

Spiritual intelligence a highly rated skill



*Raise your
leaders™
- know all about it!
by Jenny Handley*

"Spiritual intelligence is the central and most fundamental of all the intelligences, because it becomes the source of guidance for the other(s)."
- Stephen R Covey

WHILE it may not be thought to be of great concern, it is interesting to note that spiritual intelligence is increasingly being measured in many large global corporate companies and becoming more part of mainstream practices. It is defined as the spiritual correlate to IQ and EQ. I applaud synergy, serendipity and other spiritual coincidences.

We live in an interconnected world. Our universe comprises interconnected relationships – molecular, atomic and human. There is a

need for leaders to develop a spiritual intelligence that allows a heightened awareness of synchronicity, a faith in destiny and outcomes managed by a higher power, and the knowledge of when to let go and let things "unfold" naturally.

Howard Gardner, the originator of the theory of multiple intelligences, did not include spiritual intelligence among his "intelligences" due to the challenge of codifying quantifiable scientific criteria. Instead, he refers to the viability of an "existential intelligence".

Heightened spiritual intelligence will allow you to listen to your inner voice and to develop what could be called an inner

vocabulary. If you use the intuitive and conceptual side of your brain (the right-hand side) in sync with the logical, analytical left side, you can call yourself whole-brained! To access your creativity you may need to allow yourself some quiet time in nature or somewhere that feeds your soul.

You cannot be open to new ideas if you do not open your mind. Be open to coincidence and change. Reflect and risk more. I have countless examples of how when I think I want to call someone, they call me or just appear. Often I verbalise what I need, then someone delivers.

I term it trust in the universe. I trust my intuition. When I am wrestling with a problem I know

the value of taking time out, preferably in nature... when I cannot see the wood for the trees I go out for a walk to ensure that I can see more trees! Find out what works for you.

What makes up your spiritual fibre? Discuss this with your colleagues and compare what you believe is essential and important. Ask your team for examples of positive coincidences in the workplace, and open the platform for interesting debate to decide if spiritual intelligence is as important as the other four intelligences.

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