**Week 2 Video Response: “*The Office: Gay Witch Hunt*”**

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1. Apply the ethical perspective from chapter 2 that is most exemplified in the media text/s viewed in the class – explain the perspective and give specific examples of how it is demonstrated.
   1. I think the human nature perspective comes into play with Michael. He aims to ensure that people are not denigrated or demeaned and allowed a safe place to work and be accepted. Even though he inadvertently does the opposite of this.
   2. I would say that a political perspective is displayed through Jan Levinson. Although, this is displayed to a small degree, she is simply enforcing her company policy when Michael goes beyond his allowed bounds with Oscar and she warns Michael of this. Additionally, Jan gives Oscar a benefits package in order to keep him from suing the company, thus protecting the view of Dunder Mifflin Paper Co.
2. Describe one major example of interpersonal persuasion in the media text viewed
   1. Most of the persuasion that I noticed in the media were made by Jan. She first attempts to convince Michael that his actions are wrong. After this fails, she attempts to mitigate the damage that Michael inflicts by persuading Oscar to take a benefits package in exchange for rescinding his right to file a lawsuit against Dunder Mifflin.
   2. A great example of deception and lying is displayed by Jim. He mentions “gay-dar” to Dwight at some point that is off-screen. When Jim receives a call from Dwight inquiring about “gay-dar” he proceeds to play into the lie by saying that it is sold by Sharper Image.
3. Look at the same example of interpersonal persuasion you referenced in #2, give one example of ethos, pathos, and logos used in the persuasive event.
   1. Jan first performs a pathos appeal by telling Michael about the emotional significance that the action of “coming out” has for a homosexual person and she additionally uses pathos to appeal to Michael by trying to put him into Oscar’s shoes. Additionally, she appeals using Logos when she warns him of a potential lawsuit that could hurt the company.
4. Analyze the ethical character of one of the persuaders observed in the media text – apply Larson’s five dimensions from page 65-67
   1. Jan appears to be unethical in character. It is hard to examine her action in a *citizen-politician* dimension or the *private-public dimension*, but it appears that she tries to respect Oscar’s private matters, she attempts to keep it as much a secret as possible. So, in that respect I would say she earns some points. From the *past-present* and *once-pattern* dimensions, we don’t have much to work with here, so we can’t examine her in this regard. However, in terms of *trivial-serious*, we can evaluate that her attempt to protect Oscar is most ethical since his feelings about his sexuality is serious. Her respect for his sexuality is what makes her initial actions ethical. This takes a turn at the end of the episode, when instead of giving him justice she convinces him to take a package in return for his silence. While we don’t see this, Oscar avails us to this at the end of the episode.