

## Equal Opportunity Training Video

### Key personalities in this scene are:

**Les** - manager

**Sandy** - secretary with some human resource responsibilities

**Roger** - the injured employee



### Sitting Down on the Job

## Transcript

### Act I

Sandy and Les discuss Roger's return to work after an injury. There is a debate about whether or not to provide him with a chair.

**SANDY** Les,... can I have a word?

**LES** Sure.

**SANDY** Its about Roger.

**LES** Ah, how is Roger? Back from his compo and raring to go?

**SANDY** Um, he's still on the mend, and, well – he's on deck, yes, but –

**LES** Spit it out.

**SANDY** Okay: now he wants a chair to sit on.

**LES** (Laughs.) He wants a chair. Anything else?

**SANDY** Roger said to me if he can sit at the extruder and can have a table so he can mark and label all the rolls, it would make life much easier for him...

**LES** We can't fit a table down by the machines. It just won't work. And a stool! What is he, a pansy? When the others see him sitting down on the job, they'll all want it. Bloody return-to-work program. It's already cost us a bomb.

**SANDY** Look the point is, we have to really tackle this in a very calm-

**LES** Okay: I hear you. What do we have to do, legally?

**SANDY** We have to give him what he wants. If it's reasonable.

**LES** Yea. Well how about we suggest that Mr Rogers spends a little bit more time at home getting over his problem, instead of hanging around here wasting our time.

**SANDY** Okay, what I can do is: I'll talk to him at lunchtime on him break.

**LES** Alright, and let that boy know: we'll cut his hours if he keeps this up.

## Act II

Sandy reports back to Roger that Les thinks that providing a chair is unreasonable and that he thinks Roger should take more time off.

**SANDY** Roger?

**ROGER** Did you want to see me?

**SANDY** Mmm. Take a seat. Look, Les reckons you can forget about the stool and the table. And he thinks that you're being quite unreasonable.

**ROGER** You're joking. What's the big deal?

**SANDY** Les says if your back is that crook you should take some more time off, or see how you go on a three or four hour day – just for a while. I mean, it's important you don't strain your back any more.

**ROGER** You'd think I was asking for a wheelchair ramp. Look, tell him that this is not okay. And if something's not done, I'll complain outside.

**SANDY** Well go ahead. I mean, that's fine but it's just going to make it more difficult for you, and-

**ROGER** I will. I will: let someone else judge whether it's reasonable or not.

**SANDY** Have you thought about it? Have you thought what it's going to be like with your mates down on the floor and they see you sitting in this little, silly chair.

**ROGER** It's not about my mates. It's about my back.

**SANDY** Take some time off. Get better. It's for your own good.

**ROGER** Nah. This is a cop-out.

**SANDY** I tell you what: I'll arrange a meeting with you, me and Les. Okay? And see if we can work something out.

**ROGER** And... what difference will that make?

**[FADE TO BLACK]**