

### Empathy and Compassion as your secret weapon to expand your business



### What got you here, won't get you there.

How to UNCHAIN and lead change in the age of urgency.









The biggest challenge for companies won't come from the outside world.

It will be to unchain the human dynamics inside the organisation to match the speed of flow on the outside.

Monique Landman



#### Because there is always the next crisis







# GOOD NEWS

# BADNEWS

We can only control how we show up fully and how we lead our businesses wholeheartedly.

If we all get better at (well) **being.** We all get better at **doing.** 







Our lives may be different, but we share more than we think. All human emotions are universal.









## Let me start with a question....







Empathy is the capacity to think and feel into the inner life of another person. The ability to understand the emotional makeup of other people. It is intentional, your willingness to hold space for others. Empathy Is Not a Soft Skill.

It is shared humanity. 4 qualities:







## Do you qualify?

When we learn to understand what motivate others, our ability to deal with people is improved beyond measure.









## Why is Empathy a critical skill?

Only with a deeper connection to understand people's emotional make up and inner life you can drive behavioural change. And that will expand your business.





"There comes a point where we need to stop just pulling people out of the river.

We need to go upstream and find out why they're falling in."

Desmond Tutu



We need to understand why it matters so much. We need to understand the root cause of our employee's failing. We need to understand why our customers feel disappointed. It does not matter if it is true.



#### Innovation is a mindset and a heart set.

It requires a culture that fosters and inspires experimenting, encourages trial & error, and leaders resilient enough to overcome setbacks. The definition of another person is "someone who triggers things off in us"

The pause



## Amygdala hijack?

## Emotional, irrational overreaction to stress



## You always have a choice.



When we feel powerless, not able to master our thoughts and feelings, we take ourselves hostage metaphorically.

The antidote to powerlessness is emotional bonding.

George Kohlrieser



Leadership begins with the leaders managing their own inner life, so that emotional and behavioral chain reactions occur.

D. Goleman



A person who is not bonded remains detached and mental health is at risk.

When people are detached, they are also not engaged, and lack of engagement is a risk for the organization.





Self-awareness facilitates both empathy and self-regulation. And these two, in combination with the social skill to express empathy, allow effective relationship management. Negativity, toxic behavior, sabotage are loud and often find followers in your team.

Compassion, bonding, care, positivity and empathy are equally powerful.

They are your kryptonite to toxicity.



Hostage negotiators have a 95% success rate in changing people's minds and influencing their decisions in highly charged situations.

Why do you think that is?



## They are emotional available.

## They are a secure base.



Conflict is always about experiencing some sort of loss or grief.

And behind every conflict there is always a basic human need.



Caring and daring. You have to put the fish on the table! It is a messy process to

clean the fish.





## Managing conflict with an empathetic leadership approach...

- 1. Conflict is messy, emotional, fear, anger, triggers, abandonment.
- 2. Put the fish on the table.
- 3. Your **self-awareness** and self-regulation enables you to de-escalate emotions. Yours and others.
- 4. Knowing your own fears and triggers and then choose courage. Free yourself from restraints.
- 5. Your **secure base** is the base to others to bond and trust you. You allow others to replace their fear with trust and positivity.
- 6. Connecting and Bonding through empathy.
- 7. Wanting to understand the other person. And wanting the other to come out as a winner too.
- 8. Create a bond (even with your enemy) and maintain that during conflict.
- 9. Start with dialogue and ask questions.
- 10. Offer choices.
- 11. Open to different perspectives; Is there another way?
- 12. Find the other person's motivation. They probably don't have a clue.

Conflict Managing self Inner secure base Bonding. Connecting.



## Managing conflict with an empathetic leadership approach...

- ✤ You don't have to agree. Only to accept. Core quality of empathy☺
- You don't have to like a person to bond.
- Never think like a hostage. You always have a choice.
- Keep your mind's eye on the purpose / gain, do not let your inner fears take over.
- Separate the person from the conflict.
- Often conflict is not about the conflict but about triggers. "Hysterical is Historical"
- Minimizers and maximisers.
- Paraphrasing
- Reciprocity: make a concession. People are likely to collaborate and give something in return.

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Spend a *reasonable* amount of your time on human emotions to prevent an *unreasonable* amount of time on ineffective/disruptive behavior.

## We may impress people with our strengths,

#### but

we connect through our weaknesses, "our real messy selves"



#### Heart in the Boardroom is good for business:



**Innovation.** When people reported their leaders were empathetic, they were more likely to report they were able to be innovative—61% of employees compared to only 13% of employees with less empathetic leaders.

**Engagement.** 76% of people who experienced empathy from their leaders reported they were engaged compared with only 32% who experienced less empathy.

**Retention.** 57% of white women and 62% of women of colour said they were unlikely to think of leaving their companies when they felt their life circumstances were respected and valued by their companies. However, when they didn't feel that level of value or respect for their life circumstances, only 14% and 30% of white women and women of colour respectively said they were unlikely to consider leaving.

*Inclusivity.* 50% of people with empathetic leaders reported their workplace was inclusive, compared with only 17% of those with less empathetic leadership.

•Source Forbes 2022