

# Stop Hating, Start Collaborating: Bridging Workplace Differences

#### May 3, 2017

#### The webinar will start at 1:30 p.m. CT



**Daniel White** Organizational Development Consultant



# If you need HR or CPE credit, please participate in all polls throughout the presentation.





A recording of today's webinar will be emailed for your reference or to share with others.





For best quality, call in by phone instead of using your computer speakers.





To ask questions during the presentation, use the questions box on the right side of your screen.



#### About the Speaker



#### **Daniel White**

Organizational Development Consultant

Expertise in strategic planning, leadership development and employee engagement

Experience teaching masters-level courses in organizational development



Recognize the benefits of working with different view points.

Identify potential barriers to collaboration.

Learn the steps of a process to bridge differences and build trust.

Understand how to translate the process into different situations.



#### Poll #1



#### Ways to Be Different



#### Activity: Identifying Differences





A visible (gender, ethnicity, etc.) dimension that differentiates one group of people from another.



A <u>visible</u> (gender, ethnicity, etc.) or <u>invisible</u> (religion, thinking style, disability, etc.) dimension that differentiates one group of people from another.



#### Iceberg





http://www.brookgraham.com/WhatWeDo/Iceberg.aspx

#### Poll #2



#### Why Embrace Our Differences?





#### **THE WORLD IS CHANGING**



#### Trends





Pew: 86% believe we are more politically divided than the past.

Gallup: 77% believe the US is split over the most important values.



#### **Employment Trends**



Younger





Gen Y is the largest generation in the workforce.





By 2025: **75%** of workers will be Gen Y.



#### **Employment Trends**





#### **Multicultural**

# 2016: **1** in **4** were minorities.



#### **Multicultural**

# 2016: **1** in **4** were minorities.

2050: 1 in 2 will be minorities.



#### **Multicultural**

# 2050: **No ethnic majority**



#### **Employment Trends**





#### Women





#### **Benefits of Diversity & Collaboration**





#### **Cognitive Diversity**

# 



#### Potential Barriers to Collaboration



• "Better than others"



- "Better than others"
- Don't like change



- "Better than others"
- Don't like change
- Don't see the need for diversity



- "Better than others"
- Don't like change
- Don't see the need for diversity
- Don't like those different (the enemy)



- "Better than others"
- Don't like change
- Don't see the need for diversity
- Don't like those different (the enemy)
- Don't have time



### How to Bridge the Gap






#### Polarization



#### Minimization

#### Polarization



#### Acceptance

Minimization

#### Polarization



#### **Adaptation**

#### Acceptance

Minimization

#### Polarization



#### Poll #3



#### How do we move toward adaptation?





## Understand the other person.



# Understand the other person. Discover common ground.



# Understand the other person. Discover common ground. Make a connection.



# Understand the other person. Discover common ground. Make a connection. Adapt your style.



#### The Process In Detail



#### Understand the Other Person

- Get to know them.
- Research his or her background & history.
- Understand his or her intent.
- What are some possible reasons the person might believe that?
- If in doubt, ask.



### **Discover Common Ground**

- What common background do you have?
- What common interests or hobbies do you share?
- What common desires do you have?



#### Make a Connection

- Ask the person questions.
- Show interest in things the person cares about.
- Small talk
- Go to lunch and don't talk work.
- Work on a work project together.
- Go to an event outside work together.



### Adapt Your Style

- Know what the person would prefer to do.
- Express your desire to adapt.
- Meet the person halfway (or more).



# **Applying the Process**



#### **IDEOLOGIES**



#### **Sports**



# K-5TATE

# WICHITA STATE UNIVERSITY...



#### **Politics**







#### Health





#### **Religion/Ethics**







## Understand the person's intent.



#### GENERATIONS



#### **Multiple Generations**



https://usflearn.instructure.com/courses/1177483/pages/generations-2-multiple-generations-in-the-workplace



#### Poll #4



#### Example – Dress Code





#### Is it a business necessity?

(Could it cost us a customer, money, or a foot?)



#### Example – Work Ethic







## **Helping Others to Collaborate**

#### **Reasons Not A Team Player**

• Selfish/Don't care about others



#### **Reasons Not A Team Player**

- Selfish/Don't care about others
- Doesn't feel valued/appreciated



### **Reasons Not A Team Player**

- Selfish/Don't care about others
- Doesn't feel valued/appreciated
- Frustrated by others':
  - Work style
  - Quality standards
  - Personality



## **Helping Others**

• Identify the real issue.



## Helping Others

- Identify the real issue.
- Don't let it fester.



## Helping Others

- Identify the real issue.
- Don't let it fester.
- Help them understand others' intentions.



#### THE BIG IDEA



# The issue isn't about working with different (generations / ethnicities / ideologies) – it's about understanding and valuing people.



#### REVIEW



# Society is rapidly becoming more diverse and divided.



# Understand the other person. Discover common ground. Make a connection. Adapt your style.



#### Poll #5



#### Questions?



## Thank you!

#### **Daniel White**

Organizational Development Consultant

- daniel.white@aghlc.com
- in www.linkedin.com/in/danielwilliamwhite
- @dw\_white
- 316.291.4017

