What Big Ears You Have

The Jerry King cartoon shows a colorful drawing of a communications manager with giant ears. The cartoon shows that the manager is walking towards his office while the co-workers are behind him. The type of humor shown in this cartoon is incongruous. The impact of the cartoon portrays that just because something is heard doesn’t mean that all the information is there.
The setting of this cartoon is at a work place. This is indicated based on the professional atmosphere. The wallpaper is dull and plain; the flooring is a dark color carpet. There is also a plant in the hallway next to the door which gives the workplace some life. The manger looks like he is about to walk into his office. Everyone in the cartoon is dressed in professional attire. The female co-worker is holding business papers while the male business manager is holding a briefcase.

The two co-workers are placed behind the manger. The male co-worker has his mouth open indicating that he is having a conversation with the female co-worker. The male co-worker is wearing black dress slacks and a long sleeve button up shirt with a tie. The female co-worker is holding a piece of paper. She is wearing dark khaki slacks with a long sleeve dress shirt. Due to the fact that they are at work this shows that the setting is formal. The co-workers however are not acting in a professional manner due to the way they are positioned in the image. They are positioned to the back of the manager. This could indicate that the conversation that the co-workers are having is about the manger. In a work place it is important to form a strong team so the business thrives. When the co-workers don’t believe in their manager its hard to have a successful work place and business.

The manager is placed ahead of the two co-workers. It appears that he is walking toward his office ready to open the office door as he has the keys in his hand. He is wearing a blue button up dress shirt with a white collar and a red tie. His pants are black slacks that he matches with black dress shoes. The cartoon indicates that he is a manager because he is the only one holding a brown briefcase while walking into his office.

The co-workers are talking about their manager behind his back. Both of the co-workers are looking at the manager showing that is where their full attention is. The co-workers are trying
to figure out what this new manager’s plan is because they are behind the manager with their mouth open. This is showing that they are talking about him. They are questioning his authority and how he runs things, due to the fact that the male co-worker is crossing his hands across his chest. This is showing that they are judging the manager. The co-workers stated below the cartoon, “I hear the new communications manager is just a good listener”, explaining that they only think he is good at one thing when his job description has many tasks. Meanwhile they don’t understand that he hears everything due to his big ears. The co-workers don’t truly know the manager’s abilities but are assuming that just because of his big ears he is only a good listener.

The manager has big ears showing that he is different than all the other employees in the workplace. With his big ears the manager is indicating that he is a great listener. When a manager of a company is good listener, it ensures that the company will be successful due to the fact the manager listens to everything going on in the business. The type of humor shown in this cartoon is incongruity. It is incongruity because the manager has giant ears showing that he can listen very well. Generally, people don’t have such enormous ears to have good listening skills. So when the manager has enormous ears it is very out of the ordinary causing the type of humor to be incongruous.

When managers show that they hear what is going on in the office they can then are better communicators within the business. This skill can help solve issues and resolve problems at a faster rate. However, there are times when over hearing can be hurtful to the people involved. When the manager is overhearing the co-workers talk he can interpret what he overheard in any way because he doesn’t know the whole situation. This can back fire onto the co-workers because now their manager thinks that he knows whole situation when he only
knows half. The manager could make a ton of changes in the work place just based on what he over heard. Listening is a very important part of being a manger or leader in a company. When a manager listens to a co-worker’s problems or ideas the co-worker feels like they are being heard and the problem will be resolved, or that their idea will be considered.
Works Cited