy R. Leavell, publisher of the Crusader Newspaper Group and chairwoman of the National Newspaper Publishers Association Foundation.

"The FCC's deregulations have produced zero benefit for the African-American community as a whole. It has impaired our broadcast media — forcing many Black broadcasters into smaller, less profitable markets, or pushing them off the air altogether."

Invited by Commissioner Jonathan Aldestein, Leavell joined a panel, which included representatives from the corporate media, the Illinois Broadcasters Association, WVON and the National Black Media Coalition. Hip-hop recording artist, KRS-One, in town to promote an album, invited himself on the panel and gave a stirring testimony to the applause of many in the audience.

"I represent independent artist who can't get their records played on this homogenized, corporate-controlled radio," he said.

"Its time we began to shut these stations down. If they won't play positive music, if they won't support artists who are trying to uplift the community, then we need to turn them off and shut them down for good."

Activists and consumers in the nation's third largest media market hoped the hearings would encourage the FCC to foster media diversity, increase localism, eliminate further media consolidation and advance mi-



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— Dorothy R. Leavell
NNPA Foundation Chair

nority ownership.

However, hours before the public hearing, Martin reportedly told a group of *Chicago Tribune* investors, "There have been many positive aspects of that cross-ownership, as demonstrated by the ability to try to have other outlets for the news, which has been very important in trying to sustain the investment in news-gathering that's occurred."

The rule change would allow media giants such as the Tribune Company, to own the main daily newspaper, eight radio stations, three television stations and the major local cable provider in the same town.

There are five radio stations targeting African-

American consumers in Chicago and four are owned by Clear Channel, the other is Black-owned WVON, which last year entered into a four-year local marketing agreement with Clear Channel.

Since the 1996 Telecommunications Act and the controversial moves by former FCC Commissioner Michael Powell, minority broadcast ownership in this country has plummeted to just 7.7 percent of all full-power commercial broadcast radio stations and just 3.26 percent of all TV stations.

According to the Benton Foundation, among the nation's 22 largest radio markets, Chicago has the lowest level of minority ownership. Among the 10 largest radio

markets, Chicago is the only market with single digit levels of minority ownership.

Women own just six percent of Chicago's full-power commercial radio and television stations, despite comprising over half the population. Outside of New York, Chicago has the second largest African American population in the country.

"I believe the FCC media-ownership rules remain necessary and are critical to the public interest," said Illinois Sen. Barack Obama.

"We should be doing more to encourage diversity in ownership in broadcast media, promote the development of new media outlets and the expression of diverse viewpoints," as well as provide "greater clarity" of broadcasters' public-interest obligations.

Chairman Martin's earlier remarks drew the ire of local activists who called the Chicago hearing nothing but a "dog and pony show" designed to appease the courts.

"The FCC has already made up its mind and once again Black folk and the public will find themselves on (See Media, Page 7)



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