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CAREERONE.COM.AU'S CHRISTMAS PARTY TIPS

As we head into the 'silly season', national employment website, CareerOne.com.au today released its top 10 Christmas party tips for employees.

1. DO eat the food on offer – all those carbo loaded snacks are there for a reason
2. DO keep track of how many drinks you've had
3. DO make the effort to meet colleagues you don't normally mix with
4. DO turn up – it's horrible form not to
5. DO turn up to work the next day too (if held on a week night)
6. DO NOT jump in front of every camera you see for a photo. You will regret it when the shots are circulated around the office the next day.
7. DO NOT corner your manager for a pay rise
8. DO NOT go for "a few drinks" *before* the party
9. DO NOT engage in public smooching
10. DO NOT talk business with colleagues

Kate Southam, editor, CareerOne.com.au said that while Christmas parties are a time to celebrate the year with colleagues and a few drinks, it's important to remember that the office Christmas party is still a work function.

"Just because the annual company bash is out of hours, or even out of the office, it doesn't mean the rules of corporate behaviour don't apply.

"Don't be fooled into letting your guard all the way down. Have a great time at the office Christmas party, but use CareerOne's tips and avoid self recriminations and feelings of dread about facing everyone at work again the day after the party or worse, after the holidays depending on when your employer schedules the bash.

"Make sure you also take advantage of the openness of the party and speak to as many people as you can and from different departments. The more people you get to know the better. And you'll find that it'll be a lot easier to approach and interact with them in the workplace.

"On the other hand, don't even *think* about skipping the annual office bash. It's considered very poor form not to show up. If you don't really want to go to the party, at least stay for an hour to say hi to the boss and mix with a few colleagues."

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