

Spirits wilted over bouquet toss

DEAR AMY: When you catch the bouquet thrown by the bride at a wedding, are you normally allowed to keep it?

My teenage daughter attended my ex-husband's wedding ceremony and caught the bouquet.

She set it down at the table and when she returned it was gone. She questioned the bride and the bride said, "Oh yeah, I'm keeping it."

My daughter was mortified.



AMY DICKINSON

Advice

✉ askamy@tribune.com

What's your take on this?
— WONDERING AND WILTED

DEAR WONDERING: Some brides have a second bouquet prepared just for tossing. This way they can keep their own bouquet.

I have never heard of a bride asking for her bouquet back.

Even if this bride has committed a floral faux pas, it would be kindest of you to encourage your daughter to move beyond it. The "step" relationship is challenging enough.

DEAR AMY: I have been a part of my husband's family for seven years. I do whatever I can for my in-laws to make them happy. I pay for cellphone plans because they cannot afford them. I plan all parties: Christmas, Easter, Thanksgiving and birthdays.

My husband's sister is getting married soon and she asked me to be a wedding attendant. I declined because I felt it was a little degrad-

ing and that she was just asking me to be nice. My husband received a call from his mother complaining that I had declined, even though it turns out I was right.

I am tired of trying to make them happy and doing whatever I can for them, just to have them trash me. Was it wrong of me to decline? What can I do about my in-laws complaining about me?

— SO CONFUSED

DEAR CONFUSED: Imagine how you would feel if you invited your sister-in-law to be in your bridal party and she rejected the invitation because you extended it "only to be nice."

If you value niceness, then be a good sport and recognize niceness when it comes your way. If you don't want to "do everything" for your in-laws, then stop. If you do less, they might do more.

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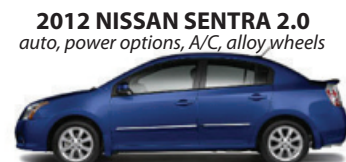
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