

ears for toothpick-thin TV beauty...

LARA FLYNN BOYLE DOWN TO 96 LBS!

ocs say she's
sking death
and **MUST**
ain 20 lbs.

TELEVISION actress Lara Flynn Boyle, star of ABC's *The Practice*, is wasting away and experts warn she needs to start packing on the pounds - or die.

These alarming GLOBE photos show her progression from trim to reed-thin. After plummeting 66 pounds, the TV legal eagle was barely recognizable during a recent shopping trip to the swanky Fred Segal boutique in Santa Monica, Calif.

"It was shocking to see her," says an eyewitness. "I did a double take - not because it was Lara Flynn Boyle, but because she was so unbelievably skinny. She didn't look at all like a television star. She just looked like a sickly, skinny woman. I just kept thinking, 'She's really in need of some medical help.' She looked just awful."

The 5-foot-4 actress, whose weight and rocky love life have made headlines in the past, has hovered around 105 pounds in recent years. But now she's at an all-time low, say sources.

"Lara's weight fluctuates and right now she is at 96," says one insider. "She's not concerned about it and says she feels fine."

But experts are very concerned and GLOBE Boyle needs to pile on 20 pounds - fast!

"She needs to weigh at least 115 pounds to be healthy," says New York-based plastic surgeon and bodybuilder Bruce Nadler, who has not treated Boyle but has studied these photos of the legal star.

"Her arms are like sticks," he notes.



Shining moment:
Boyle with
then-beau
Jack Nicholson
in 2001



Boyle with *Practice*
co-stars Dylan
McDermott and
Camryn Manheim

"Her breasts are shrunken. She needs to put on weight just to maintain normal body function. If she continues losing weight, she will die."

And Adrienne Ressler, M.A., national training director and body image expert with the world-renowned Renfrew Center in Coconut Creek, Fla., and Philadelphia, Pa., which deals exclusively with eating disorders, agrees 33-year-old Boyle's continuous slide down the scale is dangerous.

"She desperately needs to seek professional help to turn her life around," she says. "Women, especially in Hollywood, think the thinner they are, the more they'll be in demand. If she continues to lose weight, she's courting death."

Nadler says he would gradually increase Boyle's food intake, aiming for 1,200 calories a day. "This would keep her slender but healthy," he says.

These days, Boyle seems anything but healthy - even to friends. One pal tells GLOBE, "Lara is skin and bones, no muscle at all. Her body is totally saggy. It's frightful. Her head is huge next to her tiny body. You can see the outline of her knee joint. It's disgusting."

"When she wears skimpy clothes, they're practically falling off her. And it seems the more failed love affairs she has, the skinnier she gets."

The brunette currently is single, but from 1999 to 2002 she had a volatile relationship with Jack Nicholson, who's 33 years her senior. She's also been linked to actors Kyle MacLachlan, Richard Dean Anderson, David Spade and Eric Dane.

Most recently, she was dating 21-year-old casino heir Harry Morton, son of Hard Rock Hotel owner Peter Morton, whom she met last year over the Vegas blackjack tables.

Now she's gambling with her life.

Says another insider, "Years of hard living, overindulging and lack of exercise have taken a toll on Lara."

- ROBIN MIZRAHI