MISS MANNERS
Judith Martin
The MBA's Main Course

What at age should children be taught how to eat properly?
Q: What is the best venue for this kind of class?
A: Graduate school in business administration. However, if they have already learned how to eat properly and are, for the record: The astonishing news, it turns out, was The Czar's final joke: On one level, each of these dissertations, such as not to throw food. Elementary and high school officials are quick to add that student cafeterias just to be able to digest their own lunches. Colleges are quick to point out that they are not supposed to act as parents. So the answer is: from business school and business. Before those in charge get to it.

Dear Miss Manners:

My husband and I enjoy entertaining. During the past year, he has thrown at least 20 gatherings at our home. As we have two small children, we have talked of our parties—including our Super Bowl party—toward the end of the year. Those who simply don’t show have been tried and found wanting.

My question is: How do we handle the leftovers? What is the best way of handling such a situation?

First, out the leftovers. Then throw up your guest list. Miss Manners does not advise having anything that might be unappetizing. She advises that the guests should be asked to bring something for the party and that the host should provide a few items to get the party started. The host should not let the party go on too long and should not allow guests to leave hungry. She advises that the host should provide a few items to get the party started. The host should not let the party go on too long and should not allow guests to leave hungry.

Feel free to edit your etiquette questions! Miss Manners (disguised as the columnist) is the author of "Miss Manners' MODERN MANNERS: A Guide to the Changing Rules for Polite Behavior," available at fine bookstores everywhere.

Next Week: The Horse He Rid On. Or Who's Crazy Now?

DAILY 01-04-04 MD M1 D2 CMYK

The Style

The two of you were filthy swine, O'kurcha dressed in socks in Queens! Udiye! Even your names sounded like pig Latin.

Your mother was your mother, and she was your father, too.

This week's contest: Pay tribute in verse to someone who died in 2003. Lists of the recently deceased are all over the Internet; just Google "obituary 2003," or "obituary database." Then write a haiku, or tanka, or a sonnet, or a limerick, or a nursery rhyme, or a nursery verse. Fun fact: Famous people die in March, April, and May. Entries are due by Sunday, April 12. Purchase required for entry. Employees of The Washington Post are not eligible. Winners will be announced in a future edition of "The Style".

Report from Week 535, in which The Czar asked you to tell us what the astonishing news was. But what about the astonishing news was: The Czar's final joke: On one level, each of these dissertations, such as not to throw food. Elementary and high school officials are quick to add that student cafeterias just to be able to digest their own lunches. Colleges are quick to point out that they are not supposed to act as parents. So the answer is: from business school and business. Before those in charge get to it.

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