

The Power of World-Class Teamwork



Leading a team of unique individuals can be as challenging as it is rewarding; however, it is through the work of everyone that we can accomplish great things. “1” is simply too small a number to achieve greater levels of success.

As someone who has worked alone AND led a large team of people at different points in my life, I can say without a doubt that there is something rewarding about leading a strong team who are putting in their best effort every day. That’s not to say it’s easy! I’ve had my fair share of ‘robust conversations’ with team members for one reason or another. But at the end of the day, it’s not our job as leaders to be friends with our team. We lead so that we can stretch people, help them grow and develop and ultimately accomplish big picture business/practice objectives.

In this article, I’ll share just a few snippets with you from a ½ day workshop we facilitate called ‘the 17 Indisputable Laws of Teamwork.’ Both Craig Yarndley and I are Certified Leadership Coaches with the international John Maxwell Team and, as such, we have access to really unique resources like the 17 Laws.

Now – whether or not you like the Rolling Stones, their longevity as a band is legendary! How have they managed to stay together, stay relevant and remain popular for 5 decades? TEAMWORK. They understand that you need to define a shared approach to working together, and you need to practice it over and over until it becomes second nature.

In Africa, there is a concept known as *Ubuntu*. Loosely translated it means ‘I am...because we are.’ How beautiful is that. Every person is inter-dependent upon others.

The first law I want to share with you today is ‘**The Law of the Big Picture**’. Simply stated, if we don’t see the big picture as a team or value it, we won’t be an effective, high-performing team in the long term. We won’t have staying power. The key as the leader of your team is to regularly share the vision and overall goals with them. That means that YOU must first be crystal clear on the big picture of what the team needs to accomplish and then involve your team in seeing and embracing those goals with you.

The second law I’ll share with you is ‘**The Law of the Niche**’. Each team member has a place where they add the most value to the overall effort. Everyone has areas of strength, and this law is all about first recognising what those strengths are then striving to organise the team such that each person is working within their areas of strength. Things like:

- Detailing
- Processing
- Influencing
- Directing
- Creating
- Relating
- Persisting

Finally, the third law that I want to leave you with for now is ‘**The Law of the Catalyst**’. This law says that winning teams have players that *make things happen!* Every team has players who

don't WANT to lead the charge. Your job as a leader is to identify those who DO and guide them to do it well! How do you identify a Catalyst on your team? Look for these 7 qualities:

1. Initiative
2. Communication
3. Passion
4. Strengths
5. Accountability
6. Serves the team
7. Earns the respect of the team

It's said that leaders need to focus their efforts on developing the 20% of the team who are catalysts rather than focusing on the 80% who are bystanders. While I believe that's true to some extent, I also believe that with the right conditions and the right support, every team member has the ABILITY to be a catalyst. They need great role models and accountability – and that starts with **YOU**.

If you would like to learn the remaining 14 Laws of Teamwork and understand how to apply them to YOUR team, get in touch with us by emailing jennifer@gener8leadership.solutions OR booking a complimentary appointment with Jen to discuss this article and how it relates to your team at: https://calendly.com/jennifergener8/get_acquainted.