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Business suits and ties worn less and less – 22nd March, 2019

Level 0

More companies are letting staff dress casually. Staff don't have to wear a suit and tie. Companies want staff to feel relaxed, so they work harder. The bank Goldman Sachs wants its workers to "exercise good judgment" in deciding what to wear. It said workplaces are becoming more casual.

Some people think casual is not good. People might think the company is not serious. One boss said a suit gives a good image. He said: "You're looking after people's money, so you should...dress [well]." He said it would be dangerous to give money to someone in jeans. Companies like Google let workers wear jeans.

Level 1

More companies are letting staff dress casually. In the past, business people and office workers had to wear a suit and tie. Today, this is less important. Companies want staff to feel more relaxed, so they work harder. The latest international company to relax its dress code is Goldman Sachs. It wants its workers to "exercise good judgment" in deciding what to wear. It said the change was because workplaces are becoming more casual.

Some people think casual dress is not good. An investment company boss said no suit could give a bad image to clients. He said: "You're looking after people's money, so you should...dress respectfully. I would not expect to hand over my pension to someone in jeans....I think it would be dangerous." He added that if people dress sloppily, people will think the brand is sloppy. Companies like Google let staff wear jeans.

Level 2

More companies around the world are letting staff not wear a suit and tie. In the past, most business people and office workers had to wear business clothes. Today, this is becoming less important. Companies want their workers to dress more casually. Staff will feel more relaxed and work harder. The latest international company to relax its dress code is the investment bank Goldman Sachs. It asked its workers to "exercise good judgment" in deciding what to wear. It said the change was due to "the changing nature of workplaces generally in favor of a more casual environment".

Some business people think more casual dress is not good. The founder of the investment company 7IM said not wearing a suit could give a bad image to clients. He said: "You're looking after people's money, so you should behave and dress respectfully. I would not expect to hand over my pension to someone in jeans....It may be old-fashioned but I think it would be dangerous for a business to do that." He added: "If you let people dress sloppily, that is how your brand will be perceived." Companies like Google let staff dress casually and wear jeans and T-shirts to the office.

Level 3

More and more companies around the world are telling staff they do not need to wear a suit and tie. In the last century, most business people and office workers had to wear business clothes. In today's world, that is becoming less important. Companies now want their workers to dress in a more casual way. This is to make staff feel more relaxed, so they work harder. The latest international company to relax its dress code is the investment bank Goldman Sachs. It said its staff could choose not to wear a suit, but asked employees to "exercise good judgment" in deciding how to dress for work. It said the shift was due to "the changing nature of workplaces generally in favor of a more casual environment."

Many people in business think more casual dress is not a good thing. Justin Urquhart Stewart, founder of the investment company 7IM, said not wearing a suit and tie could give a bad impression to clients and customers. He said: "You're looking after people's money, so you should behave and dress respectfully. I would not expect to hand over my pension to someone in jeans, loafers and a football shirt. It may be old-fashioned but I think it would be dangerous for a business to do that." He added: "If you let people dress sloppily, that is how your brand will be perceived." Many companies, like Google and Amazon, allow their staff to dress casually and wear jeans and T-shirts to the office.