

Safeguarding Organizational Instability

Civil society organizations, trade unions, political parties, governments and corporate entities, have all at some time, experienced some level of internal conflict, which had the potential of giving rise to instability within the ranks. Generally, this comes about as a consequence of personal or division create with the group, the non-acceptance of collective responsibility, and where there are problems with the leadership and management style of the head of the organization.

The impact of any instability problem is reflected in the effective functioning of the organization. In many cases persons, become disillusion, uncooperative and disinterested. It is more problematic when it results in a reduction in productivity, heightens tensions, stifles the work of the organization as it pertains to its growth and development. The point is to be explicitly made, that it creates a base for persons with a negative attitude, no positive outlook, no sense of purpose other than their self-interest, to work at undermining efforts which are aimed at moving the work of the organization forward. Truth be told, those who fall into this category, do a good job at offering criticisms, but seem to lack what it takes to offer any ideas.

Those who find themselves in leadership and management roles and use this position to exercise dictatorial behaviour and actions, can only hold themselves responsible for the tensions and resistance they encounter, and the limited support received. This authoritarian and dictatorial style of leadership is counterproductive; particular when there is cause to believe that all roads lead to the leader. It basically can place decision making into the hands of the leader or management, and erode the confidence of subordinates in taking any responsibility.

Those leaders and manager who engage in the process of micromanagement clearly usurp authority and blatantly disregard the chain of command. Micromanagement is a dangerous practice. Those who seek to micromanage are sending a message that they are power hungry. Is this a case of the individual being overambitious and overzealous? It certainly does not inspire confidence, and moreover, it is left to give thought to what are the intentions of the individual, who by their actions suggest non-compliance in observing the organization's rules, operational guidelines and procedures.

If it is that the primary goal is to maintain organization stability, confidence and optimism, leaders and managers of organizations, institutions and enterprises, should understand that there is wisdom in behaving and acting in appropriate ways, acting rationally, engaging colleagues, workers or members, and ensuring that there is effective communication. Leadership must take responsibility for creating and safeguarding organizational stability. The exercise of visionary leadership, the promoting of transparency and accountability are important to achieving this end. It would be a glaring omission if it was not added that leaders should refrain from unilateral decision making, as this can be proved to be most problematic to maintaining organization stability.

It is recommended that leaders and managers are not resistance to change and are receptive to embracing new ideas. They should be cautioned against any tinkering with the bureaucratic system, which is governed by a rule based system. Avoiding being over emotional or erratic in their behaviour is highly advisable, as this can open the door for the withdrawal of support and for undermining to take root.