

Intuition and Spirituality in Business: An Expert Intuitive Looks at Future Trends

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In the not-too-distant future, corporations will have professional intuitives on staff, much like kings and pharaohs in ancient cultures had viziers, astrologers, and dream priests who provided vital information about the unseen factors influencing their success. Soon it won't seem odd at all that an empath, like the beautiful Star Trek intuitive, might be consulted about the strategy for making a major new investment or how a cash flow problem should be solved. In the near future, executives will meet in groups, align their minds and hearts into a singular focus, ask a specific set of well-designed questions of the group mind, and receive highly useful, appropriate data that is mutually empowering to each and to the whole. At present, it may seem that business is locked into a very square, boxy way of thinking, that it epitomizes the patriarchal, mechanistic, one upsmanship, status quo view of life. Though this is true in large part, I feel it will be business, through its need to stay abreast of emerging market trends, that will help lead the way in catalyzing a profound and lasting societal transformation—and in the foreseeable future.

For over twenty years I have worked as a professional "expert intuitive," a term coined by Dr. William Kautz at the San Francisco-based Center for Applied Intuition, to distinguish his scientifically-tested intuitives from "psychics," who typically don't provide comparably reliable depth, accuracy, and subtlety of insight in their "readings." I have counseled and taught intuitive development to thousands of people, in many countries and walks of life, from the general public to CEO's of large corporations to government officials. Over the years I have synthesized a broad yet detailed understanding about the fundamental nature of perception by repeatedly acting as a bridge between the unseen, intangible realm and the physical world of logic, language, and practical solutions.

The more I've looked deeply into the mechanics of people's individual lives, the more I've seen, and felt, the underlying, elegant, mathematical, natural principles that organize our consciousness. The same principles hold true, whether I look into an individual life, a business, or society at large. Every system is a particular evolving configuration of energy, thoughts, feelings, actions, and forms, some factors being external, some internal. In most situations, what shows on the surface is just the tip of a large iceberg. By using intuition to access the hidden bulk of a situation--the energetic, mental, and emotional "blueprints"—new, highly effective paths of action can be outlined, problems can be solved, appropriate guidance can be rendered, and even future trends delineated.

What intrigues me today is an ongoing process I observe in everyone and every organization I see. I can only describe it as an acceleration of the work of clearing fear from our individual

and collective consciousness, a process of profound transformation of awareness, a perceptual shift. The same transformation process is occurring simultaneously within individuals, organizations, nations, and the planet itself. As the process occurs in individuals it looks one way: people are craving their own authentic self expression, a soul mate, a good family experience, health, and true freedom--and can no longer tolerate physical and sexual abuse, double standards, dishonesty, and low self esteem. Everything that is fear-based is rising to the surface of consciousness to be re-viewed by the higher mind, so it can be corrected and completed, and old frozen energies released for new creativity. As the process occurs in organizations it looks a little different: employees are beginning to take ownership in the companies they work for, women and intuitive knowing are playing a greater role in corporate functioning, the methodology for achieving profit is being reexamined, and indeed, the entire issue of profit as the sole motivation for business is being rethought.

PERCEPTION ITSELF IS CHANGING

This transformation process I'm talking about is not so much about changing a few traditions or habits, or about rearranging the "stuff" of the world into new combinations, or even about the affects of the new technologies that are being invented—it's really that perception itself is changing. We are evolving into an entirely new way of knowing reality, of actually manifesting our world out of new collective assumptions about how the universe works. This is a far-reaching change, one that has probably happened on the face of the earth only a few times in history. It's the sort of visceral world shift that will literally change the way we relate to time and space. I want to explore with you here a few of the ways this perceptual shift will change the way we do business.

At the root of this "paradigm shift" is a mysterious interpenetration of the spiritual, or fourth dimensional level of awareness, that part of our higher nature that is beyond time and space, and the physical, three dimensional world we commonly label "reality." Though this sounds wildly metaphysical and abstract, in actuality this concurrence of two dimensions (or ways of knowing) at the same time, in the same space, is being commonly experienced as the sensation of life accelerating, of vast amounts of knowledge available more and more directly, of greater simultaneity, synchronicity, of a yearning for contact with more refined people and lifeforms, of a desire to purify oneself. I see one of the major signs of this merger in the emerging idea of the unification of mind and body.

This theme is arising now, especially in psychotherapeutic trends, in which the mind must literally descend into the body, symbolically journeying into the mythological underworld, and must illumine the dark corners of matter. It's dawning on us that the earth is alive and conscious, and that our physical body, similarly, is our real "brain center." So, as my mind and body become one, I become present to the knowledge that my cells hold memories, that my body is full of data, and constantly transmitting new information. When I succeed in bringing my full attention into my physical body, I can feel the field of vibrating, resonating, conscious particles of which I am composed. If I keep exploring, still from the perspective of the merged mind and body, I realize my body doesn't end at the skin, but continues out and out, through the endless field of particles of matter.

If there is no end to my personal self, then I soon arrive at the awesome conclusion that the

whole world is my body, that all the people, trees, insects, rocks, and clouds are interwoven elements of my own makeup. Nothing can be lost or gotten rid of, because there's no such thing any more as "inside and outside." Everything has its place. And certainly, if I perceive that the entire physical plane is personal, I will begin to act responsibly. To litter or paint graffiti on someone else's property, to cheat or steal, to blame or punish others, will actually affect ME and my well-being.

So spirituality in our own life, or in business, in anything, really boils down to the practice of the Golden Rule, which will be simple common sense as soon as we experience Einstein's unified field. Though the Golden Rule is a Christian term, the concept is universal: Treat the outside world as though it's the inside; treat others as though they're yourself, practice loving the One Self, the one divine consciousness of life however and wherever it manifests—in your personal mind, in other people, in emotions, in events, in nature. In business, it means: Love your employees as yourself, treat the client as you want to be treated, care for your local community and your environment as if it were your own physical body.

DUALITY DEMYSTIFIED: THE BLURRING OF DISTINCTIONS BETWEEN OPPOSITE REALMS

One of the first "symptoms" of the perceptual shift will be a change in the way we deal with the concept of duality. At present, most of us still polarize life into pairs of opposite beliefs and values. Things are either good or evil, right or wrong, just or unjust, light or dark, male or female. And we fervently believe that we can be only one way OR the other. We're addicted to either-or thinking. The new paradigm will bring us an expanded ability to allow both sides of every polarity to exist at the same time, with the realization that they actually permit each other to function. We will see that it is the same greater, unifying consciousness, our bigger Self, that journeys in a circle, first manifesting as yin, then metamorphosing into yang, then turning to yin energy again, and on and on. Not two opposite, warring sides, but two aspects of the same Self going the same direction. Seeing the mutual inclusiveness of opposites will radically change our assumptions about how life works.

The boundaries between opposites will dissolve. We are already seeing this starting to happen. I have mentioned above how one polarity, that of mind and body, is integrating. With the reconciliation of opposites, however, there is no loss of either part, but an enhanced functioning of both as each consciously supports and feeds the existence of the other. As individuals are more able to hold the concept of paradox, or both-and thinking, organizations will simultaneously go through parallel changes of consciousness. Let's examine a few of the ways business will change as the perceptual shift becomes a reality.

PERSONAL LIFE vs. WORK LIFE

A friend of mine who once worked at an amusement park told me that on the wall in the corridor leading to the public grounds, a sign said, "Leave your personal problems here." Until recently, we were expected to keep our personal life compartmentalized off from our work life. Today, personal problems are flooding into the workplace with increasing frequency, and with increasing emotionality and violence. People are literally killing their co-workers in some instances, because their personal problems can no longer be cordoned off and denied. The methods we have traditionally looked upon as acceptable in coping with personal problems,

like drinking alcohol, taking drugs, or working extra hard and long, are actually incapacitating people now. Addictions of various kinds are increasingly responsible for inefficiency, error, absenteeism, illness, and even death. I see corporations taking greater responsibility for their workers' psychological health in the near future, not because they want to, but because they will have to in order to keep their work force functional.

Another effect of the blurring of the distinctions between the personal and work life is that people are more dissatisfied with menial, or heartless, mindless jobs. It's less possible to pretend you're disconnected from your work. The concept of "right livelihood" is coming into prominence, and it's not uncommon now for people to evolve through a sequence of jobs as they themselves grow in self knowledge. Soon it will be assumed that people's work is an expression of spirit or soul, and should be an accurate reflection of who they truly are. We won't have to act one way at work, sacrificing authenticity, and only be able to "let our hair down" when we get home. There will be much more of a constancy in the flow of our creativity and motivation throughout all areas of life, more of an attitude that work is play. There will be more personal time used to develop professional skills, more of a sense that the corporation is an aspect of family.

The concept of what constitutes office and home is also changing. People already are working from home offices and hotel rooms, determining their own schedules. And conversely, the corporation is taking more responsibility for day care, and the provision of education, exercise facilities, and therapeutic services for employees.

The new perceptual reality will accept as absolutely feasible the interchangeability of the personal and professional life. Work can happen at home, family can occur at work, recreation can be an aspect of work, work an aspect of recreation. An employee's personal problems are immediately problematic to the corporation, just as the problems of laid-off co-workers, or the overall poor health and direction of the company is detrimental to the individual employee.

LEFT vs. RIGHT BRAIN; MALE vs. FEMALE ENERGY

Another blurring boundary is that between the left and right brain, between the linear, analytical, logical, scientific, objective way of doing things and the holistic, intuitive, artistic, subjective way of working. Problems in business can no longer be solved through logic alone. Logic only sees the tip of the iceberg, and today we're being forced to look farther, into the intangible forces that pattern the manifestation of results and dictate success, more surely than sheer will power ever can. Where in the past, business survived on sports and military models and motivation, now more importance is being given to the interpersonal realm and ideas like quality not quantity, mutual inclusiveness, the interrelatedness and interdependence of all business variables (including new considerations such as people, society, and the environment). Now we must have both logic and intuition to survive. Science approaches art and spirituality; intuition is becoming a science (we're reinventing "meta-physics").

I distinguish two phases of the creative cycle, containing: 1) male energy and 2) female energy, or yang and yin. Every person, no matter their gender, uses both male and female energy every day. The male is focused, specific, goal-oriented, captivating, dynamic. It's about instinct, action, will, results. The female is receptive, relaxing, dissolving, connected,

nurturing. It's about being-with, presence, sustenance, wisdom, purpose, intuition. To be successful in today's world, we must all be able to consciously use both our internal female energy and our internal male energy. The successful organization must be able to solve problems in both the internal world of the BEING and the external world of DOING, utilizing both men and women.

US vs. THEM; HAVE's vs. HAVE-NOT's

As the new world view settles in, we no longer have the luxury of blaming someone else for our limitations. As I said earlier, awareness of the unified field catapults us into a new consciousness of being responsible for both our own life and the whole. I can no longer discount someone else's bad luck, or laziness, or hurtfulness to others, because it now affects me personally. I can't do slipshod work because I am the consumer who has to use what I've produced. We see that the people in the world who bother us are occurring in our life because they mirror something we're resisting in our own makeup. They are symbols of a disowned part of our totality. Every employee who was "fortunate enough" to keep his or her job after a massive layoff, and who now must do five times the amount of work, knows the flip side of the same discomfort the laid off employees feel. There are no winners or losers any more. Everyone wins and everyone loses when anyone wins or loses.

In business this new perspective will have an effect on the basic structure of the corporation. Upper management will increasingly involve lower echelon people in decision-making, and actual ownership of the company. The lower level people, who are used to being victims, will soon take on more confidence and leadership roles and some may rise suddenly to positions of increased power, without climbing the corporate, hierarchical ladder. Upper level managers will need a renewed kind of personal, physical involvement with their company. They may actually time-share some labor tasks. No one will be able to say, "They're the reason we're not succeeding." Management and labor will come to a new understanding. If I become aware that YOU are a reflection of ME, then I realize that THEM is a reflection of US.

Behaviors based on blame and jealousy will diminish. Demanding retribution is a ridiculous act when I realize my outside world has aligned obediently with my own internal (and hereto unconscious) negative values. Being jealous of people who have higher position or greater resources than I do is also a waste of time. If I want more responsibility and creative challenge, I can have it by choosing it. Hoarding information or assets only causes me to be blocked when I realize that knowledge, energy, and action are immediately available, free, and limitless. Manipulating circumstances in underhanded, illegal, secret ways doesn't work either any more. The boundary between private life and public life is blurring. Those skeletons in the closet in private life are mysteriously surfacing in public awareness. In fact, we're getting so used to the idea that there can't be secrets any more, we're on the verge of being bored by scandals! Soon we'll assume it's normal to know everything about everything. We'll be so non-plussed with the access to knowledge we'll just relax and let ourselves know whatever we need to know in the next moment to do our work.

SOLVING PROBLEMS BEFORE THEY MATERIALIZE

As executives acknowledge the interrelatedness of the internal, invisible, process-oriented part of life and the external, visible, results-oriented part of life, they will consider new, softer

solutions to problems. They will assume that nipping an unhealthy energetic pattern in the bud is a highly efficient way to maximize productivity. It will be common sense to deal with potential problems at the feeling and emotional level, before they erupt into physical breakdowns in the manufacturing plant.

A friend of mine was involved with a company that was having a serious cash flow problem, threatening its very existence. The four founding partners, all men, were progressively polarizing and a bitter battle was brewing. Two of them became controlling and dominating and planted their spears; two became victims and tried to preserve themselves, ready to leap to whichever side looked more promising. They spent money they didn't have to bring in outside consultants who worked with them for a year, helping them develop better communications and new strategies. But nothing worked. In the end, the company succumbed to a hostile takeover by the most domineering partner, in which almost all the employees were let go, and several of the partners were cheated of their rightful due. Had these men been open to the view "from the inside out," they would have seen that the company was designed as an arena for them to work out the unconscious problems they each had due to bad relationships with their fathers, and thus to their own, and others' authority. A talented "corporate therapist" or expert intuitive might have been able to help them find a way to support each other, and thus to save the company, which they erroneously thought existed only to manufacture a product and give them money.

In the not-too-distant future, when we're able to hold the paradox of the mutual inclusiveness of the world of spirit (non-form) and matter (form), hundreds of people won't need to be severely shocked by the loss of their livelihoods, and an industry won't need to lose a potentially innovative company, all because of the polarized egos and limited perception of four men. In the corporation of the future, hopefully "love" in business won't be an oxymoron, and we'll be able to speak directly about "intuition" and "spirit" without having to allude to these vital components of life through palatable and inventive semantics such as "business ethics," "integrity in the workplace," the "spirit of cooperation," or "flying by the seat of your pants."