

Elizma le Roux

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Q *What does your current role entail, and tell us about your journey to this position?*

A I joined KPMG Deal Advisory in January 2011 (at the time we were still called Transactions and Restructuring), as a graduate in the Graduate Academy. I have over 13 years' experience with KPMG, primarily in the valuations team. My valuation experience includes corporate valuations, purchase price allocations, fairness and fair & reasonable opinions (in the independent expert role), South African Reserve Bank opinions (for exchange control purposes), dispute valuations, valuations for financial reporting purposes, and audit assist reviews.

I have experience across multiple industries, including telecommunications, agriculture, mining, financial services and private equity, logistics, industrial services, and manufacturing.

KPMG is my first "real" job after university, and growing up in the firm, getting married, buying my first house, having two children, I realised that the support and the opportunities the firm has provided me during the most important phases of my life have all contributed toward grooming me into the career woman I am today.

Q *What led you to pursue a career in corporate finance?*

A My father insisted that I study a BCom Accounting and obtain the CA (SA) designation, but I was adamant that it was not the career path I wanted to follow I enrolled for a BCom Finance degree and went on to perform well in Financial Management, particularly in my third year, and proved to my father that an Honours degree in Financial Management was more in line with my interests. I loved the course work back then, and I still love what I do today. I feel very privileged to have had this opportunity to work within the valuations space for so long.

Q *What is your favourite sector in which to do a deal and why?*

A It is not necessarily a sector I do deals in, but I enjoy working and valuing assets in the telecommunications sector.

I find the telecommunications industry interesting as it is continuously evolving with interesting intricacies inherent within it. It offers me the chance to delve into the latest technological advancements and market trends, which consistently challenge my professional perspective.

Q *What advice would you give a young woman working on her first deal?*

A You may not know everything, but you know enough to be involved. Being open and willing to engage is already a powerful

starting point. Embrace every opportunity that comes your way as a chance to expand your knowledge and skill set and use it as a stepping stone for personal and professional growth.

Q *What is one thing that makes your life easier and that you really wouldn't want to do without?*

A Probably Google. Being a working mom and raising small children, it is a convenient go-to, whether I am looking for quick and easy home cooked meal ideas, searching for child illness symptoms at 2am in the morning, looking up details of prospective and existing clients or even formulas I have forgotten since university days! The lists are endless and I often wonder how our own parents did this.

FUN FACTS

Item on your bucket list:

Bloukrans Bungy Jump in the Tsitsikamma.

Preferred holiday destination:

Any island holiday – just say beach and I am there!

Three words your colleagues would use to describe you:

Thorough, driven, relentless.

What genre of music would one find on your favourite playlist?

From 80's rock to anything Taylor Swift. 🎧