

West Side Informer

Volume 8, Issue 2

Spring 2012

Love at Work

A survey cited by the Insurance Advocate shows that more and more people (almost 60%) are choosing to date someone they meet at work, and nearly 64% of these people say that they would be willing to do it again. Another study found that not all workplace relationships are casual or end badly, with around 20% being long-term or resulting in marriage. However, workplace relationships that do end badly can result in sexual harassment claims and even when the relationship goes well, there may be legal issues because of claims of favoritism.

To protect themselves companies can implement policies regarding workplace romances. Policies involving personal relationships should be in the employee handbook and employers need to decide the consequences for not following company policy and to enforce them fairly.

While generally prohibiting workplace romances is not practical, it's a good idea to prohibit romance between supervisors and subordinates to avoid claims of sexual harassment and coercion. Some companies have implemented the use of 'love contracts,' where employees in workplace romances sign 'consensual relationship agreements' which state that the relationship is voluntary, they understand the sexual harassment policy, they will be discreet, and they will conduct themselves professionally if the relationship ends.

DeMaria, A. T. (2011). Office Romances: How Employers Can Minimize the Potential for Liability. *Insurance Advocate*, 122(4),19. Retrieved from Business Source Complete Database.

Valentine's Day Stats:

The National Restaurant Association says that after birthdays, Valentine's Day is the second most popular day of the year to dine out. Thirty-one percent of Americans went out to eat on Feb 14th in 2011, down from 35% in 2010.

Forty-two percent went to their favorite restaurant for Valentine's Day, but 11% chose someplace new. Other motivations for picking a particular restaurant include wanting a romantic atmosphere (13%) or because of special menus or promotions. (13%)

For more Valentine's Day dining statistics you can check out the reports in the *Restaurant, Food & Beverage Market Research Handbook*, available through Business Source Complete.

Holiday Dining. (2011). Restaurant, *Food & Beverage Market Research Handbook*, 234-237. Retrieved from Business Source Complete Database.

Tlapa, C. A., Miller, R. K., & Washington, K. (2010). Holiday Dining. Restaurant, *Food & Beverage Market Research Handbook*, 210-214. Retrieved from Business Source Complete Database.

Interested in Advertising?

Sign up for the Aggie Advertising Competition hosted by the Aggie Advertising Club! The competition takes place on March 3rd from 9am to 5pm. Register at the club's website aaf.tamu.edu and request to join the Facebook group "Aggie Advertising Club." Participants will be assigned a client and have six hours to create an advertising campaign.

Winners receive a gift card as well as getting feedback from a panel of judges from top advertising agencies and design firms.



WEST CAMPUS LIBRARY

Library Main Number:
979.845.2111

Study Room Reservations
reservations.library.tamu.edu

Copies of the newsletter
are available at the Check
Out Desk as well as the
WCL homepage:
wcl.library.tamu.edu

The newsletter is written
and published by the West
Campus Library Staff.