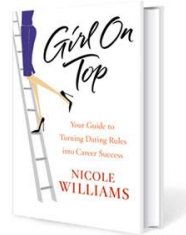


# seventeen

## ***Girl On Top* Author Nicole Williams Gives You Her Career Advice**

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by Seventeen Magazine



**Last night, career expert and author Nicole Williams and The Limited teamed up to celebrate Nicole's new book, *Girl On Top*.**

**The book, which is all about applying the conventional dating rules to your career, has some awesome tips for girls looking to score their dream job!**

**After nibbling on black & white cookies and shopping the cute clothes, we grabbed Nicole and asked her about the book and getting ahead in your career!**

**17:** How did you come up with the concept for *Girl On Top*?

**Nicole Williams:** I got divorced, got a basket full of goodies, started reading dating books and discovered it was career genius. I was like, *forget relationships, this application to career is brilliant*. You always hear things like, "Don't give away the milk for free." Well, your milk is talent in the workplace and you want to make sure you charge top dollar for it or else you are going to get taken for granted.

**17:** What was your first job like?

**NW:** I was working in the same paint factory that my mother worked in — that I saw suck the life out of her — and I promised myself in my job that not only would I love my career but I would help other young women to love their careers too. I never wanted anyone to have to live that paint factory job life.

**17:** If you could give yourself advice about your first job and how to do things differently, what would it be?

**NW:** My advice would be to have standards. Even though you are young, it doesn't mean you have to work in a crummy environment or someplace that doesn't challenge you.

**17:** What advice can you give to young girls that are trying to get their dream job?

**NW:** To persevere. Know it's going to take a little while to get where you want to go. Just because you're not getting your dream job right away, that's not an indication that your efforts aren't working.

**17:** In your opinion, which is easier to land: A guy or a job?

**NW:** A job, because a job you have more control over. There are a ton of options and potential fits, whereas with a guy there has to be chemistry, although I actually argue that there should be a chemistry with your job too.

**17:** What's one thing young people tend to do in their jobs that could potentially harm them further down the road?

**NW:** One of the chapters in my book is called "Keep Your Dad Out of It." The same way your boyfriend doesn't want to hear you talk about dad, neither does your employer. A lot of young people don't want to take credit for their own ideas. Literally, the other day, I had someone say to me that their dad wanted them to talk to me about their performance review. If you have a job, you aren't a little kid anymore — so leave your parents out of it.

So, do you have job advice or an embarrassing story from the workplace you can share? Post it in the comments!

**Photos: Rob Loud**