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Business Pulse Survey

SURVEY QUESTION:

WOULD YOU HIRE A WORKER WITH VISIBLE TATTOOS?

Would you hire a worker with visible tattoos?

Yes, for any job.



Yes, but only if the tattoos are small.



Yes, but only for non-public-contact jobs.



No.



Other (leave a comment explaining).



Not sure.



Votes Cast: 1462

This poll is not a scientific sampling, but offers a quick view of what readers are thinking

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Showing 10 of 16 comments

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Dan Raabe 8 months ago

I am glad that there is a more liberalized opinion out there than what I usually see expressed in this area of the country. Let's see...What year is it? 2010 maybe. It's time we caught up to the modern thinking in this country if Denver is to become a modern city. If we live here to simply think we are

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Business Pulse Survey

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part of the "Old West" then we aren't really part of the dynamic of the future. You can't have one foot in Web 2.0 society and the other in a 3 speed on the column...

Basically grow up. Stereotypes are old school. Health doesn't come out of a bottle. And people have a right to express themselves, seek their individuality, and make contributions that positively affect us all. I never saw a tattoo that inhibited anyone from saving a life, developing a cure for cancer, or signing on the dotted line.

Like

Randy Hughes 8 months ago

I find it interesting that we continue to judge the book by its cover. We went through that when long hair was not accepted in the business world, but Hippie generation grew up and now long hair is accepted. Tattoos next???

Like

Jeff Robertson 8 months ago

Depending on the job, tattoos might be a relevant factor, but any factor should be weighed in the overall context of the skills of the applicant and the requirements of the position.

Like

Tobias Strohe 8 months ago

Dan, while you and I may "not care", the article and some of the responses show that people still clearly do. I do also find it hypocritical sometimes, as some tattoo sporting folks might take offense to a "traditionally groomed" suit and tie wearing person.

(Un)fortunately appearance will forever be important as the first impression for humankind (one way or another) and someone who sports a tattoo is equally conscious of their appearance as someone who puts on make-up and hair spray (or gel). It is a way of self expression. Some forms might be more traditionally "accepted" than others, but fashions and styles are everchanging.

Like

Dan Raabe 8 months ago

Who cares about tattoos. Most people can't even spell the word correctly. I hear the same response about tattoos that I heard for years about every new trend in art and music. It's about time we accepted the trends in culture and all acted like adults. Living in Denver is no excuse for not understanding the macro-cultural view of the world (for lack of a more descriptive word).

Like

Carol B 8 months ago

I don't have a tattoo, just common sense. Making snap decisions about people's personalities without getting to know them is sad and prejudicial. I stand by my original comments. People will use all sorts of rationales to stereotype and justify why they don't "like" someone or why someone isn't going to "work out" in their department. There was a time when it was considered scandalous for women to show an ankle or for men to dress in short sleeves. Times change. Perhaps Mr. Kranitz would be more comfortable returning to those good old days....

Like

Tobias Strohe 8 months ago

While I personally feel that tattoos and piercings have become so commonplace that it's downright non-conformist not to have one (now there are TV commercials for tattoo gift cards to give your loved ones), I can see there being certain levels of tattoo amount, location, and subject that might still offend someone (a client e.g.). For those instances I can understand, if someone chose not to hire that person, as it is part of the job description to look a certain way. With Gen-Y rising to the largest customer base (and inheriting the baby-boomers' wealth) this will likely change.

On a side note: From a "taste" perspective I am saddened by the high occurrence of just plain "bad" tattoo artwork out there.

Like

Frances Stearns 9 months ago

I've a neat small clay figure holding down papers on my desk...a Maori whose tattoos describe his clan and give other information. In a non-literate social system, it's a necessity. Just pretentious in an American.

Like

Mark Van Vleet 9 months ago

I would hire the best qualified candidate for any job; however, dress codes and professional expectations are paramount. Also, perceptions are 90% of the game; which means that a 300 lbs biker, covered in tattoos, would most likely never be elevated to the position of a Supreme Court Justice.

Like

Michael Kranitz 9 months ago

One respondent wrote: "Seriously, the state or color of one's skin should not be a determining factor. Have we really progressed so little since 1965?"

This completely misses the point. People are not born purple moons and other images. This isn't discrimination based on genetic makeup. Rather, a tattoo reflects on the personality and judgment of the individual. I look at someone with a visible tattoo and I ask why that person was compelled to make a statement to the public by essentially drawing on themselves. You can rationalize it as art or "personal preference" but you cannot ignore that the tattoo is the individual's permanent statement intended for the public to receive. I would most definitely take that statement into account when hiring. It's no different from looking at the individual's written work, public action or Facebook profile.

Like

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