

Sometimes joining the crowd is not the "in thing"

All of us at one time or another have felt the desire to be accepted. We all want to be a part of the crowd. This in and of itself is not a bad thing. When we know we are part of a crowd our self-worth is raised and we feel good about ourselves. However, when we lose our identity as an individual then the group we've identified with

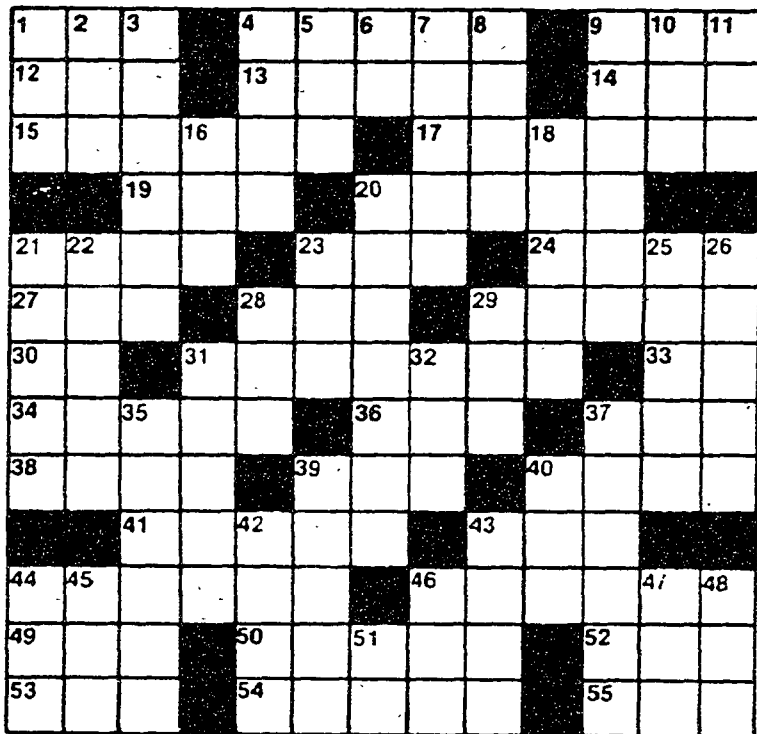
becomes our liability. Friends are fine, but there are times when they may, whether on purpose or unintentionally place undue peer pressure on their peers. Recognizing peer pressure can be easy, resisting it for some individuals is another matter. Much of our lives we are constantly coerced into purchasing par-

ticular name brands or behaving in a certain way that complements the norm. This constant brain-washing often causes many people to lose their own will. The things they once believed to be wrong are suddenly advocated by their peers. This wrong is not always in the sense of what is proper or improper. It is as if they are compelled by an invisible force that makes them not want to disappoint the

norms accepted by the peer group. Peer groups prevail quite frequently in the college atmosphere because we are more closely associated with our peers. I don't want to appear as if I am totally against peer groups in college, because for the most part they help integrate us into college life. Other times peer groups can be harmful because they tend to lead people astray.

I personally do not advocate or condemn peer groups, I just do not care for the way that some tend to manipulate people. I guess the bottom line is that we all have a will and a mind of our own. If we don't use it to go our own way then it is we who lose. Drinking and partying can be fun, but not to excess and definitely not because your crowd thinks it is the 'in thing to do'.

Crossword Companion



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|-----------------------|-------------------------------|---|
| ACROSS | 41. Deak | 11. Drone |
| 1. Epoch | 43. Drunk | 16. Type, Sort |
| 4. Sire | 44. Tune in (p.t.) | 18. Burden |
| 9. Tennis shot | 46. Alred | 20. Indulge |
| 12. Pave | 49. Mistake | 21. Code |
| 13. Odor | 50. Scary | 22. Origin |
| 14. Mock | 52. Yale | 23. Lighter |
| 15. Adore | 53. Course | 25. Cat back |
| 17. Scan | 54. Oddity | 26. Blot |
| 19. Aged | 55. Fish eggs | 28. _____ Spade |
| 20. Cent | | 29. High card |
| 21. Chore | | 31. Relation between tones on scale |
| 23. Ben | | 32. Inhabitant (suf.) |
| 24. Moray (pl.) | | 35. Certifier |
| 27. Some | DOWN | 37. Ditch |
| 28. Mister | 1. 7th Letter, Greek Alphabet | 39. Senior |
| 29. Pointed missile | 2. Frightened (Early Eng.) | 40. Trick |
| 30. Verb (form of be) | 3. Military Depot | 42. Squabble |
| 31. Pina (pl.) | 4. Poet | 43. Hunt |
| 33. Plural of I | 5. Before | 44. Morning Moisture |
| 34. Poison | 6. Depart | 45. Ireland Military Organization (abbr.) |
| 36. Eat (p.t.) | 7. Aah | 46. By way of |
| 37. Jelly | 8. Lake | 47. Rock Group |
| 38. Coat | 9. Attorney | 48. Decrease |
| 39. Squeeze | 10. Ceres mother (Gr.) | 51. Concerning |
| 40. Twist | | |

Puzzle #102

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Mailing Address - Behrend Collegian, Station Road, Erie, PA 16563
Office located in Reed Union Building
Office Hours - 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Monday through Friday
Phone: 898-6221

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