



CAREER

In Career And Love, Responding Is Powerful

APRIL 18 by NATALIE ZISA

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Considering that our generation practically lives and dies by the battery percentage of their phone, I'm always surprised when I send a text or an email that results in zero response.

I don't know how to express how frustrating it is to apply to internship after internship and wait weeks, or at this point, months and still never find out that you weren't the right candidate. It's one thing to not get the job but it's another to not even get rejected. I am 100% sure that that doesn't say anything about who I am as an applicant, but more about the editorial assistant who couldn't find the time to politely say I didn't have the right qualifications. I invested the time in sending you my [resume](#) and [cover letter](#) and maybe even progressed to complete the edit test or interview portion of the application process, so why shouldn't I expect that you would take the same amount of time, if not less, to let me know I should be looking for other opportunities? I can almost guarantee it takes the same amount of time to tweet or post an Instagram and yet you have found no problem fitting that into your schedule.

All I ask is that as people I look up to in this industry, you practice what you preach. Some of the major pieces of advice that I get is to send follow-up emails and be available, but I didn't think that that only applied to me. I thought that was the professional thing to do. I'm certain it's going to create a cycle of poor behaviour. If I'm not getting even the slightest reward for doing what was asked, then I'm going to feel discouraged and not even try next time.

Millennials get flack for being [self-absorbed](#) and lazy, but a majority of us work really hard and are just waiting to be given opportunities. I can honestly say that it gives me, and the thousands of other girls applying for internships this summer, a bad impression of the company that I thought I wanted to be working for. No one seems to understand the power they hold when they leave you waiting for a text or an email that's never going to come.

Unfortunately, we deal with this more often than we think. Not just in our careers, but our love lives too. Think about how many times ["relationships" just die out](#) because someone got bored and didn't feel they owed the other person their time. They simply chose to avoid the situation and let the person get the hint that whatever *it* was, was over. But let me tell you, closure is a real thing and half the time that's all we're looking for.



Did I do something wrong? Did you get back together with your ex? Whatever it is, the truth is much better than leaving me guessing, no matter how casual the relationship was. Because I'll probably create stories in my head that are far worse than what you're actually




thinking. It doesn't take that much of an effort to be mature and let me know what's up instead of hiding behind your phone. Even when the answer is not what we want to hear, I promise it counts for a lot more than you think.

Image via Caitlin Burton

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NATALIE ZISA
NATALIE ZISA, FORDHAM UNIVERSITY MAJOR: COMMUNICATIONS & MEDIA STUDIES/JOURNALISM HER HEART BELONGS TO: DANCE, HER FAMILY, AND THE BEACH HER GUILTY PLEASURES: BRUNCH, SPENDING TOO MUCH TIME ON INSTAGRAM, AND CARROT CAKE DONUTS FROM DOUGHNUT PLANT TAKE HER AWAY TO: LITERALLY ANYWHERE IN ITALY - OR AN ISLAND



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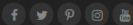
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