

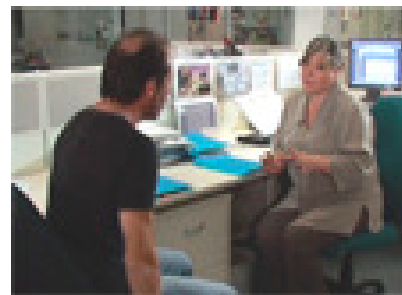
Equal Opportunity Training Video

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]