

## Another reason to allow honest discussion regarding sex relations

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**From:** "William Warren Munroe"

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Letter to the Editor

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Another reason to allow honest discussion regarding sex relations.

While serving the public as an Economist in the position of Population Analyst (expert on migration), after providing solutions to reduce error in information products disseminated by the provincial government's Official Statistical Agency, I was accused by the section manager of making a female co-worker feel unsafe. My requests for mediation/resolution (what did I say or do? I still have not been told) were ignored. I was removed from all responsibility, given more and more of my co workers' menial tasks with shorter and shorter time limits as well as removed from the contacts list.

The Executive Director informed me that to have mediation I must file a grievance against the section manager. The Executive Director investigated and while finding deep problems and irreconcilable differences the resolution would be that there is "no resolution". Shortly after forwarding the grievance to the Deputy Minister, the section manager came to my office ordered me to turn in my security pass and leave the building. The shop steward helped me carry out my belongings.

A week later, I was ordered to return to work and attend a meeting where I was told I was registered in a program for employees with documented work problems which included an assessment of a believed "behavioural problem" (what behaviour? providing solutions?). I insisted on mediation instead but was dismissed for insubordination. My request for arbitration was denied on grounds that I went down the wrong channel.

Several years later, while working with parents to save public schools, I discovered that the people who fired me still had not made corrections to the statistical agencies' information products now used to justify public school closures. I wrote to the Minister responsible whose spokesperson dismissed concerns about the incorrect information referring to a study by Statistics Canada finding the province's statistical agency's information to be of "better quality" than Statistics Canada's. My many requests to see the study were ignored; therefore, I made a Freedom of Information request but was denied a copy or even the title on grounds claiming, "disclosure harmful to intergovernmental relations or negotiations".

I had also sent a request to Statistics Canada, and being an agency with integrity, was provided with a copy of the study wherein I discovered that the false information I had raised concerns about had been provided to Statistics Canada by the people who had fired me. The title of the study is "The Equalization Program and the Property Tax Base Feasibility Study Conducted by Statistics Canada, Feasibility Report to Finance Canada".

Now I know why I was accused of making a "female" co worker feel unsafe and fired with no honest discussion. I recommend verification/replication of information products even those disseminated by statistical agencies.

Sincerely,

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