

In an easy-to-read and engaging format, this book advises young people on situations they can expect to encounter when they venture out into the work world.

16 Things You Should Know About Work Now - A Guide for Young People

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Sixteen Things You Should Know About Work Now

A Guide for Young People

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Chapter Five – You Shouldn't Quit a Job Without Having Another One Lined Up

Okay, this seems obvious. But at least once you will find yourself at a job, so upset with the way things are going, or angry about how you were treated, or just plain bored, that you will be tempted to say, "You know what, I'm out of here. Today. Right now."

Hold on a minute. In movies they make this look easy, as if it is a good idea. There are several scenes in movies where an outraged employee tells off his boss and walks out the door amidst applause from admiring co-workers. But the next time you watch a movie like that, study that scene. Yes the onlookers are admiring, and yes, they are clapping. But notice that their feet are firmly in place. They aren't following the employee out the door.

If the movie had an ounce of reality in it, the outraged employee's life would go like this in the next scene:

After walking out of the office, he would walk to his car, see the gas tank on "E" and proceed to the station to buy gasoline. For the first time in a long time, he would cringe at how much money it took to fill up his tank. You see, things are different now with all the money going out and none coming in.

Our hero would start sending out resumes, calculating in his head that by the time the company manager receives his resume, passes it around to the necessary decision-makers, makes a decision to call him, telephones him for an interview, interviews him, meets to make the decision about hiring him...help! At least two or three pay periods (read that, 4-6 weeks, i.e., more than a month) will have passed with no money coming in. Then the rent is due and he is taking a cash

advance on his credit card. By the time he finally gets a new job, he will be digging himself out of a financial hole.

The point is, telling someone off is best done in your head. You can call your boss every name in the book in your imagination, and even conjure up imaginary applause from the customers who overhear. But leaving a job and getting a job require particular skills. And the fact is, you are a more attractive job candidate when you are employed.

Prospective employers are like prospective dates. They want what other people want or already have. Maybe that's human nature. Most executive recruiters, aka "headhunters", get paid big bucks to lure people away from their current jobs. Most of them won't even talk to unemployed applicants, no matter how good their credentials. And hiring managers at companies are always more skeptical about the motives of unemployed applicants. If you don't have a job when you apply for another one, the prospective employer will believe you are desperate to take any job now, and will leave them as soon as something more suitable comes along.

Now armed with this knowledge, go back and watch the movie again about the guy quitting his job in a fit of righteous indignation. Listen to the applause while you are sitting at your computer, updating your resume for submission.

By the time the day comes for you to leave, with your new and exciting job in hand, and two weeks' notice to your horrible boss, I'll bet you won't even feel like telling anyone off.

'Funny how that happens.

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