

To: Professor Ellis
From: Pamela Drake
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Subject: Project 4 plans

There are two possible scenarios that I have conceptualized that aligns with the theme of the podcast project on fear, PTW Podcast Series: The Fear of Criticism:

Scenario 1 – A middle-manager has justifiable concerns with the decisions of his boss.

The manager feels that his boss is lacking in support for him and his staff and criticises his boss in front of his peers. He puts his co-workers in the middle of his own personal conflicts with his boss and this makes them feel uncomfortable and unwilling to talk to him. How should the manager critically express his concerns without including his peers or creating a rift between himself and his boss? Should the manager ask his boss for a one-to-one meeting to discuss his concerns? Should the manager confront his boss in front of his peers or HR? Determining how to effectively offer criticism without seeming disloyal is the dilemma.

Scenario 2 – A woman's boss criticizes and berates her in front of her co-workers. Although his concerns are justified, his delivery is destructive.

The woman feels belittled and intimidated. Should she quietly comply and just take the criticism? Should she stand up for herself and tell him what she thinks of his actions knowing she could lose her job. Should she ask for him to take it outside to discuss her concerns calmly and professionally? Should she report him to HR or try to work it out on her own? Determining how to accept the criticism while disagreeing with the delivery is the dilemma.

My Choice:

I have decided to go with scenario 1 because it is a situation not often spoken about but a problem that many people deal with. It is a situation that could go well or end up causing a rift and must be handled professionally.