

## **Read Your Resume Backwards**

**by Rose Jonas, Ph.D.**

How does your background really look to the interviewer? Your resume is clean and clear on impressive, crisp bond. You had someone wordsmith it so you look GOOD on paper. Want to get a different picture of yourself? When resume-readers want a sharper view of the applicant, they read it backwards. They don't hold your resume behind their heads or run their index finger from right to left across the page. They start at the bottom and "read" you to the top, beginning with your Activities, then Education, then Experience.

Read your resume backwards. Do you see the year of traveling you didn't account for or mention? Is it obvious you got fired from your first two jobs? YOU emerge in a different way.

You may only need a slight adjustment: better-chosen words, a shade of emphasis; but shades in a competitive job market can determine whether your resume winds up in someone's in-basket or the shredder.

**THE POINT:** Make sure you look as good from the bottom up as you do from the top down.