

OWD Problem Solving Scenarios:

Situation:

Leo has been working in a warehouse loading and unloading trucks for shipment. Two of his co-workers call him “convict” and make derogatory references about his criminal history every day. Leo’s boss has overheard these statements many times and said nothing.

Situation:

Cameron has been working at an auto shop for over two years. When he was first released from prison he was willing to take minimum wage. He felt that he was lucky enough to have a job (especially given the economy) and needed to meet his parole requirements. Lately, Leo has found it to be more and more challenging to pay weekly bills with his current salary and he is no longer on parole. Today he was talking to one of his co-workers who shared that he was making \$12.00 an hour for doing the same job Cameron was getting paid minimum wage for. His co-worker was a new hire without any experience but he also did not have a felony conviction.

Situation:

While in prison, Joe completed his food service certificate and maintained employment at Aramark for two full years. After his release one year ago he started working at Yum Yum Burgers, a ma-and-pa restaurant on the outskirts of town. While working at Yum Yums, Joe has been able to take classes online and has been driving to the community college one day a week for hands-on learning in culinary arts. He has been making effort to move up the corporate ladder with little response from management. He is still washing dishes and wants to be in the kitchen cooking.

Situation:

Gary recently released from prison and has been working at his brother’s lawn care business for 3 months. He was getting paid in cash. His parole officer stated that she needed Gary to “get legitimate work with pay stubs or get another job within the next month.”

Situation:

Lucy’s employer assigned her to run a chipper and climb trees uninsured. Lucy is concerned about her safety but speculates that her employer thinks that insurance may be too expensive.