Course: Advance Impact Issues Level 1 Day Nº29

Corporations vs. Media men

Do you trust big companies? What about the media? Who is more honest?







Shin discovers a serious problem at his company and isn't sure what to do. He asks for his colleague Cathy what she thinks. Read their conversation.

Shin: Cathy, can you come here a second? I need your advice.

Cathy: What? What is it?

- **Shin:** Look. Look at this company report, the environmental impact report for our new factory.
- **Cathy:** Oh, yeah, the environmental report. What's the problem?
- **Shin:** Well, look—look at these figures. It says our company released two hundred kilos of zinc, one hundred kilos of arsenic, and...
- Cathy: Yes, yes, I can see. Is there a problem?
- **Shin:** Well, if you think lying is OK, then no, there's no problem.
- **Cathy:** Wait, wait, wait. Take it easy. You mean the figures are off?
- **Shin:** Way off. We emitted two **thousand** kilos of zinc, one **thousand** kilos of arsenic... and the figures are all lies!

Cathy: Are you sure? How do you know?

Shin: How do I know? Because I compiled the data from our factories and I gave the raw data to Wen directly.

- **Cathy:** Hmmm. Did you talk to Wen about it? The report is his responsibility. It's not your responsibility, you know.
- **Shin:** Yes, I did talk to Wen. He admitted that the figures were "modified." He said it was only "temporary."
- **Cathy:** Ooooh. Well, maybe you should trust him. Maybe he modified them for some reason. Maybe Wen thinks we need some time to make improvements.
- **Shin:** Yes, that's exactly what he said. "It's just temporary. We will make improvements soon."

Cathy: OK, that explains it.

- **Shin:** But it's a lie. He's covering up the real truth.
- Cathy: Not exactly, Shin. He's trying to...
- **Shin:** No, I think it's a cover-up. I think I should talk to somebody in the media.
- **Cathy:** Are you crazy? I'd have to tell management who gave them the information.
- Shin: Really? Maybe I should just forget about it.

Vocabulary



Intonation Practice

-"We emitted **two thousand** kilos of zinc, one **thousand** kilos of arsenic..."

-"He admitted that the figures were 'modified'."

-"He said it was only 'temporary'."

-"Yes, that's exactly what he said."

-"Are you crazy?"



If you were Shin and you're talking to Wen, how would you ask him to explain what he meant by those statements?

Should employees report dishonest activities at work?



Why do you think that?

What do you think? Read the different opinions. Do you agree or disagree?

Yeon-Suk:

Shin should go to the media. What his company is doing is wrong.

agree or disagree





Susan:

Cathy is right about not trusting the media. Shin should forget about it.

agree or disagree

Ken:

Shin made a mistake by telling Cathy. He can't do anything now. **agree** or **disagree**



FILL IN THE GAPS

Saving

Choice

Stop

Lose

Protect

Fired

Media

Manager

This seems like a really tough situation. I mean, if the worker tells the media, he has a lot to lose. He may ______his job and career because the company, by doing something illegal, may be destroyed if people find out. But, honestly, I think there is only really one ______. He has to go to the ______and he has to tell them. Because if he doesn't say anything, he's actually part of the crime, and by telling the media he may be lives.





You're Shin's friend. He has told you about what he has discovered and is now asking for your advice. What will you tell him?

Thank you for today!

I'm looking forward to seeing you again!