

Dear Abby

She Fills Unmet Needs With Sex

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

DEAR ABBY: First, I know that I am a very mixed-up person. I'm 36, have two children and I'm on my third husband. I believe in God and know there is a hell, but for some reason I'm not afraid of going there even after all the bad things I've done.

I started making love to almost every man I dated when I was 15. I cheated on all my husbands, including the one I'm now married to. I don't know why, because basically most men are alike. None of them do very much for me, so I know I'm not a nymphomaniac, if there is such a thing.

I'm currently involved with a man much younger than I. He's married too. I think I love him, but if he decided not to see me anymore, my feelings might be hurt for a week or two, then I'd find someone else to take his place.

What in the world is the matter with me? I think I need a psychiatrist, but I can't afford their prices.

CONFUSED IN BOSTON

DEAR CONFUSED: You have been using sex to fill an unmet emotional need that's been gnawing at you since you were very young.

There is an excellent mental health clinic in your area. Look in your phone book under Mental Health or County Health Services. Call and make an appointment. You will be charged only as much as you can afford to pay.

Please don't put it off. The longest march in the world starts with one step. God bless and good luck.

DEAR ABBY: I am 27 years old and planning to ask a young Christian lady to be my wife. We are very much in love and committed to each other.

There is one problem. I am bisexual. Will marriage cure my bisexuality? And do you think I should reveal this to my fiancée before I propose marriage to her?

OKLAHOMA BISEXUAL

DEAR BISEXUAL: Bisexuality is not a "disease" for which one must seek a "cure" in order to eradicate. One can control his (or her) sexual behavior—but not his sexual urges.

And yes, I think you should tell your fiancée before proposing marriage.

CONFIDENTIAL TO HEARTBROKEN IN TULSA: My condolences. I know how you feel. I lost my beautiful mother in 1945. (She was only 57.) And a few years later I lost a wonderful father. (He was 62.) Not a day passes that I don't thank God for letting me have my parents for as long as I did. I know many who were not nearly as blessed as I. And when I think of those who have survived a far greater tragedy—losing their children—it makes me ashamed for feeling cheated because I didn't have my parents longer.

If you put off writing letters because you don't know what to say, get Abby's booklet, "How to Write Letters for All Occasions." Send \$2 and a long, stamped (37 cents), self-addressed envelope to Abby, Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 38923, Hollywood, Calif. 90038.