



Life's Big Questions

with Candace Cameron Bure and Natasha Bure

There's no denying that growing up is tough, but if there's anyone that's an expert at it, it's Candace Cameron Bure. After all, she played big sister DJ Tanner on *Full House* through her teen years, and now returns as a mom on *Netflix's Fuller House* — plus, she's a real-life mom to three teens!

That's why J-14 has enlisted Candace, along with her daughter Natasha, as our new advice columnists. "Keep calm — I'm here to help!" Candace tells J-14ers. Read on!



Candace in *Fuller House!*

I'm insecure in a bikini!

Q: Whenever I go to the beach with my friends, I'm always the only girl wearing a tankini. The rest of my friends are all really confident sporting their bikinis. To make things worse, they'll point out that I'm not wearing one, which makes me feel kind of like an outcast! I even bought a bikini, but whenever I try it on, I'm just not comfortable wearing it. What should I do? — *Jessa, 16*

A: Candace: Don't wear something that you are not comfortable in, even if it's what everybody else is doing. If you feel more comfortable in a one-piece or tankini, then you should wear that with confidence. There is never any reason to wear something you feel awkward in, and it doesn't mean that you are insecure with your body if you don't want to put on a bikini. The good news is one-pieces and tankinis are super in style! Natasha and I both have them, and we love wearing them!

My best friend is lying to me!

Q: I think my best friend is a liar. She'll tell me she doesn't like someone, then I'll see her talking to that person later. But she always denies it when I call her out. What gives? — *Kylee, 13*

A: Candace: It almost sounds like your friend may be playing the field — meaning that she is trying to see which friends like her the most. I'm always up for being truthful and having a conversation about what's bothering you, but if you feel that she is not being honest back, then maybe don't hang out with her as much. Always be kind to her and never be rude, but try to see if putting some distance in the relationship will make things change.

My parents are so overbearing!

Q: I'm so annoyed! My mom and dad won't let me do anything. I'm not allowed to go to the movies with my friends or walk home from school by myself — and every other person I know is allowed to! Plus, whenever I want to hang out with my friends, they always ask a million questions. How do I get them to back off for a little? — *Whitney, 15*

A: Natasha: Parents are always going to be overbearing and protective because they want the best for you. Baby steps are the way to go for this situation. Sit them down and explain to them that you would like more freedom. Be rational and come up with logical speaking points. Hopefully, by sitting them down and having an adult conversation about it, they will see your maturity and ease up a little bit. They aren't going to give you the freedom you want all at once, but with baby steps, you will slowly earn it.

94%
of J-14ers have
had a best
friend lie
to them.

Cyd and Shelby are best friends whenever — they can make it through any friendship drama!

My camp counselor makes me uncomfortable!

Q: I go to a summer camp with a lot of junior counselors that are high school students. There's one boy counselor who always looks at me and makes sure he's paired up with me when we do activities. He's 17 and way too old for me, but I can't help but think he has some sort of crush on me. How do I deal? — *Gabriella, 13*

A: Candace: Whenever someone makes you uncomfortable, you should always tell an adult. Tell one of the other camp leaders or your parents that he makes you uneasy. Explain the situation to them and ask that you don't get paired with him anymore. You could even suggest that your [new] counselor be a girl instead of a boy. That should end it. No one should ever make you feel uncomfortable. You should be enjoying yourself and having fun!

I have a crush on two boys!

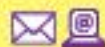
Q: I've liked this boy at my church named Robby for a long time, and he's told me likes me as well. I really like him, but I don't want to wreck our friendship. Then, last night, Robby brought one of his friends to youth group, and I feel like we totally connected. Now, both guys have asked me out, and I'm so confused. I don't know who to choose! What should I do? — *Katie, 14*

A: Candace: This is a tough one, but at 14-years-old, I think staying friends with both of the guys is better than choosing one of them to date. I didn't allow any of my kids to date until they were 16-years-old. It is your parent's choice as to what they are comfortable with, but it's always better to have friendships and get to know someone than to put pressure on yourself to choose a boyfriend. There's a lot of time in your life to have boyfriends, so right now, I'd just enjoy their friendships.

My friend is getting me into trouble!

Q: My friend and I keep getting yelled out for talking during class. She always starts talking to me when I am listening to the teacher, but somehow I'm always the one that gets caught. My teacher even talked to my parents about it, and when I told them it was her that was talking, they said I was just as guilty. I do like having her as a friend, but I don't know what to do to get her to stop! — *Shannon, 11*

A: Natasha: If this girl is constantly getting you in trouble, it's probably not a good idea to sit next to her or to be around her while doing school work. If the classroom has assigned seating, just let the teacher know that you would like to be moved away from her so that you can focus. If the classroom [doesn't have] assigned seating, let your friend know that you want to better your learning experience and that sitting next to her isn't helping that.



Ask
J-14

Stressing over a question that's too humiliating to ask? Send it in confidence to J-14's expert with your age (name optional):
Life's Big Questions, c/o J-14, 270 Sylvan Avenue, Englewood Cliffs, NJ 07632 or by email at lbq@j14.com.