



CONGRATULATIONS—Jesse Lous Jackson, Jr. (C) is being congratulated by his father, Jesse Sr., and his mother, Jacqueline, at his graduation from Chicago Theological Seminary in one of 214 photos in exhibition and book, called "Songs Of My People", published by Little, Brown and Company. An exhibit of works by 50 noted African-American photographers will tour the United States and Europe for three years after the premiere showing at Corcoran Art Gallery, beginning May 3. (Photo by John H. White, New African Visions)

Graduating Students Offered Advice On Joining Workforce

BY KEITH O. HILTON

A friend of mine and fellow journalist on the West Coast, Patricia Rodgers, once wrote a column titled "Memorable Ways Not to Get Hired." I will share some of her examples at this time.

Hopefully some of these examples on the lighter side will serve as "opposite effect creative guides" for all of the graduating college students heading to ward joining the workforce.

PATRICIA RODGERS: Anyone who has ever interviewed for a job has experienced these moments of pre-interview self-coaching when we remind ourselves of all things not to do—don't bite your nails, don't interrupt, don't fidget.

We know if we lapse into these little habits, we'll disqualify ourselves instantly.

But amazingly enough, some job applicants forego this self-coaching and go out of their way to flaunt their idiosyncrasies.

Robert Half International, Inc., a San Francisco head hunter, surveyed top personnel executives of 100 major corporations. RHI asked for stories of unusual behavior by job applicants.

Response was enthusiastic and abundant. Some of the more amazing, believe it or not, are as follows:

"The candidate told me that her long-term goal was to replace me."

"Stretched out on the floor to fill out the job application."

"She wore a Walkman and said she could listen to me and the music at the same time."

"Balding candidate abruptly excused himself, returned to the office a few minutes later, wearing a hairpiece."

"Announced she hadn't had lunch and proceeded to eat a hamburger and french fries in the interviewer's office."

"Man wore a jogging suit to interview for a position as financial vice president."

"Wouldn't get out of the chair until I would hire him. I had to call the police."

"Took a brush out of MY purse, brushed his hair and left."

"Pulled out a Polaroid camera and snapped a flash picture of me. Said he collected photos of everyone who interviewed him."

"He took off his right shoe and sock. Removed a medicated foot powder and dusted it on the foot and in the shoe. While he was putting on the shoe and sock, he mentioned that he had to use the powder four times a day, and this was the time."

These people are certainly amusing, unconventional and memorable. They are also probably still unemployed.

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