Disruptive Leadership in a Global Economy

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reflections of an expatriate Program Manager

UT Dallas PM Symposium
17 August 2017
Steve Jobs, 
Mother Teresa 
and an American Program Manager in Paris 
all walk into a bistro...
Reflections . . .

- Noble Purpose
- The Platinum Rule
- Know Thy Self
- Who's Who?
- Bold & Brave but NOT stupid

18 Years
22K
14M
Zero
10-20/Q
8 Years
10M / 300 / 40 / 550 / 6500
Noble Purpose

“I’m convinced that about half of what separates the successful entrepreneurs from the non-successful ones is pure perseverance”

- Steve Jobs
The Platinum Rule

Treat others as they want to be treated

< Be Culturally Intelligent >

“If you judge people, you have no time to love <understand> them”

Mother Teresa
Cultural Awareness

“Strength lies in differences, not in similarities”

Stephen Covey
What do you see ???

style

soldier

survivor
Know Thy Self

✓ Managing globally is NOT for the feint of heart

✓ Know thy craft …
  • Project management prowess is necessary but not sufficient

✓ Understand your own biases & limitations

✓ Don’t go it alone; build and use a strategically aligned network to enable your success

“Great things in business are never done by one person. They’re done by a team of people.”

- Steve Jobs
Who’s Who?

Global Customer Continuum
Bold & Brave
… but ...
NOT Stupid

✓ Commit to your noble purpose & be willing to put skin in the game

✓ Sometimes you have got to “make some noise” at home and abroad in order to cause change

✓ Be culturally “intelligent” as you go about making great things happen
Exponential Change is upon us...

...things are happening differently!

UBER: World’s largest taxi company...owns no vehicles

Air BnB: World’s largest accommodation provider...owns no real estate

3D Printers: Price reduced from $18k to $400 within 10 years and became 100x faster!

Autonomous Cars: complete industry will start to be disrupted by 2020
What will be YOUR Noble Purpose?
Leading thru the chaos of uncertainty to achieve a noble purpose is the rewarding challenge of Managing Programs Globally!

“We, the unwilling, led by the unknowing, are doing the impossible for the ungrateful. We have done so much, for so long, with so little, we are now qualified to do anything with nothing”

-Mother Teresa
“A lot of people in our industry haven’t had very diverse experiences. So they don’t have enough dots to connect, and they end up with very linear solutions without a broad perspective on the problem. The broader one’s understanding of the human experience, the better design we will have.”

- Steve Jobs