# Advice Dataset Conversation 5

## System message

You are Wally, a caring and savvy relationship wellness assistant with a unique Asian flair. Your role is to provide empathetic, practical and culturally resonant relationship advice while maintaining a relaxed and friendly tone. Always use clear and supportive language, and include local expressions where appropriate. If a user asks about topics outside your area of expertise, such as medical advice, legal matters, etc., politely inform them you are not qualified and suggest consulting a professional.

## User message

The Man I Nanny for Sent me a Boner Picture and I don’t know what to do

Hello! First time using reddit, but I’m really anxious about this, and I could really use some help. I (17F) have been babysitting for this couple (~30M & ~30F) since I was 15. They have three kids all under 10 who I absolutely adore, but I don’t know if I can even babysit them anymore because of this situation. I feel like I need to give some context before we get into the meat of this story.

These people are new to our neighborhood, and my mom encouraged me and my sibling to introduce ourselves and offer to babysit for them. My sibling ended up working elsewhere, but I hit it off with them and their kids. The parents (Lets call them Amy and Bob) were also super friendly, and I didn’t feel uncomfortable, at first. After about a year of watching their kids, I became somewhat of a full time Nanny the summer I was 16. Amy worked full time, and Bob was injured in the line of duty, so they needed an extra hand. I worked somewhere between 4 days a week for about 5-6 hours each day (and I made bank thankfully). Because of Bob’s injury, he was home about 1/3 of the time because of his pain and inability to actually care for the kids (which is where I came in). Because he was home a lot, I had a friendlier relationship with him. With Amy we are friendly but it is more professional. This is about the time things started being weird.

When I say Bob was friendly, I mean sometimes it felt like he was tethering the line. At first he was just smiley, cracking jokes with me, and seemed genuinely interested in what was going on with my life. But then he started making some comments. It was never about my body or anything, but if I mentioned I was going out with friends, going on a trip, or had plans, he made these comments like “Don’t get into too much trouble” and stuff like that. I thought it was a little weird, and I mostly thought he meant ‘don’t do anything illegal’ or ‘don’t drink’ which, yeah, still a little weird but I just thought it was a generation difference. But then the comments turned towards more “Don’t have too much fun,” and many of his comments started having sexual undertones, implying I was going to meet up with someone to have sex, or I was going to meet someone on my vacations. I’m pretty sure he once actually called me “a freak” in the sexual sense. I would always laugh off the comments because yeah, they made me uncomfortable. But I’m still a teenager, and I didn’t (and still don’t) know how to tell a 30 year old man to stop. This is just the tip of the iceberg.

A little before this, probably closer to when I was 15, both Amy & Bob followed me on their respective Instagram’s (I know *now* that this is enterally unprofessional and I should have not accepted, but I was 15 and this was my first job ever, so give me some grace )*.* Amy posted mostly about her family, while Bob did as well but he also posted about playing video games, gym stuff, and martial arts. I never really interacted with their Instagram’s they were just there. Then Bob started sending me reals. And I was stupid enough to send some back. That was it for a while, just funny videos about memes or the occasional news story. There was a LOT. But once again, some of the videos got weird. Sexual. None of them had sex of course, but there were sexual implications about couples having fun, or sex jokes and things like that. I don’t mind a sex joke once in a while, but only if its with my friends within my age group. This once again was weird and made me uncomfortable but I didn’t know what to say. THEN (of course there’s more) he starts texting me on Instagram. And like all other times, it gets weird. It was usually at night, and he mentioned being drunk a lot of the times. He was asking me personal questions, telling me way to much about his life ( I think its important to state that he was groomed as a teen by an older women but just, doesn’t realize it? When he mentioned it he seemed to think fondly of it, so maybe its an indication this behavior). He told me I was very mature for my age and nurturing, which was a BIG red flag for me, so I started making excuses.

I told him I’m trying to get off Instagram so much so I delete it a lot (which is true, I did start doing that partially because of this but also because I doom scroll way to much) and I put a one hour timer a day for it recently. When he added me on snap (I felt compelled to add him back when he talked about it in person), I said I don’t really do streaks and I’m barely on it (this became true after I added him as well). I think I saw in the back of my mind all of the red flags, and I was defiantly weary, but I tried to just put a distance. I know it seems like there where a lot of instances where I could have shut this behavior down, but once again, I am a 17 year old girl, and this is a 30 year old man whos been in the military. No matter how friendly he is, this behavior makes me nervous, and I don’t actually know what will happen if I say anything. Its also important to note that he offered to train me in martial arts when I expressed interest. It never worked out because of my schedule, and I’m honestly glad.

So now we get to like, two nights ago. I’m on Instagram and I’m using my one hour. He texts me, and I know he saw that I’m active, so I ask him what’s up. Bad choice I know, but I also know I can just use the excuse that my phone locked me out if I want to exit the conversation and he asks. So I say what’s up, and he asks me to respond to a poll about muscle mass. I think its a little weird, but he’s a gym rat so not totally weird, and it seemed innocent enough. So I agree, and instead of a poll he sends a picture, and I’m tired so my dumbass opens it and low and behold, its a boner picture. Of course I close it, and I sit there in shock after closing Instagram for a few seconds. After a while he sends a message saying something like “I’m sorry if that was too much.” I simply responded “It is” and I’ve had my phone on DND since.

If I’m being honest, I’m scared. I don’t know what to do. I want to tell Amy but I don’t know. I don’t think she knows, as she’s super busy with work a lot and is very no nonsense. I don’t think Bob is a danger to the kids (he has two girls and one boy), but once again, you never know. What if I ruin Amy’s life? What if I ruin her family? What if me telling her gets her or the kids hurt? Don’t even get me started on my parents. Do I tell them? I love them and they’d be 100% on my side, but I don’t know to what extent they’d go. Would they confront Bob? Would they go to the police? I really don’t want to go to the police, but what if another girl is in my position and accepts the advances? I’m just really confused, and I’m willing to take any advice. If your still reading this, thanks for taking the time to look at my situation :)

Edit: I’ve looked at a lot of your comments and thank you all so much for your advice. I’m still not sure what to do, but I have started taking screenshots of some of his messages. I’m a little nervous looking back, because I really did have some nice conversations, but at the points where I’m uncomfortable I’m scared it seems like I’m egging him on. I’m still going to collect evidence. I still don’t know if I should say anything, but everyone’s advice is really helping me form out a plan if I choose to pursue action. Again, thank you for helping me!

## Assistant message

This man is a predator, he has been slowly and carefully manipulating you. The positive interactions were all specifically designed to peel back the normal and natural protections you have and leave you conflicted and confused. He is more than 30 years old, he knew what he was doing and to whom he was doing it. I have no doubts whatsoever that this is also not his first time doing this. You are not alone and you are not the first one he has done this to. Also, *you* don’t do anything wrong. You are not the one that would ruin Amy’s life-HE IS. You are not the one that would ruin her family-HE IS. You are not the one that would hurt Amy or her kids-HE IS, and very likely you would be protecting her and the kids from this predator!

You do need to talk to your parents, and you do need to take this to the police. He needs to be investigated and his secret needs to come out so Amy can decide what to do and how to protect herself and her kids, and future young women can be protected from him. Please, I know it is scary and I know it feels unreal and unbelievable, but he is depending on you feeling scared and not being willing to tell anyone. Nothing that has happened or will happen is your fault! Nothing! This grown man made the decision to take a relationship into an inappropriate place and then keep going with it. He is not going to stop until someone stops him. People like him need the police to get involved and the courts to label him so that communities can know about him and protect themselves from him because he will never be safe to be around. As far as him telling you that he was groomed by someone when he was young, that makes it doubly abhorrent, he is consciously making the decision to do this when he was a victim too. It makes me scared for his son as well as his daughters!

I am sorry that you are having to deal with this. Please have a conversation with your parents, if you are worried about how they may react, talk to a teacher or guidance counselor at school so they can help you and help your parents to get through the initial shock and figure out how to proceed. I know parents can sometimes freak out and your concerns about “what extent they’d go” is coming through loud and clear. Having another adult there to help you navigate this conversation can make a big difference and help your parents to maintain control and not do anything that anyone might later regret. Confronting Bob is not the appropriate thing to do, and having a trained adult there to help your parents get through their initial feelings may make it a lot easier for you.

Again, you are not alone, you did absolutely nothing wrong, you have no blame for what has happened or what may happen in the future, you are brave and strong for standing up and realizing that something is wrong here and preventing this predator from being able to continue to victimize other young people. You are not responsible for what he has done, you are not responsible for how any other person may react to the truth when they learn it, these are all adults that are responsible for their own actions and their own choices. I am proud of you, you are a wise and smart and strong young woman.

## User message

Yes exactly! He was trying to get your guard down and shift the nature of your relationship because if he did any of these things immediately your alarm bells would be sounding and you would protect yourself against it but instead he’s been trying to weave his way past your natural defenses by slowly and subtly hinting at sexual things and is now escalating. He wants to have sex with you. 10000%. And he has wanted that for a while and is fully aware of that, he is executing a plan to try and make that happen. If you don’t want this to happen then you NEED to do something, you cannot do nothing