



## CAREER CHANGE CORNER

*Note: I wrote this series in 2014<sup>1</sup> while in the process of implementing my career switch; I was so challenged by what I was witnessing and experiencing that I decided to put pen to paper and record it. I also reached out to others who were going through or had gone through more or less the same experience. Some of my views have since evolved, some have remained the same and I have since developed more expertise in the career change niche.*

### Changing careers mid-life: risks and opportunities

#### Part 6

In the final part of this series on changing careers mid-life, I fill the reader in on where the career changers interviewed for these articles are currently. The aim of this concluding article is to show the reader that even though this is the road less travelled, it can work out.

A related aim is to encourage anyone out there who has implemented a career change to get in touch and share their experiences. If anyone is contemplating a career change, I encourage them to get in touch because this can be an incredibly isolating space.

To refresh the reader's mind, Mothepa, Evangelos, Linda and Neo were all trained in different areas of the legal profession while Khadija was trained in Commerce and Psychology. All were relatively established and experienced in their careers but decided to acquire new professions due to lack of fulfilment and passion.

Mothepa was a Labour lawyer working in academia and as a freelance labour consultant. She is now an independent consultant carving out a niche in the evaluation of graduate mentoring and development programmes and the evaluation of other learning interventions at the workplace. Her passion is career management and supporting the growth of internships, traineeships, learnerships and similar interventions. Mothepa is affiliated to Southern Hemisphere in Cape Town, a social development consultancy specialising in monitoring and evaluation, organisational development, commissioned social research and training ([www.southernhemisphere.co.za](http://www.southernhemisphere.co.za)) and does freelance writing when inspiration strikes.

Evangelos Doucas was a Shipping and International lawyer and had worked for various corporate entities as a legal adviser. Evangelos is now a successful realtor and lawyer for Remax Living in Cape Town. He provides property investment solutions to his clients coupled with sound legal advice: [vangelis@remaxliving.co.za](mailto:vangelis@remaxliving.co.za)

\*Neo and \*Linda were both tax lawyers in the corporate world.

Linda now works in the non-profit sector with charities.

Neo is now an independent consultant specialising in Corporate Social Investment in the social development sector. She would ultimately like to work for a company handling their CSI, sustainability reporting and governance matters.

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<sup>1</sup> First published in Skills Portal and Finite Magazine



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\*Khadija acquired degrees in Business Administration and Counselling Psychology but is now a researcher for an international organization. Khadija has registered for a PhD and launched a CSI consultancy for overseas companies seeking to invest in Africa.

I would love to meet other career changers out there and share their stories; do please get in touch!