



# The Working Life: The Promise and Betrayal of Modern Work

By Joanne B. Ciulla



Download



Read Online

**The Working Life: The Promise and Betrayal of Modern Work** By Joanne B. Ciulla



Get Print Book

## EXPLORING AND EXPLODING OUR NOTIONS OF WORK

Joanne B. Ciulla, a noted scholar in Leadership and Ethics, examines why so many people today have let their jobs take over their lives. Technology was supposed to free us from work, but instead we work longer hours-often tethered to the office at home by cell phones and e-mail. People still look to work for self-fulfillment, community, and identity, but these things may be increasingly difficult to find in today's workplace. Gone is the social contract where employees and employers shared a sense of mutual loyalty, yet many of us still sacrifice personal time for jobs that we could lose at the drop of a stock price. Tracing the evolution of the meaning of work from Aesop to Dilbert, and critically examining the past 100 years of management practices, Ciulla asks questions that we often willfully ignore at our own peril.

\*When you are on your deathbed, will you wish you had spent more time at the office?

\*Why do we define ourselves by our jobs rather than by other activities we do outside of work?

\*What can employers and employees promise each other in today's business environment?

Provocative and entertaining, **The Working Life** challenges us to think about the meaning of work and its impact on our lives.



[Download The Working Life: The Promise and Betrayal of Mode ...pdf](#)



[Read Online The Working Life: The Promise and Betrayal of Mo ...pdf](#)

# The Working Life: The Promise and Betrayal of Modern Work

*By Joanne B. Ciulla*

**The Working Life: The Promise and Betrayal of Modern Work** By Joanne B. Ciulla

EXPLORING AND EXPLODING OUR NOTIONS OF WORK

Joanne B. Ciulla, a noted scholar in Leadership and Ethics, examines why so many people today have let their jobs take over their lives. Technology was supposed to free us from work, but instead we work longer hours-often tethered to the office at home by cell phones and e-mail. People still look to work for self-fulfillment, community, and identity, but these things may be increasingly difficult to find in today's workplace. Gone is the social contract where employees and employers shared a sense of mutual loyalty, yet many of us still sacrifice personal time for jobs that we could lose at the drop of a stock price. Tracing the evolution of the meaning of work from Aesop to Dilbert, and critically examining the past 100 years of management practices, Ciulla asks questions that we often willfully ignore at our own peril.

\*When you are on your deathbed, will you wish you had spent more time at the office?

\*Why do we define ourselves by our jobs rather than by other activities we do outside of work?

\*What can employers and employees promise each other in today's business environment?

Provocative and entertaining, **The Working Life** challenges us to think about the meaning of work and its impact on our lives.

## **The Working Life: The Promise and Betrayal of Modern Work** By Joanne B. Ciulla Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #517737 in Books
- Published on: 2001-03-20
- Released on: 2001-03-20
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.00" h x .70" w x 5.20" l, .68 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 288 pages

 [Download The Working Life: The Promise and Betrayal of Mode ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Working Life: The Promise and Betrayal of Mo ...pdf](#)

## **Editorial Review**

### Amazon.com Review

Work, for most of us, is something we do, not something we think about. We may wonder whether our work is sufficiently stimulating, whether it brings in enough money, or whether it makes a difference in the grand scheme of things, but we don't often question what, in fact, work really is, and why we work in the first place. In *The Working Life*, Joanne Ciulla asks these critical questions and others, taking a philosophical, sociological, and practical look at the nature of work and its role in our lives today.

As Ciulla points out, we live in a work-oriented society where, even though we have more freedom and flexibility than ever and more tools to increase convenience and efficiency, our work determines our lives. We have "gone beyond the work ethic," she states, to a point where our jobs have become our primary source of identity. To understand this, Ciulla looks at the values we reflect in our choice of jobs and professions, the attitudes we express in our language for work, and the sociohistorical journey that work has taken from cursed necessity to calling. She follows the path of work in our recent past, from unregulated labor and slavery, through unionism, to the rise of the all-encompassing corporation and today's blurred lines between private and public lives. In the final section, Ciulla investigates the role that work plays in our understanding and use of time and our search for meaning.

Now teaching courses on ethics, leadership, and critical thinking at Virginia's University of Richmond, Ciulla has examined and experienced the nature of work from both sides of the managerial divide. After supporting herself through the first nine years of an academic career with bar and restaurant work, she went on to study and teach business ethics at Harvard and Wharton. These varied experiences give the book a balanced and sensitive tone, adding credibility to her insights. She supports and refines her ideas about work with the comments of philosophers, writers, sociologists, economists, management theorists, and even the narratives of popular television shows. Her sources range from Aristotle and the ancient storyteller Aesop to the early-20th-century time-study engineer Frederick Winslow Taylor, the comic strip "Dilbert," and modern-day business gurus. The diversity of perspectives is inspiring and helps--together with Ciulla's own interpretations and clear, precise prose--create a thought-provoking and stimulating look at the nature of work. --S. Ketchum

### From Library Journal

Ciulla (Univ. of Richmond) has written a stimulating and thought-provoking book that traces the philosophical and cultural conceptions of work and workers over the years while providing a critical survey of management theories and practices. She explores relationships among various kinds of work, the roles of consumption and leisure, and beliefs about what constitutes meaningful work, a meaningful life, and happiness. She points to Scott Adams's Dilbert cartoons as "probably the best and most accurate critique of what many today think about work" and to labor unions as "the most important innovation in the relationship between employer and employee...because they address the imbalance of power between the two parties." Today, the pressures of our consumption-driven, global economy frequently lead to the compromise of individuals' "higher" values when making decisions affecting the overall quality of their lives. This well-written examination of the meanings of work and life challenges that compromise. Highly recommended for academics and the general public. ASuzanne W. Wood, SUNY Coll. of Technology at Alfred  
Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc.

### Review

"A wonderfully readable tour through the history of ideas about work, as human nature or human condition; as curse or blessing; as a calling by God or expression of the inner self."

-- Michael W. Munley, Philadelphia Inquirer

"None of my guests on World of Ideas stimulated more response from viewers than Joanne Ciulla."

--Bill Moyers, Public Affairs Television, Inc.

## **Users Review**

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Pat Clark:**

What do you in relation to book? It is not important along with you? Or just adding material when you really need something to explain what the ones you have problem? How about your time? Or are you busy man? If you don't have spare time to accomplish others business, it is make you feel bored faster. And you have free time? What did you do? Every individual has many questions above. They should answer that question simply because just their can do which. It said that about reserve. Book is familiar on every person. Yes, it is suitable. Because start from on guardería until university need that The Working Life: The Promise and Betrayal of Modern Work to read.

#### **James Batts:**

Do you have something that you enjoy such as book? The publication lovers usually prefer to opt for book like comic, limited story and the biggest you are novel. Now, why not seeking The Working Life: The Promise and Betrayal of Modern Work that give your enjoyment preference will be satisfied through reading this book. Reading addiction all over the world can be said as the means for people to know world better then how they react in the direction of the world. It can't be claimed constantly that reading routine only for the geeky particular person but for all of you who wants to always be success person. So , for all you who want to start reading as your good habit, you may pick The Working Life: The Promise and Betrayal of Modern Work become your current starter.

#### **Ronnie Johnson:**

Many people spending their time period by playing outside with friends, fun activity along with family or just watching TV the entire day. You can have new activity to spend your whole day by reading through a book. Ugh, you think reading a book can definitely hard because you have to bring the book everywhere? It all right you can have the e-book, bringing everywhere you want in your Cell phone. Like The Working Life: The Promise and Betrayal of Modern Work which is keeping the e-book version. So , try out this book? Let's see.

#### **Jack Jackson:**

That book can make you to feel relax. That book The Working Life: The Promise and Betrayal of Modern Work was bright colored and of course has pictures on the website. As we know that book The Working

Life: The Promise and Betrayal of Modern Work has many kinds or style. Start from kids until young adults. For example Naruto or Investigator Conan you can read and believe that you are the character on there. So , not at all of book are make you bored, any it can make you feel happy, fun and relax. Try to choose the best book in your case and try to like reading that will.

**Download and Read Online The Working Life: The Promise and Betrayal of Modern Work By Joanne B. Ciulla #43JHZTO98S5**

## **Read The Working Life: The Promise and Betrayal of Modern Work By Joanne B. Ciulla for online ebook**

The Working Life: The Promise and Betrayal of Modern Work By Joanne B. Ciulla Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read The Working Life: The Promise and Betrayal of Modern Work By Joanne B. Ciulla books to read online.

### **Online The Working Life: The Promise and Betrayal of Modern Work By Joanne B. Ciulla ebook PDF download**

**The Working Life: The Promise and Betrayal of Modern Work By Joanne B. Ciulla Doc**

**The Working Life: The Promise and Betrayal of Modern Work By Joanne B. Ciulla Mobipocket**

**The Working Life: The Promise and Betrayal of Modern Work By Joanne B. Ciulla EPub**