

Mario Rinvoluceri

From: Mario Rinvoluceri
To: S██████████@nordlb.de
Cc: G██████t W██████r
Subject: Some stray thoughts about our job interview today
Attachments:

Sent: Wed 18/06/2008 13:33

Dear S██████████

I found the job interview today a mind-gripping experiment as it had real elements of role-reversal. Vis a vis me you changed role and became the interviewer before whom I had to show my paces. I went from observer/teacher role into job applicant role where my main aim had to be adequate and relevant performance. In both our cases there had to be a strong modification of behaviour. I noted that my body posture immediately and naturally changed from seeing myself as a teacher.

In my case, was there role -contamination.....with the teacher/observer role seeping into the job-candidate role? Yes, I think there was, at least mentally. I caught myself occasionally listening to your English from an evaluative point of view.....once I realised the drift of my thoughts I immediately snapped out of them back into candidate role.

What level of intra-personal monologue did I maintain while in conversation with you? I think that in this interview the amount of attention I gave to my inner thoughts was reasonable, balanced and did not interfere with my self-presentation to you. So, for example, in my inner talk I asked myself whether it had been safe to admit to you that I fucked up that first class in Athens. "*how does a German interviewer react to an open confession of weakness and failure, and more importantly, how does this guy react to it?*"

In confessing to you that I had had four six month depressions in the past few years, I felt that here I went too far, as this gave you good grounds for doubting my future reliability in the workplace. In my inner discussion with myself I also reckoned that I had maybe told you too much too soon and that a proper German would not have done this. I think my Oma was frowning down at me from that section of Heaven reserved for daughters of timber merchants from Aachen!

If I go into what I guess is a "Robertian" mindset, the role-play was about the power invested in roles like these: business students who are paying through the nose

teacher
 job applicant
 job interviewer

Each of these roles has a different degree of reality in the hic et nunc, the here and now, but we have each experienced each of these roles as a reality in the past.

Very complex, and these are just initial thoughts,

What are your initial thoughts?

Mario