

Marilyn Anderson interview in COMPLETE WOMAN – cont'd.



I Love Him, But... HE'S TOTALLY ANTI-SOCIAL

It continually blows your mind that you and your boyfriend have such a blast when you're alone, but he absolutely hates hanging out with those closest to you. Every time you go out with friends or family he refuses to go, causing you to divide yourself between groups.

"You need to ask yourself why he won't be with your friends and family," advises Anderson. "Is he threatened by them?"

After evaluating the source of your man's negative feelings, see if there are ways you can make him feel more comfortable during these outings. If he still resists any of your attempts to help him bond with your loved ones, you need to reassess whether you want to put up with his negative feelings for the rest of your life. After all, Mom, Dad and your best friend are here to stay.

I Love Him, But... HE'S SERIOUSLY SELF-DESTRUCTIVE

He smokes, never works out and has no intention of scheduling a physical in the next decade. You care about him greatly, but it would be great if he cared about himself a little, too.

Anderson stresses the importance of always talking to your partner about issues you see as unhealthy in order to help him understand where you're coming from.

While not many independent, modern women are big on playing Mom to their guy, you can suggest going to the gym

together or making a healthy dinner for him to help wean him off his daily deep-dish habit. Of course, his well-being can't rest solely on your shoulders; he also needs to make an effort to prove he's up for making some changes.

Anderson suggests making a compromise with your partner if his bad behaviors are getting on your nerves. If he smokes, make him promise to not smoke in your presence. It may not save his lungs but it could save your relationship for the time being.



I Love Him, But... HE'S BECOMING A MACHO MAN

Your guy lives for boys' nights out. You don't mind it once in awhile but sometimes you feel as if he is more loyal to hanging out with the boys than spending time with you.

"If a guy has close friendships with other guys, that's fine," Anderson encourages. "A good balance between friends and your dating life is healthy. But, once he starts using his friends as an excuse not to be close to you, you need to leave. It's when the relationship

becomes lopsided that you often run into problems."

To keep things exciting in the relationship, Anderson suggests coming up with creative dates to show him how fun it is to be a couple. If he loves playing cards with the guys, engage him in a one-on-one game of strip poker. If sexy tricks still can't compete with his friends, you may want to take Anderson's advice: "If your man is being too much of a guy's guy, you need to go become some other guy's girl."