Nathan Lungstrom

Prof. Grollmus

English 131

March 16, 2015

**PERSPECTIVE ONE**

Boss or Friend, Maybe Both

By: Michael Scott

In response to receiving the manager of the quarter award, I thought I would extend to you my gratitude by explaining how I do my job so well.

One common misconception heard by all when dealing with the role of the “Boss” is that He is a hard-ass, and is the enemy of all in the office. What is the “Boss”? WHO is the “Boss”? Is He your friend? Do you bow to Him as the decider? The answer may be deceiving, but the answer is yes.

“Yes? What kind of answer is that? I didn’t ask a yes or no question!” Is probably what is going through your mind right now. But yes, yes you did ask a Yes or No question, because He is both your friend AND your leader. Although you may fear Him, He is also your shoulder to cry on when you can’t sleep at night, He is the one who has all the important answers. The best bosses are those that look at the hard decisions and think “how will my friends feel about that?” The best bosses are your friend and your boss. Jan was my friend and my boss and even my lover at one point. The romanticism and lust between us is what drove this company because we saw each other (and still do) as more than just someone who pays you.

I always get asked “Michael, how come you always seem to make the right decisions, but also are the coolest guy in the office?” and “How can I be like you? You seem to have it all!” and that’s because I do have it all. Not anyone can be a boss, especially a good boss. It’s hard to be liked like I am AND make the decisions I make. Being a good boss is like a natural instinct; it’s like a young me being able to pick girls up at the club. Or it’s like how Toby is so naturally gifted at making people hate him. It just comes naturally to us. A famous person once said “If you’re trying to be a good boss over and over again and keep failing, then give up.” And I hold myself to that.

Sincerely,

Michael Scott

**PERSPECTIVE TWO**

From: Jim Halpert

To: David Wallace

Subject: In Regard to Michael Scott

I know I’ve emailed you about this before, but things have been getting worse with Michael.

Take today, for example. Michael was trying to keep other employees from being concerned about the recent confusion created by corporate’s memo about the company’s financial well-being. While this wouldn’t be a problem for most, Michael put his typical Scott spin on things by interrupting work and forcing us to spend the entire day playing a trivia game about a murder in Savannah. To make matters worse, he refused to break character for any reason, and I really do mean any reason. In fact, Michael would refuse to talk to anyone who broke character or didn’t speak to him in a southern accent—even when they asked him an actual question about the days’ tasks or updates on the company.

I know you know Michael well, and as much as I love the guy, there should be no room for this in a co-manager position. Yes we want to keep the employees happy and content, but we also need to be able to know when to draw the line between work and play. Michael, unfortunately, does not know when to draw the line. Ever.

I hope I am not crossing the line myself by complaining to you about these issues, but I believe they are issues that must be dealt with if we are to come out of this financial situation with an upper hand.

Best Regards,

Jim Halpert