

Toolkit Case Reflection: "Unwavering Standards"

Freshman Seminar

An Undergraduate Student

Excellent work is work that is not only done to the fullest of one's own potential, with an input of hard work, dedication, and interest, but also it must be for the good of oneself and the good of others. Carol put a lot of dedication into her work and had strong belief in what excellent journalism was, and was therefore respected by her coworkers and those who watched her program. So when the station she worked for made a decision that went against what she believed to be journalistic standards, she did what she had to do to make sure she was not a part of it. She wanted to be a good reporter with high popularity I'm sure, but she was not willing to compromise her values and beliefs just to get ahead in the work field.

In the summer, I work at a local theme park in Langhorne, PA. My second season there, my manager's younger sister was hired. Her first few weeks there, many of us noticed she was getting better hours and shifts than some of us who had more experience and seniority. At first we thought maybe this was just to ease her into working in a new environment with new people. But after it continued to go on, one of my coworkers finally stood up to say that it was unfair that this girl was getting special treatment just because she was related to the manager. After we all had a talk, the schedule was recreated, with fairer shifts for all. My manager was not upholding her responsibility to create an equal work environment for all she represented. And the girl who stood up to her displayed good work because she followed what she valued to make happen what she knew was right, and did so in a completely professional way.

In the same way Carol stood up for what she knew was right, and even though it may have set her back a few steps at first, she got back on her feet in a short amount of time and is still able to do what she enjoys in a manner that she knows is ethically correct.