

# Best regards syndicals

OCTOBER 2014



## I must remind the Staff Committee...

3 years have passed and there is still no Guide for the Staff Reports exercise ! Where is the framework? How are the assessors and assesses going to proceed ? What a mess !



## Ethics : a legal issue ?

ANTIGONE by SOPHOCLES

*Yes; for it was not Zeus that had published me that edict; not such are the laws set among men by the justice who dwells with the gods below; nor deemed I that thy decrees were of such force, that a mortal could override the unwritten and unfailing statutes of heaven. For their life is not of today or yesterday, but from all time, and no man knows when they were first put forth.*

*Not through dread of any human pride could I answer to the gods for breaking these. Die I must,-I knew that well (how should I not?)-even without thy edicts. But if I am to die before my time, I count that a gain: for when any one lives, as I do, compassed about with evils, can such an one find aught but gain in death?*

*So for me to meet this doom is trifling grief; but if I had suffered my mother's son to lie in death an unburied corpse, that would have grieved me; for this, I am not grieved. And if my present deeds are foolish in thy sight, it may be that a foolish judge arraigns my folly.*

## Workplace Bullying, Abuse & Post Traumatic Stress Disorder: It's True, Your Boss Can Give You PTSD

'... Thankfully, the issue of bullying, abuse and harassment at work has become firmly acknowledged in many respects in recent years. The psychological harm this can cause to someone at work is recognised, but it is still rare that such harm is understood in terms of PTSD.

For many people, the workplace is a site of bullying and abuse by their own workmates and managers, and is not a safe place at all. If we give this some thought, most of us can probably pinpoint one or more examples of such bullying we have seen in our own careers - either done to us or others. It might not always cause PTSD, but the consequences are always inevitably nasty.

The employment tribunal system has slowly begun to pick this up and use what powers it is given to redress some of the wrongs caused by employers against their workers.

A lot of people, and a lot of time lost from work by the people suffering the terrible consequences of PTSD (and of course it also time lost from their normal lives).

It is a complete waste for everyone, apart from those who do the bullying. Although this has been happening for years, and is likely to continue happening in future, there needs to be much more recognition of this problem and the harm it causes.'

Malory Nye/Huffington Post 2013

**COLLEAGUES SUFFERING FROM PTSD should speak only to specialised psychiatrist ! Talking to friends about traumatic experience may worsen the trauma ....**



*The charismatic banker and builder of Europe*  
**Johan Willem Beyen**

*'Political integration cannot be an end in itself; what matters is to make military and economic cooperation possible. The European Defence Community and the Coal and Steel Community represent a start to political integration. We have to deepen and build on what is already in place. But cohesion cannot be brought about just by setting up a political authority. Cooperation has to arise from economic integration.'*  
Dec. 1952

## Men, Women and the Golden apple of discord

A long time ago, during a feast of Olympian Gods, Eris (Discordia) was angry for having not been invited, so she threw a golden apple with the inscription "to the prettiest". Three Goddesses claimed the apple: **Hera** (protector of marital life), **Venus** (Goddess of love) and **Athena** (goddess of wisdom).

When Zeus was asked to be the judge he preferred to appoint Paris, a prince from Troy, well known for his fairness ... The choice became difficult, but Venus would not accept a defeat, and she bribed with the most beautiful woman as his bride, if he chose her as the prettiest.

Indeed Paris chose to offer the golden apple to Venus and in return, the Goddess ordered her son Eros to lighten the flame of love in the hearts of Paris and the divine Helen of Sparta. wife of the king Menelaus. Helen left her husband and daughter and followed Paris to Troy.

The Greeks were offended and their troops embarked on an expedition to Troy to bring back the queen. After nine years of fighting, the greatest heroes were killed (Achilles, Hector, Ajax, Patroclus, etc.) and there was still no victor... for half of the Olympian Gods were helping Greeks and the other half the Trojans. In the 10<sup>th</sup> year Athena, who had not forgiven Venus' cheating, put an end to the war by inspiring Ulysses, to offer a **Wooden Horse** to the Trojans... Troy was burnt and the Greeks took back Helen ...

Down on earth, Hillary Clinton\*, found strength by overcoming adversity and moving on from humiliation to the run for Presidency.

*'Power is being able to accept that you're not the person who is loved most all the time. Power is in the person who can do the loving and the forgiving'.*

\*On feminism, forgiveness & feeling lucky PSYCHOLOGIES - Oct 2014

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