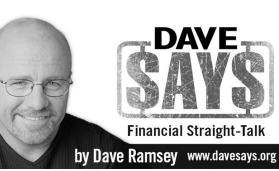
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DAVE SAYS:

## Parent Repeating Past Mistakes Haunts Child

**Dear Dave,** My mom filed bankruptcy about five years ago, and I thought that taught her a lesson. She's on disability now, and makes only \$600 a month. On top of all this, she's piled up about \$30,000 in credit card debt again. She's even paid her utility bills and bought groceries with credit cards. I don't know what to do.

a monster! — Barbara Personal finance isn't Dear Barbara, rocket science. It's 80 per-She can't file bankruptcent behavior, and 20 percy again, because it's still cent math. Plus, there are too close to the date of plenty of agencies out her first filing. It sounds there that help disabled to me like she's going to people find jobs, and help have to face up to what them remain active and she's done, and make productive in the worksome serious behavior place. When it comes to changes. The kind of stuff work, disabled doesn't she's doing is not only always mean unable. It's addictive, it's self-destrucamazing what people with tive. She's trading a disabilities can do, but the moment of pleasure for hard truth is that she's years of pain while that still going to have to find



credit card bill grows into a way to get her income up and cut her outgoing money way down. Sit down with her, and try to explain what's hap-

pening and what she's facing in a kind and loving way. Walk her through the process of making a monthly budget, too. You may run into some resistance, because parents often have a hard time accepting help from their

butt syndrome.

Once someone has

powdered your behind, they don't always want to listen to your advice! She can turn this thing around, Barbara. But it's going to take some persistence on your part to help make it happen.

— Dave **LEASING CAR A BAD IDEA!** 

Dear Dave, I leased a car about give you some cash left two years ago, and I'm over to buy a little beater just now beginning to realize that it was big mistake. I'm throwing away tons of money. Is there any way to get out of a car lease? -

**Řandy** Dear Randy, Now you see why I call it "fleecing," don't you? Never do a lease! It's the most expensive way to operate a vehicle. kids. I call this "powdered Call the company and ask for the early buy-out or pay-off amount. Then,

compare that figure with the value of the car. If the car is worth \$19,000, and the early buy-out is \$21,000, you'll have to scrape together \$2,000 to make up the difference. If you don't have that

kind of cash sitting around, go to your local credit union or bank and get a small loan of \$3,000 to \$3,500. This will get you out of the "fleece," and

Get this done, and pay the loan back as quickly as possible. Then, you can start saving up to pay cash for a really good, used car later!

to drive for a while.

- Dave

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\* For more financial help, please visit daveramsey.com.





