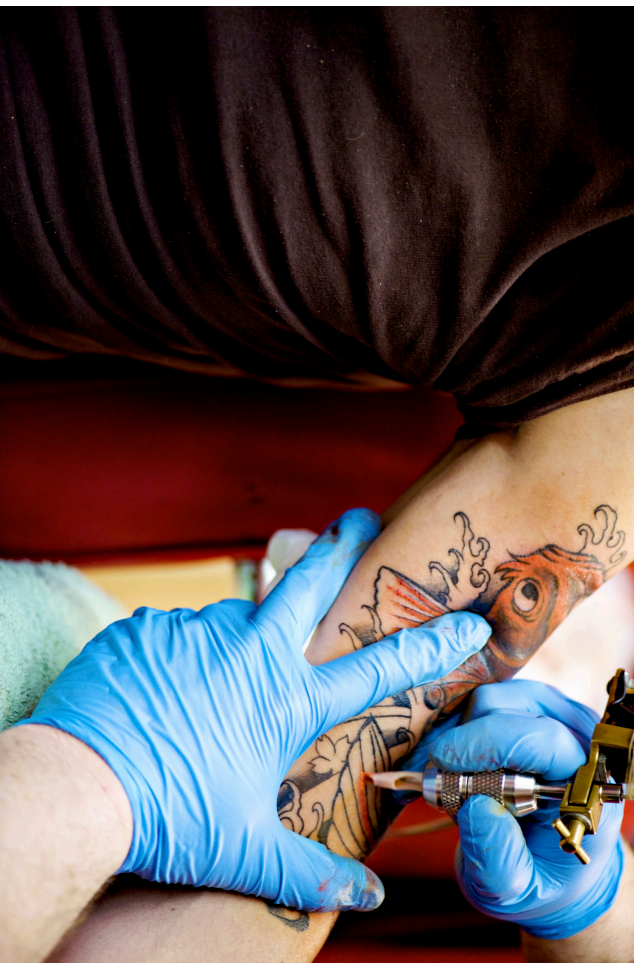


NO LONGER THE KISS OF DEATH



TATTOOS ARE SLOWLY BEGINNING TO BE LESS FEARED IN THE WORKPLACE AND FOR GOOD REASON

The world of tattooing has always been an alternative community. Tattoos have always been a form of rebellion, self-expression and body decoration.

However in the last 10 years, tattoos have become more and more acceptable in everyday life. Many doctors, government officials and even lawyers have tattoos now-a-days and the gap between communities is slowly but surely closing. Although tattoos have become more popular over the last couple of decades, some people still believe that

it can heavily hinder someone's chances of getting a respectable job. For the older generation, tattoos have always been attached to criminality and many older people still hold those opinions even in a different time. This also brings up the argument that some people have about hidden tattoos. Some believe that even tattoos that aren't seen at work can still be a distraction if someone is seen out of the workplace with tattoos. In 2010, the Metropolitan Police Service banned all visible tattoos on employees and anyone with hidden tattoos they previously had or will be getting also had to make an official note

of it. Many times, companies will not hire people who are heavily tattooed in the case that it would offend customers. Despite this, many people with tattoos are now fighting back at this claim with some alternative fashion companies coming out with shirts that proudly state "Tattooed & Employed."

It is often brought up by many people that not hiring someone because of a tattoo is a form of discrimination. In the United States alone, over 40% of adults now have at least one tattoo and the number keeps getting larger. With so many people now getting tattoos, it will be nearly impossible for all companies to not hire people who have tattoos, especially with the current young adult generation now growing up. Jaye Osborn works in the Human Resources sector of the NHS and is a prime example that your skill set should matter more than your tattoos. With quite a few tattoos of his own, Osborn also has a very visible hand tattoo that many employers would say is "the kiss of death" when it comes to hiring someone, but in his case, it was not at all something that got in his way. "I didn't find it difficult to get a job

at all. Luckily all of the people that hired me cared a lot more about the things I could do for the company versus what I looked like. I've even been offered more jobs because people know that I am a hardworker," Osborn explains.

"I WANT TO BE ABLE TO GIVE OTHER PEOPLE WITH TATTOOS A GOOD NAME BECAUSE WE ARE NOT ALL 'LOOKING FOR TROUBLE' LIKE SOME PEOPLE THINK WE ARE."

Osborn is one of the many examples of young people trying to change society's view on tattooed people. Hopefully in the next decade, tattoos will not be such a taboo concept in the workplace.

TATTOO SOCIETY

1 IN 5 PEOPLE IN THE UK HAVE A TATTOO



LESS THAN 5% OF DOCTORS HAVE ANY TATTOOS AT ALL

FACE, NECK AND HAND TATTOOS ARE THE LEAST ACCEPTED TATTOOS IN THE WORKPLACE

75% OF EMPLOYERS BELIEVE THAT TATTOOS CAN HURT INTERVIEW CHANCES

33% OF YOUNG ADULTS IN THE UK HAVE A TATTOO

6% OF EMPLOYERS SAID THEY WOULD NOT HIRE SOMEONE WITH TATTOOS

