

Exercise #5 Minimizing the Risk

Each of these scenarios involves an instance where you might want to break a rule or to go around the leader—situations that could involve some risk. In your table group, come up with a solution for each scenario that would help to achieve a win-win outcome with the least risk to you.

Be ready to report:

- **What would you do?**
- **What would you say? (Specific statements, please!)**

1. You have a new Library Director who is talking about including staff from all areas of the library in the new strategic planning process. Your Department Head has said, “That’s fine for other staff, but our department is too busy to spare anyone.” You really want to participate and think your department should be represented.

2. Library staff works in the building each morning for a half-hour before the doors open to customers. It is an especially cold day and customers are waiting outside 15 minutes before opening. They can see you inside, and you would like to let them in. You are “in charge” today.

3. You have an idea you would like to move forward and you have spoken to your Department Head about it. She says she will need to run it by a senior manager for approval. Several weeks go by, and you haven’t heard anything.

4. **If none of these scenarios “speaks” to your group, feel free to substitute a real-life issue where you are either tempted to break a rule or go around a leader.**