

# By Firing Engineer, Google Shows What You Can Say – And What You Can't – At Work

When a Google employee wrote in a memo that women are not as qualified as men to be software engineers, he learned the hard way that free speech protections only go so far, writes **Tracey Lien** for *The Los Angeles Times*.

“One thing many misunderstand about the 1st Amendment is that it only protects the public’s right to free speech from government censorship – meaning it doesn’t apply to the relationship between private employers and employees,” Lien points out.

In her article, she discusses what protections employees have, what Google’s case entails, Google’s options, and how things might have been different.

**Read the *LA Times* article.**

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