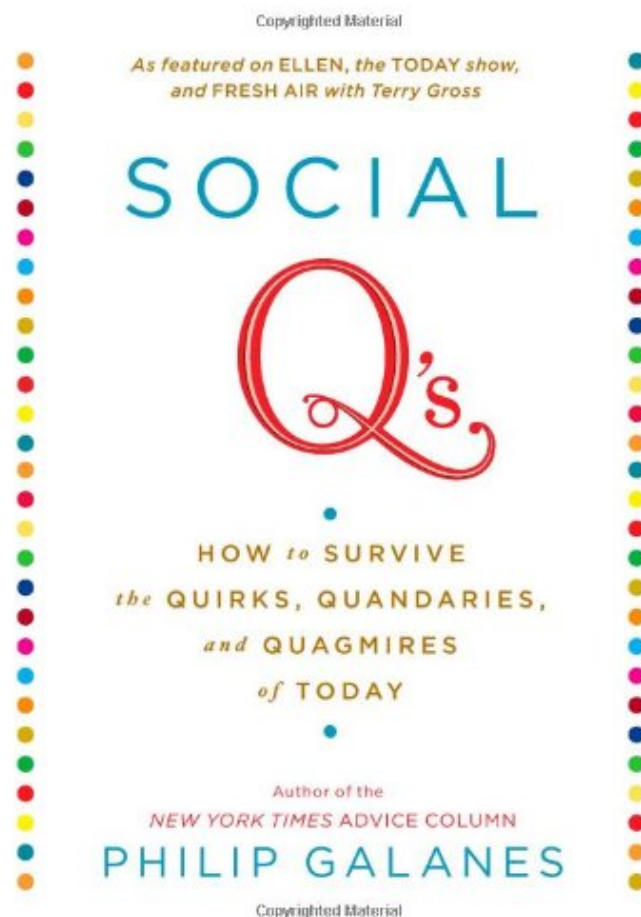


(Mobile book) Social Q's: How to Survive the Quirks, Quandaries, and Quagmires of Today

Social Q's: How to Survive the Quirks, Quandaries, and Quagmires of Today

Philip Galanes

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Philip Galanes : Social Q's: How to Survive the Quirks, Quandaries, and Quagmires of Today before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Social Q's: How to Survive the Quirks, Quandaries, and Quagmires of Today:

14 of 14 people found the following review helpful. Lots of repetition...By CindyKodakI am a big fan of Mr. Galanes column; perhaps too big of a fan. Because I read his column so faithfully, I couldn't help but notice that several of the anectodes/questions in the book were repeats from his columns. I suppose it's not unreasonable for him to turn his columns into a book, but I was expecting new scenarios with fresh new advice, not just a rehashing of the old stuff. The book is a great read for anyone new to the columns; but for die-hard readers, just be aware that a lot of this is repetition of many of the same columns; just grouped together by category instead of date. If you have a NYTimes Digital subscription, you can just read his columns online for free, but if not, by all means, buy the book!4 of 4 people

found the following review helpful. Ask and You Shall Receive an AnswerBy DrwoPhillip Galanes has taken the "pressing question" into the 21st Century and given his answers to the New York Times. In the time of Ann Landers, typical questions were along the lines of: "I have a crush on Johnny and he is dating my friend. Should I tell Johnny about my feelings or keep them to myself?"Modern times call for modern questions. "I have a crush on my friend's boyfriend, Johnny. I texted Johnny some nude photos of myself and now he wants to take me out and friend me on Facebook. Should I tell my friend or just go on the pill and go out with Johnny?"I made up these questions as I'm not sure it's technically legal to quote directly from a book in a review but you get the idea. The answer, too, is my own. "Social Q's"answer could be completely different, which is why he writes the column and I am simply reviewing his book."The pill sounds like a plan, regardless. If Johnny has kept the photos to himself rather than posting them online and emailing them to all of his friends, that could be good news. If he has posted the photos online, it's possible that the cat is out of the bag and your friend will already suspect that something is up with you and Johnny. If your friend has seen the photos and knows they were posted by Johnny, it's likely that she has booted him to the curb already and your coast is clear. Of course, you have burned your bridges with your friend and Johnny may not be in it for the long term."Many of the questions in this quirky, funny book are about neighbors, roommates, Facebook friends, watercooler dilemmas and, of course, romance. One of the chapters I found so intriguing was the number of questions concerning hurt feelings, resentments, etc., about money, gifts and thank you notes.This book is not only fun, it will make you think about the wise counsel of the author.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A bracing dose of good adviceBy Deborah MusselmanIf you don't read Philip Galanes's "Social Qs" column each Sunday in the New York Times you are missing out on a pragmatic, level-headed, commonsense yet sensitive and savvy approach to the many important, trivial or hurtful dilemmas we all face in this world. But if you've been acting selfishly or want to do something that's just plain dumb, he will set you straight.His responses to a wide and wild variety of quandaries are informative, educational, AND entertaining. He strikes the perfect tone -- humane, direct and nonjudgmental - while at the same time not letting questioners off the hook for the misguided assumptions they try to paper over. And so funny, sympathetic, kind and entertaining! How does he do it? That's one of the mysteries of good writing.This book had me laughing out loud - for example, at his admittedly pseudoscientific methodology for deciding whether to walk away from a touchy matter or deal with it. Just don't read it at bedtime - too much laughter can be energizing.

A modern comedy of manners that shows what passes for good behavior today, from the New York Times Social Qs columnist Philip Galanes.A cornerstone of The New York Times Styles section, Philip Galanes confronts today's most awkward and pressing questions with laugh-out-loud dish and practical wisdom. Not only about the new ways to thank a friend for throwing you a bridal shower, or how to deal with a noisy neighbor, but also how to navigate a new age crowded with Tweets, twits, OMGs, and WTFs, Social Qs is a knockout book that will guide you swiftly through the treacherous terrain of modern etiquetteand keep you laughing for days.

"Social Q's" is a hilarious set of solutions to all the problems we're lucky to have. A must-read survival guide."--Christian Landers, author of "Stuff White People Like""SOCIAL Q'S by Philip Galanes is the one book you need to help guide you through some of life's toughest social challenges! It's smart, funny, and incredibly practical." --Peter Walsh, "New York Times" bestselling author of "Lighten Up" and "It's All Too Much""Philip knows his way around an awkward situation--but enough about us!" --Kathie Lee Hoda"I love Philip Galanes' "New York Times" column! And the book is a must! "Social Q's" is a beacon of light in the foggy haze of today's world." --Jessica Seinfeld"Consider SOCIAL Q's your funny, wise and indispensable guide for honing, improving and finessing YOU--your own special creation!"--George Wayne, contributing editor, "Vanity Fair""Zesty, zingy, zippy, zany. Everything I want to say about the funny and very talented Philip Galanes starts with the letter z. He and SOCIAL Q'S are truly zonderful."--Henry Alford, humorist and author of "How to Live: A Search for Wisdom from Old People (While They Are Still On This Earth)""Life in the 21st century is one rude awakening after another. But now we have Philip Galanes' SOCIAL Q'S to the rescue--very smart, very funny advice for sidestepping any etiquette A-bomb."--Kendall Farr, author of "The Pocket Stylist" and "Style Evolution""Philip Galanes has made a name for himself as a weekly columnist doling out important advice on social etiquette and now has collected all this wisdom in one terrific book called "Social Q's". But all this leaves me to wonder what an expert on social etiquette was thinking when he asked a busy woman in the throes of redecorating her apartment to take valuable time away from her rabbit to write a book blurb?"--Amy SedarisAbout the AuthorPhilip Galanes is the author of Social Qs, the advice column published weekly in the Sunday Styles section of The New York Times. Philip is also an entertainment lawyer and novelist.He was born and raised in New England, and graduated from Yale College and Yale Law School.He occasionally sidelines as an interior designer, and his projects have been published in Architectural Digest, Elle Dcor, New York magazine, and The New York Times. Visit him at PhilipGalanes.com.Excerpt. Reprinted by permission. All rights reserved.

Introduction Not Your Mummys Advice Column What should I do? I get it all day long. Im pretty sure the woman who swims laps next to me at the Y is peeing in the pool. What should I do? It started a few years back, when I began the Social Qs advice column for the Sunday Styles section of the New York Times. My boyfriend has an identical twin

that I'm strangely hotter for than I am for him. What should I do? Since then, the questions come faster than a drunken starlet behind the wheel of a speeding Maserati. My dad seems to have mixed up my cell phone number with the number of the woman he's seeing behind my mother's back. He sends her sexy texts that are freaking me out. What should I do? At the outset, I was afraid that Times readers might play it safe, bringing me their old-fashioned etiquette conundrums or mild Dear Abby conflicts: When do I use that teeny-tiny fork? What's the right paper stock for my wedding invitation? Who cares? And it turns out, I needn't have worried. My sister goes to work looking like a hooker. What should I do? From the very beginning, readers set a thoroughly modern tone for my Social Qs column. They write in from all overpeople of every age, gender, geography, and social background. And they stride happily to the very edges of our brave new world: where nonstop technology and never-ending pop culture and the once-separate realms of personal and public space have exploded all over each other, pushing us into each other's faces in ways that Grammy and Gramps could never have imagined. Accidental sexy text messages from our father hello?! These candid questions demand payback, in spades. So my job is to rush in where angels fear to tread, doling out advice that's tart but tender and not above the occasional bitch slap. In short, I try to be the best friend you've never met. The walking wounded must be comforted, of course, and grievous wrongdoers must be spanked. But these are complicated times and we've all done a thing (or three) we shouldn't have so I'm not shy about pointing out the good qualities in bald-faced liars. (Maybe they're lying to save our feelings?) And a Goody Two-Shoes reeking of sanctimony has little to look forward to from me but a Krystle Carrington chop across the cheek. And that's how Social Qs was born, starting with the very first question and answer: Q My boyfriend assumed I was Jewish when we met on JDate, a website for Jewish singles. I didn't correct him at the time because I was afraid he'd dump me. Now, months later, I'm afraid he's going to dump me because I didn't tell the truth. I really like this guy. What should I do? Christiana, New York City A Listen up, Golda (L)eir. In case you hadn't noticed, there's a wee difference between letting an awkward moment pass and masquerading as a Jew for months. Where to next, Gay.com? I know it can be hard, living as a single in a world full of doubles. But you didn't just fail to correct your beau. You lied, having calculated that he might not like the truth. And that's a surefire way to sabotage a relationship. Clear the air as soon as possible: Just sit your guy down and apologize. Explain that you were feeling vulnerable, but don't let it sound like an excuse or worse, an attempt to shift the blame to him for making you feel that way. Remember, you'll be one short step from freak show when you finally come clean, and you still have to convince him that your lie was an aberration. He may be furious, or decide you're too manipulative to date, but there's a chance he'll be flattered by the lengths you went to win him over. And who knows? He may have a whopper to get off his chest too. P.S. What kind of Jew is named Christiana? Social Qs: The Book Here's the thing: Deep down, we all want to do the right thing. But in this age of texting and tweeting, online dating and Real Housewives of One Too Many Cities, things can get complicated fast. And when they do, or when you can't even picture what the right thing might look like, that's when you've stumbled into Social Qs territory. Lucky for you, you're not alone anymore. I've sifted through years of columns (and thousands of questions I haven't had space to answer) hunting for patterns and culling my sagest advice to help you navigate the horrible range of awkward moments we all suffer through right now: at home, at work, online, and (even more frequently these days) in the crossroads. From hotsy-totsy bosses on Facebook to scorched-earth exes moving in across the hall. In this book, chapter by chapter, we'll visit the awkward nooks and crannies of our daily lives, from the moment you wake up (and hopefully, brush your teeth) to your last act of waking consciousness (checking your Match.com mailbox, of course). I'll give you some tools and techniques for making those sticky situations less so. And in the process, I'll answer a raft of illustrative Social Qs from my intrepid readers at the New York Times. But before we begin, I need to ask a favor Starting Principle: Forget Everything You Know! Well, not everything, just that little thing we learned in third grade about treating everyone the same. Because that's crazy talk! Our country may be founded on the proposition that all men are created equal, but that hardly means we're all the same. Simply put: Handling a stinky boss is just plain different from handling a smelly housekeeper. (I'm sorry, but it is.) And the faster you master the difference, the sweeter-smelling the world will be. Navigating the Black Forest of awkward moments demands a gimlet-eyed assessment of who we are versus who the other guy is. Angelina Jolie is not the girl next door, and Reese Witherspoon never plays the sexy stripper. Self-knowledge allows them to choose their roles wisely and figure out how much of their clothing to keep on. The same goes for the rest of us. If you're the smartest-gal-in-the-room type, the best response to your awkward problem won't be the same as for the people pleaser down the hall. Our personalities establish the parameters of our most plausible behavior. Because the Bible was right: Leopards do not change their spots not without laser surgery anyway. And who is the other guy, by the way: a microphone-grabbing Kanye West or a poor little Taylor Swift? (Or for the old folks: a booming Barry White or a high-pitched Joni Mitchell, preciggies.) Is your opponent a teeny-tiny Olsen twin, while we tower over her like LeBron James? Or is she the dragon lady CEO, playing against our milquetoast from the mailroom? Responding to life's thorniest problems is not a one-size-fits-all proposition. It requires a keen awareness of who we are in relation to other people. Call it contextual IQ. And the more we hone it, the more likely we are to skate over life's thinnest ice without plunging into freezing water and ruining our makeup. So armed, Social Qs will guide us toward our best behavior, helping us navigate the trickiest obstacle courses we can stumble into, and increasing the likelihood of making it through the day in one piece. Sound good? Okay, let's get

started. And please dont forget to turn off your cell phone, pager, and other portable mobile devices. 2011 Philip galanes