

Human Resources

## PSYCHOLOGICAL SAFETY: A MEASURE OF TEAM INNOVATION?

*Innovation* is a known prerequisite of high-performing teams. Thus the caliber of a team can be gauged per its level of psychological safety—a proven variable that fosters group creativity.

The short podcast: <u>"WorkLife with Adam Grant"</u> explores how psychological safety has contributed to the success of The Daily Show (34 mins).

- When listening to this segment: Think about the ways in which you can apply the principles of psychological safety within your workplace?
  - Collaborative Leadership
  - > Diversity
  - > Mutual Respect
  - > Structure
  - > Trust

Our next *short* LinkedIn course for this **PD Series**: <u>Creating Psychological Safety for Diverse Teams</u> explains how individual differences are an inherent strength rather than a crutch for innovation (22 mins).

· Psychological safety enhances workplace creativity by removing the barriers of groupthink.

Throughout your week, reflect upon the **Principles of Psychological Safety** and assess the "quality" of your workplace with the below audit:

## 5-MINUTE PSYCHOLOGICAL SAFETY AUDIT:

- If you make a mistake in this team, will it be held against you?
- Are the members of this team able to bring up problems and tough issues?
- Do people on this team sometimes reject others for being different?
- Is it safe to take a risk on this team?
- Is it difficult to ask other members of this team for help?
- Would anyone on the team deliberately act in a way that undermines efforts?
- Working with member of this team, are unique skills and talents valued and utilised?

Edmondson, A. (1999) Psychological Safety and Learning Behaviour in Work Teams. Administrative Science Quarterly, 44: 350-383.

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