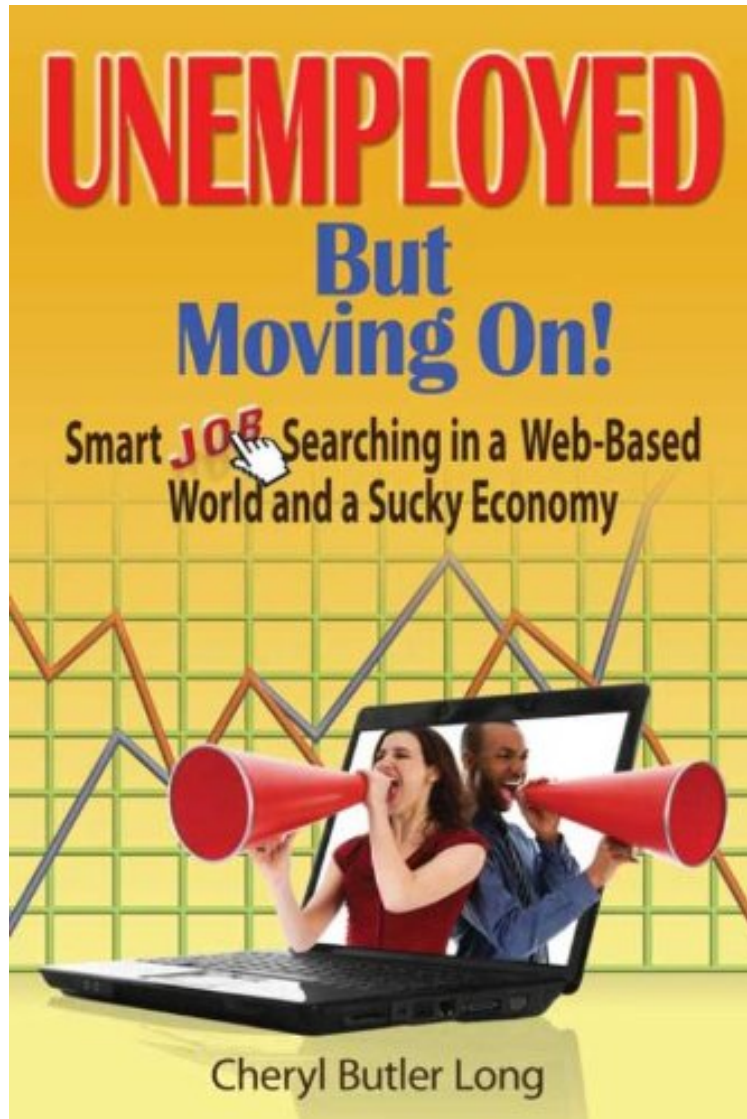


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Unemployed, But Moving On!: Smart Job Searching in a Web-Based World and a Sucky Economy

Cheryl Butler Long

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Cheryl Butler Long : Unemployed, But Moving On!: Smart Job Searching in a Web-Based World and a Sucky Economy before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Unemployed, But Moving On!: Smart Job Searching in a Web-Based World and a Sucky Economy:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Helpful for job seekers with offenses, but overall pretty pessimisticBy Kevin DumcumCheryl Butler Long, in her book, Unemployed but Moving On, identifies herself as a

"Workforce Development Specialist for a mid-western state" She has been doing workforce development longer than I have, and she has worked with more job seekers than I have. She writes with a blunt, sarcastic wit of someone who has seen and experienced a lot. I do have issues with the negativity of the tone. Basically, Ms. Long is saying (this is not a quote), "The economy sucks, there are not enough jobs for everyone. You probably won't get hired, but if you follow my advice, you might have a shot." Now, the economy does suck. There are more job seekers than there are jobs. And the jobs that are available are not equal to the jobs that were lost. However, I know that there are jobs out there for those who are smart about their job search, and are willing to put forth the effort -- which does not include simply submitting your resume to hundreds of online job opportunities or complaining about how bad the job market is. I have been hired three times since the Great Recession started in 2009, I've enjoyed each of the jobs I've held, and currently love what I do. Despite the negative sarcastic tone, I find myself agreeing with much (but not all) of what Ms. Long says: decide what you want to do, make sure your resume includes all the appropriate key words, always attach a cover letter, and prepare for the interview. Ms. Long includes a very helpful chapter on how to deal with criminal convictions, which I rarely see addressed in any job-search book. She says in one chapter that she was in junior high during the Beatles' invasion, which by my math means she is in her mid-60s (which, dear readers, is why you never go back more than 10 years on a resume!). This may explain why she is fascinated with computers, spending three pages talking about how the world is different now thanks to computer technology. She also includes a chapter talking about how one is likely to face discrimination if over age 40, female, gay, or speak with a non-English accent. However, she offers no advice other than to expect it. Overall, while I agree with much of the book, it is difficult for me to recommend it. The sarcastic negative tone might work when speaking to a group, when you have immediate feedback about how the group is accepting it. In writing, absent external feedback, there is no uplift of mood. I deal with hope. I am confident that there are jobs available for those who are smart with their job search and put forth the effort.

A must-read for anyone trying to get a job in a struggling economy. Challenges common assumptions and tells it like it really is from the perspective of a street-smart employment expert who works daily with the unemployed and those with not-so-hot backgrounds. Covers everything from writing resumes and letters, completing applications, and networking to conducting interviews, starting the job, and getting fired. Includes special chapters on ex-offenders and discrimination.