UK: Christian nurse faces sack over 'dangerous'



Monday, September 21, 2009 - A devout

Christian nurse has been told to stop wearing a cross around her neck – as it could be dangerous. Shocked Shirley Chaplin, 54, faces the sack unless she obeys the health and safety order.

She has worn the one-inch silver cross necklace since her confirmation 38 years ago – and has worked at the same hospital for 31 years. But now bosses claim it could be a risk to patients or to Shirley if someone tried to grab it.

The nurse said no one had EVER reported an injury caused by a necklace to the Health and Safety Executive.

She added: "I can't explain how important the cross is to me. Being told to take it off has completely and utterly shaken me. I don't want to have to decide between my faith and my job. My Christian faith is what motivates me to care for others. "I'm distressed and confused at their attitude. I've worn it for years and now, at the end of my career, I'm told to take it off. I feel I'm being bullied and victimised because of my faith. They are prepared to make allowances for other faiths, but not for Christianity." ($\pi\epsilon\rho\iota\sigma\sigma\delta\tau\epsilon\rho\alpha...$)