

Dear DSS, Nikki R. Haley, and V. Susan Alford,

I am 34 and I just moved out my parents' house for 1st time since I left college. So I am finally on my own. I moved from Pennsylvania to my own apartment in South Carolina. I have taken jobs from Five Guys to Academy Sports to pay my bills. However my job at Five Guys only lasted 1 month (from August to September) due to not being able to lift the peanuts cause of the injury in my arm. I didn't get hired until November. 9 by Academy Sports since it were near the holiday season. But while I was in between jobs at least I could feed myself. Now that I prayed to God and he blessed me with my own apartment in South Carolina after 7 years of reaching my goal, now I can even feed myself in the apartment I worked so hard for. I have been looking for jobs in a lot of retailers such as Foot Locker, and Walmart. But all these employers from retail to restaurants want to put these stupid assessment tests on their online application. No matter how many times and emails you use to take the same application if you don't score high enough on the assessment, you can't even get an interview. Worst part is they don't tell you if you passed or failed. I have put in several applications since January 28 and have not received one phone call. I have even applied for Walmart where I used to work in Pennsylvania here in South Carolina and they haven't even called me either. Don't think I'm lazy and don't want to work because I have tried. I even have a BA degree in Graphic Design. The corporate level jobs won't hire me because no experience, plus they judge you on what you put on your Facebook page, etc., and retail jobs wont interview me due to assessments. I can only get certain jobs due to an injury in my left elbow which has a lot of inflammation. I have also had over 20 jobs since I have been sixteen. I get jobs but then I can't keep it for that long due to not being able to function, I miss interpret what my boss tells me, and have been told by several employers like Mercersburg Academy cafeteria that I am NOT a good worker. Instead of aiming at the unemployed that tries to work, how about aiming at the people that get food

stamps/cash assistance that spend the cash assistance on drugs, alcohol, etc. that have kids, and the ones that have the criminal record. That's the people that abuse the system not us the unemployed. If we had a paycheck we could use our paycheck to buy food which defeats the purpose of the food stamps. I also live in Pamplico, South Carolina which also doesn't have a food bank which means now I have to travel 20 minutes to another town which takes \$10 gas for my car. Instead of going to IGA and getting my own food. Now I have to call my mom while I'm not working and ask her to have some money to eat. I moved out but now I have to depend on her again until I find work for food. I also published a children's book and coloring book called "My Best Friend Snuff" I also have my own clothing label so I hope this counts as work. If not I guess I will have to move back to Pennsylvania where they give food stamps to the unemployed, and live with my parents again. Also whether people have jobs, no job, drug addiction, no drug addiction, and children. No children, EVERYONE IS HUMAN and ALL HUMANS need to eat to survive day to day regardless of situation. You act like you only want certain humans to eat and not all humans. You need to food to eat, yet you need a job to get it, but you can't get the job unless you pass the assessment test like you still in school. Don't pass the assessment no job which equals no food. Please take this into consideration and for all others who are unemployed with no dependents.

Thanks,

Tranise Jenkins

Unemployed