

# Facebook poses dilemma

## Woman should reach out in person to teen's mother

**DEAR AMY:** I have been friends with a woman for most of my life. We lived across the street from each other growing up and through the years we kept in touch with Christmas cards. We haven't spoken personally in many years. Last year, her 15-year-old daughter "Julia" "friended" me on Facebook. She seemed interested in knowing some of her mother's friends and I thought she contacted me as another way for her mother to keep in touch. On Christmas Eve, she posted a very vulgar and sexually explicit passage. It ended up on my Facebook wall and news feed for all of my contacts to see. After she admitted writing the passage, I told her it was disgusting and she really shouldn't post things like that because they can live forever, even if deleted. The girl promptly "unfriended" me, blocked me and changed her screen name. Should I call her mother and tell her what happened? The mother may dump me too and I would feel bad. On the other hand, she may want to know what her daughter has been up to.

— CONCERNED OLD FRIEND

**DEAR CONCERNED:** "Julia" behaved like an adolescent girl and you reacted like a grown-up. Good for you. Julia's behaviour since your admonition is also age-appropriate. She is running for cover. You can only hope she is embarrassed and has learned from this experience. If you have some evidence that this young person is engaged in behaviour that is actually dangerous (and not just to her reputation), then you should definitely and emphatically reach out to this parent. Otherwise, you can use this as a reason to reach out



**AMY DICKINSON**  
Ask Amy

**in friendship to the mother, not to tattle on the daughter, but to check in. You can say to this mom, "Julia and I were Facebook friends for a while but then she dropped off the screen, so now I have to contact you the old-fashioned way. How are you both doing?"**

**DEAR AMY:** I need advice concerning my breakup with my wife of 30 years. My wife has a very serious drinking problem. She has been on diet pills for more than 25 years and also abuses prescription pain pills. I have tried numerous times over the years to get her help but she refuses. Our family doctor has also tried to get her to recognize her problems, but to no avail.

My wife recently had me removed from our house when she went to court and lied about me, saying I had threatened her. I know it's the alcohol and I've attended Al-Anon meetings to try and understand the issues. If she doesn't want to help herself what am I to do?

— DEVASTATED HUSBAND

**DEAR HUSBAND:** You should consider your wife's alcoholism a tragic, progressive and (in her case) possibly terminal disease. Then you should accept your own inability to treat or cure it.

You have been forced out of your home. It is time for you to concentrate not on saving your wife but on saving your life. Get legal help.

askamy@tribune.com

## WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

**HOW TO PLAY:** All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

HALOGEN LIGHT BULBS

Solution: 4 letters

E	T	N	E	L	C	Y	C	E	R	E	W	O	P	T
L	N	U	O	V	A	P	O	R	E	A	C	T	N	E
U	E	E	N	I	G	N	O	R	T	S	W	E	S	W
S	C	L	R	G	T	S	R	R	H	H	M	A	W	E
P	C	L	B	G	S	A	E	E	I	A	E	A	M	A
A	A	I	U	A	Y	T	N	T	L	R	L	I	G	T
C	R	R	L	E	H	E	E	I	C	L	T	E	R	H
H	B	G	B	G	E	R	F	N	B	E	A	E	I	E
E	O	H	I	A	Z	D	I	F	F	M	P	M	D	R
M	N	R	C	T	I	E	E	I	E	O	I	S	E	
I	B	Y	N	T	S	E	L	L	A	C	L	C	O	T
C	P	V	R	A	I	P	Y	T	L	A	I	A	F	T
A	A	A	B	W	E	W	T	S	H	A	P	E	T	O
L	C	E	P	M	A	L	S	P	O	T	B	T	N	H
K	K	H	R	O	L	O	C	O	N	S	T	A	N	T

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Accent, Ball, Base, Brighter, Bulb, Capsule, Carbon, Chemical, Clean, Color, Combination, Constant, Deep, Energy Efficient, Filament, Glass, Grid, Grille, Halide, Heavy, Hotter, Increase, Lamp, Lifetime, Pack, Power, React, Recycle, Repeat, Shape, Size, Smaller, Soft, Spot, Strong, Style, Switch, Track, Tungsten, Vapor, Wall, Wattage, Weather, Whiter

**Yesterday's Answer: Cheddar**

The NEW Treasury 9 can be ordered by sending check or money order for \$19.95 each plus \$3.25 postage and handling each (\$14.30 total each, U.S. funds only) for the first volume, \$1.50 per for each additional volume, to Universal Uclick, Attn: Wonderword, 1130 Walnut St., Kansas City, Mo. 64109 or call toll-free, 1-800-842-6460. Order online at [upclick.com/journals](http://upclick.com/journals). 130 puzzles, 33 of which use the larger 20 x 25 size.

## Power Thought FOR THE DAY

with DR. PHIL NORDIN  
[www.powerthought.ca](http://www.powerthought.ca)



**Live like today is your last day!**  
Imagine that today were your last day to live and then do the things that you cannot afford to leave undone. Complete those things you know are most important. **"Because I have done what is right, I will see you. When I awake, I will be fully satisfied, for I will see you face to face."**  
Psalm 17:15

The four-letter word game  
**FOURWORD**

Place the letters below into the blank spaces on the left to create four-letter words down and across.

Victoria Dennis © 2011

S			
	A		L
		R	E
E			

AAACI  
LMPSW 19-2

A	M	P	S
B	O	R	E
L	O	O	T
E	N	D	S

previous solution

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