

----- In response to the email -----

*It seems like my boss never goes home. Other employees stay around until the boss leaves because they want to win points with him. I have a life! I want to excel at work and be promoted. I also want to spend quality time with my family and friends. How do I leave at a reasonable time without looking like a slacker?*

## Email #13

### Production vs. Prostitution

**From:** [Michael@HelpMyBossIsAnIdiot.com](mailto:Michael@HelpMyBossIsAnIdiot.com)

**Sent:** Monday, July 5, 2004 8:02 AM

**To:** [BossNeedsALife@HelpMyBossIsAnIdiot.com](mailto:BossNeedsALife@HelpMyBossIsAnIdiot.com)

**Subject:** Production vs. Prostitution

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Although I have not been in the same exact situation, my experience does come in as a close second. The thing was, my boss didn't come in until the afternoon and then he would stay until at least 10 PM every night. The joke around the office was that he was a vampire. I wouldn't know about that because I didn't hang out long enough for him to get his teeth into me. Here's how I handled the situation:

First of all, I had to decide what was most important to me. Moving up in my career is very important. But having a balanced life is also very important.

As I was trying to find the balance in my life, this guy would consistently call me into his office around 4:30 PM and want to talk for an hour. Then he would want me to have whatever we discussed ready for him ASAP. That worked great for him because he was just getting to work. I, on the other hand, had been there all day. I tried to speak with him about it but that didn't work, so I started having appointments. When 4:53 PM rolled around and he wanted to have a spur of the moment meeting, I said, "I have an appointment at 6 PM and it's on the other side of town." It was unnecessary to include that the appointment was a date with my wife and the dinner that she had cooked for me. Sometimes it was an appointment to be at church in order to volunteer with our youth group. I even began scheduling appointments to work out at the gym. Soon my supervisor began leaving work on my desk. This worked out great for me because I was able to complete the work in the morning when I arrived (prior to his appearance). There is always a solution.

You may be saying, yeah, but those personal things can be pushed back can't they? Sure, they can be pushed back, but what is my life or your life worth? I can push back my workout until the gym closes. I can push back my health until I develop clogs in my arteries. I can push back dinner until the food is cold and my wife is disappointed. I can miss church enough to have my spiritual life spinning out of control. I can push things back until the youth group at church dissolves and the kids think I'm another loser adult that's disappointed them.

Do I stop pushing things back, once I'm overweight, divorced and on my death bed?

There are all kinds of statistics out there...  
I will just share a few with you.

Did you know that children from fatherless homes are:

- 5 times more likely to commit suicide
- 32 times more likely to run away
- 9 times more likely to drop out of school
- 10 times more likely to abuse drugs
- 20 times more likely to end up in prison

*- Separated Parenting Access and Resource Center*

Did you know that divorce rates are now at an all-time high?

My wife told me that while she was at work helping with a surgery, her colleagues were discussing the role of sex in their lives. Toward the end of the conversation a female nurse blurted out, "I can go weeks without having sex with my husband." The male doctor who was performing the surgery said, "I'm sure you can but who is your husband having sex with?"

When we don't meet the needs of our loved ones, someone else is ready, willing and able to. If I am not there to answer my son or daughter's questions, some knucklehead at school will give them an answer.

If my kids don't feel loved and protected at home, they may join a gang to fill that void. If my wife doesn't feel like I am giving her enough QUALITY TIME, she may look elsewhere to get some good loving - God forbid because I would hate to have to kill some dude and go to jail (as pretty as I am)! Family is a priority for me. What are your priorities?

The reason why I work as much as I do is to provide for things that are important to me. I don't work for the sake of working. I earn a paycheck that enables me to spend my time and money on things that I value (family, friends, recreation etc.). If work becomes my entire life, would my life really be worth living? You are more important than your job. You have a life. Don't allow anyone to monopolize it.

With that being said, we also have to understand the work environment that we are in. I once worked in a place that didn't mind if you came in late as long as you were getting work done. Thus, if my supervisor kept me late one night, I would come in at noon the next day or take off early on Friday. Understanding the corporate culture of your workplace is huge. Now, if the entire industry that you are in typically works 20 hour days and that's not something you would like to do, you may want to change occupations. A change to a more family friendly company may fix the problem as well.

Where ever you work, you are expected to produce. We need to be good at what we do and get results. Producing results is why you have your job but you cannot produce 24/7. Do you want to produce 40 hours a week? How about 60 hours a week? There has to come a point where we draw a line. That is the point where we outline boundaries for our lives and do not allow others to make us compromise them, life is too short. In fact, many of us shorten our lives because we have no boundaries and are not good stewards of our time. Everything that we take on is another weight. When we attempt to juggle all of the different weights, eventually we can be crushed under all of the pressure. We have to assess how much we are able to handle. Each one of us has a limit to how much we can do. Even Superman couldn't handle kryptonite. If we allow someone else to decide the limits for us, we might get buried under all of the weight they throw on us. You have to take time for yourself. What good is being fruitful if we are never able to enjoy the fruits of our labor? According to first chapter of Genesis, even God rested after he created the universe!

Personally, I am five generations removed from slavery. My grandfather was an old preacher who worked on a farm. My father fought for his country in the United States Army. I went to Texas A&M University... I thought I earned a Master's Degree not a slave master. Am I going to allow someone to make me give up my body and pay me a fraction of what I'm truly worth? I don't know where you are from, but here in Texas, we call that prostitution.

I for one don't want to be a ho no mo'! You have a life. You are too valuable for that. Be productive not prostituted.

Lastly, when it comes to how people view you, remember to keep in mind what really matters. I've been called a slacker. I've been called a "brown-noser." I've been called a dreamer. None of those titles that people have attempted to label me with matter. What matters is what I think about me. What matters is what you think about you. What matters is how we perform our jobs.

I've found that a lot of folks who work extra long hours are there because they mismanage their time. When I get done in four hours what it takes someone else ten hours to do, that's called efficiency. When companies have to downsize, they look to trim the fat or inefficient. Wise executives look to promote people who are effective not excessive. Be a productive employee not a prostituted one.

**I don't want to be a ho no mo'!**

Don't hate the playa...  
~Michael

Attachment: [BigPimpin.file](#)

SHOW ME THE MONEY!

