Men tend to bounce back — if a woman helps

Q. About three months ago I started dating this really neat guy. Ho's very sensitive and caring. Things were going really well up until about two weeks ago when he started pulling away from

I asked him RELATIONSHIP I had done REALITIES I asked him if I had done something to offend him offend him, and he said he still really likes me but that our relationship had been very intense for

intense for him and he needed to reconnect with other

STEVE MANDELL with other parts of himself that he ignored.

Is this the big bump off, or what?

A. If he is truly being honest with you, then you may be experiencing what is known in the Mars and Venus world as the rubber band effect. This is when a man begins to pull nway from a woman after a period of very active emotional and intimate connection.

It is as if he's temporarily given all he's get to give in the intimacy department and feels the need to regain some person-al autonomy and independence

in order to reexperience his male sovereignty.

male sovereignty.

It is important to know that he is not deing this because you have done anything wrong.

This is sometimes hard for a woman to understand because when she pulls away it is auanly because she feels hurt or angry about something that has occurred in the relationship. But not so for a man. He will pul away just because he needs to in order to regain his balance.

Support helps

Support neips
Just like when a man goes
into his cave, it is important
that the woman net make the
man wrong for this behavior. In
fact it is her loving support and
acceptance of him in these
times, which allows him to
stretch like a rubber band to his
fullest extension of autonomy.

fullest extension of autonomy.

At this point if he doesn't feel her blame, anger or hurt feelings, he will begin the process of returning back towards her just like a retracting rubber band. This is because once he has fully experienced his autonomy, he will actually begin to miss the good feelings of love and connection he had with her and will want to spring back into the relationship sagin.

During their separation, a

During their separation, a woman can further assist a man in springing back with something like a simple, friendly, non-blaming phone call. This

gives him a clear message that he is not in trouble and he will feel free to begin pursuing her again.

However, unlike a woman who may need a little time in order to get back into the flow of intimacy, a man will come back and want to start up right where the relationship left off before he pulled away.

In this situation, the man needs to realize that the woman may need a short period of time to reacquaint herself with the feelings she had before he pulled

away. Therefore, he needs to give her the same non-blaming and accepting behaviors that she gave him.

she gave him.

Steve Mandell is one of three therapists who alternate in writing this new relationship column. He is a psychologist-trained in relationship consisting by D. John Gray utilizing the Men Are from Venus' approach. He lives and works in Southfield, Questions for him may be sent to: Steve Mandell, Suburban Life, The Eccentric, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham 48009.

BIRTHS

Olivia Marie Polewarczyk

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Polewarczyk of Rochester Hills announce the birth of their daughter, Olivia Marie Polewarczyk, on June 9. Grandpurents are Chuck and Gail Goulah of Center Line and Ed and Arlene Polewarczyk of

Houston, Texas.



Grace Olivia Charnesky

Ann Marie and Guy Char-nesky of Rochester Hills announce the birth of thois daughter, Grace Olivia, on May 6, 1998 at William Beaumont Hospital, Royal Oak. Grandparents are LouAnn and Earl Vogtmann of Bay City and Ruth and Maurice Charnesky of Shelby Township.



REDEFINING RETIREMENT LIVING How you live is JUST AS IMPORTANT AS Where You Live

WEDDINGS AND ENGAGEMENTS

Rice-Rencher

Dr. and Mrs. Vernon E. Rice of Kansas City, Mo. announce the engagement of their daughter, Alita Rene, to Anthony Edman Rencher of Detroit.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of the University of Missouri and Meharry Medical College, She is a pediatrician at Providence Medical Center in Livonia.

Her fance is a graduate of The University of Michigan. Ho is an engagement of the University of Michigan. Ho is an engagement of the University of Michigan. Ho is an engagement of the University of Michigan.



A September wedding is planned in Detroit.

Bosco-O'Connor Mr. and Mrs. Louis C. Bosco Jr. of Orchard Lake announce the engagement of their daugh-ter, Molly Elizabeth, to Michael Kevin O'Connor, son of Mr. and Mrs. James E. O'Connor of Gay-lord. Mrs. James E. O'Connor of Upord. The bride-to-be is a graduate of Mercy High School and Boston College. She is co-owner of Studio B Jowelry Designs in Farmington Hills. Her finnee is a graduate of Gaylord High School and Michigan State University. He is employed at Ford Motor Co.

An October wedding is planned.

Chea-Junga

Mr. and Mrs. Francisco Chea announce the engagement of their daughter, Alicia, to Brina Junga, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Junga Jr. of Rochester Hills. The bride-to-be is a graduate of William R. Boone High School and University of Central Flori-da.

da.

Her finnce is a graduate of
Rochester Adams High School
and Michigan State University.
An October wedding is
planned with a Nuptial Mass at
St. James Cathedral in Florida.

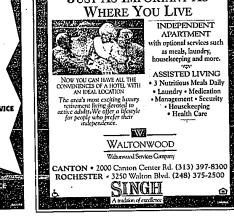


On submitting announcements

Local engagement, wedding, anniversary and birth anouncements run in Thursdy and Sunday editions of The Observer & Eccentric.
Residents of the Birming Indomation needed for your annual formation needed for your annual formation, without photograph, to: Attn Brides, The Eccentric, 805 E. Mapic, Birmingham 48009.
Residents of the Troy and Rochester areas should send information to The Eccentric, 1814 S. Rochester Road, Rochester Hills 48307.
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