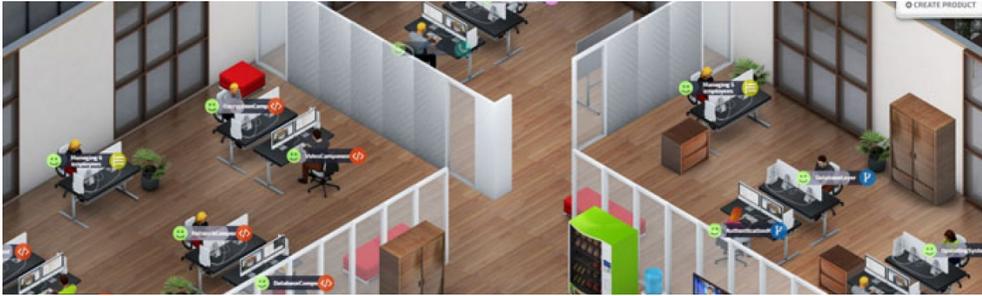


# The Hard Times

## *Beaten Into Submission, Man Now Finds Himself in Entrepreneurial Nightmare*

By SMONE W. EYES FEBRUARY 20, 2007



**I**n other news, a Brooklyn man was assaulted in his home late Monday evening. The assailant burst into the dining room, apparently having been lurking hidden in the home for some time, as the family ate dinner, forcing the Brooklynite man to sign papers making him sole proprietor of a design firm. As his family watched in horror, helpless to intervene, the man opened a business account in his own name, paid HUNDREDS of dollars in business license fees, and posted the company name on LinkedIn. The assailant even forced the man to use his wife's name in the company title.

Although the suspect is still at large, it is rumored that the assailant was in fact the Brooklyn man's own misplaced ego. Police are also following leads that indicate the suspect was aided and abetted by the Brooklyn man's mid-life crisis, which might explain how his ego was able to enter the family home undetected. Early on Tuesday, The Brooklyn Post reported that The Civic Duty of the Architect was arrested in connection with the crime, but was later released when it became clear duty, or any form of responsibility for that matter, had nothing to do with the crime that resulted in an architectural start-up.

The victim, who wishes to remain anonymous, now finds himself on the edge of crippling debt as he struggles to afford a brand new VR headset for the office. The paying of salaries and the obligation to provide managerial direction for the firm are among other ill effects of the brutal crime.

However, some activists are claiming that the Brooklyn man was "asking for it".

"How can he expect to not have to start a company in his late forties?" Asked one protestor rhetorically. "He's white and he's successful and he has a penis ... of course he has to start a business."

"Again, I never wanted this." Said the Brooklyn man in a private interview. "I didn't ask to be put in charge of redlining drawings and designing spaces, it's something that was forced on me by powers beyond my control. They are realities for me now, and I'm trying as hard as I can to deal with them and find a way to put them behind me." He went on to describe other horrors that no one else has to deal with, such as filing taxes and paying a dirt cheap rent for a decent office space in the heart of Manhattan.