

## Leadership and the hard things

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*A crossroads in adversity has begun to emerge. To survive the future problems of the emerging technological order requires us to be antifragile in our approaches to problem solving and stakeholder management. The careful equilibrium of systems to solve complex scenarios is part of the leadership toolkit. Beneath the well-polished veneer are the nuts and bolts of those systems. Effective leaders know and understand this.*

### Leadership through Adversity

The great difficulty of leadership comes from the management of human resources. Strategically, the arc of adversity brings unique challenges as to how we can and should lead. The concrete and static approach will leave an organisation unable to respond to evolving paradigms. The moto proprio of doing difficult things enables an effective leader to set a culture of problem solving and creativity. Dissecting the challenges facing a department or organisation will provide a framework for solving the emerging narratives of the modern workplace.

**“We do these things not because they are easy,  
but because they are hard.”**

*John Fitzgerald Kennedy (JFK), 35<sup>th</sup> President of the United States of America*

The nuanced response of building a workplace culture that embraces adversity is incumbent on the leader of the organisation. This can take place in several ways including management of staff through the curation of specialist and generalist skillsets that empower workers to curate the assigned mission. A greater sense of building upon the foundations of excellence that we as leaders bestow upon our staff. Setting clear expectations of tasks and the levels we aim to achieve gives guidance to the larger sense of the contextual lens.

How we create organisational identities in the face of challenges and adversity will lend a sense of self in those set adversities. A clear direction of embracing the hard. The broader strategic frameworks of complex stakeholder management infuse potential solutions for adverse situations. Our ability to remain calm, cool, and collected in leadership are part of the framework for managing stressful situations. The underlying fears of the potential unknown will create an uncertain sense of place and time. It's ultimately about prioritisation of decisions to affirm long term solutions.

Our use of systems in the face of chaos and adversity will ultimately determine how we approach solutions-based leadership in the age of Artificial Intelligence. The solutions are not necessarily simple. How we approach complex tasks and the inherent learning that occurs as we overcome those challenges will make us more antifragile as we approach more tasks in future scenarios. The systems built are the framework for all that we seek to achieve. As leaders, our ability to have all stakeholders buy in is crucial for success. The future is in our hands.

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