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Leading in Analytics

Overall, the book “Leading in Analytics gives me a better view on how data can be used effectively and responsibly in an organization. As an essential part of our daily life, analysis is always important as it gives better insights. The book breaks down analytics’ complex ideas into small tasks. These tasks later build on each other and form a strong foundation for analytics. The book starts with how significant analytics leaderships are when it comes to understand, applying, and scaling analytics responsibly. The beginning task is to identify which problems that we need to solve first. Leaders play a significant role as they must point out which problems the team must solve prior to other tasks. As part of an organization, we do not want to waste resources and time on projects that have no value. As a result, leaders should approach a problem based on frame works like DAD (decision, action, data). Secondly, the book focuses on indicating how to work effectively as a team. A good team respects all members’ perspectives as well as their skills. Furthermore, the team’s goal also needs to align with organization goal. Besides leadership, tools are also a factor to strengthen team analytics. The right analytics tools depend on the goal and available data. While tools can predict trends, they cannot foresee future events. Then, the book shows the process of turning insights into action. It is crucial to understand that data and insights will remain to be statistical without a right execution plan. For example, a retail store sees its customers’ reaction to a product based on data but refuse to make any adjustment. The data itself is being wasted while the retail store position will be held back as its competitors are taking the lead by adjusting. A successful execution plan requires teamwork as well as strong leadership. Another requirement is eliminating potential roadblocks that slow down the organization since the final goal of any project is to bring benefits to the company. Another concept from the book is analytics maturity. The organization needs to know when and how to use analytics effectively. Organizations tend to grow strongly if they can balance between data and practical judgement well. Finally, the book concludes the process by indicating the responsibilities in analytics. Data must be used in an ethical way that respects other privacy as well as preventing harm. The book highlights the concept of INFORMS since it can help in managing ethical concerns. This principle focusses on transparency as well as prioritizing personal privacy and well-being. Data is meant to help us flourish not to cause any harm or violate any of our personal beliefs. As today society is adapting to data and technology usage, it is everyone’s responsibility to maintain the ethical boundary as well as bringing positive impact to the community.

The book “Leading in Analytics” gives me several concepts that I can applied in daily lives. One concept that I find crucial is related to teamwork. I have been learning a lot about teamwork, as it is more than just collaborating alongside others. It is respecting others’ perspectives while actively listening to and understanding values that others bring. It does not matter whether it is a study group, or a project, it would be effective and beneficial to listen and be listened. Embracing diversity tends to create a more motivated and innovative which will lead the team to a more effective and beneficial work environment. For example, members with different backgrounds can contribute differently. A person with technical analysis background can help in the analysis part, while others with interpersonal skills can be good at communication strategies. Another key point I find interesting is ethical data usage. As data is being used and adapted as part of daily lives, it is important to always remind ourselves about ethical. When using data, we need to think carefully if our action will impact any individuals. For instance, organizations need to pay attention to collecting customers’ data, since they need to do it transparently and with respect for privacy. On the customers’ side, we need to be careful on information we share for others to collect. Whether it is our or others information, it is crucial to understand that the information we share might unintentionally harm others. On the companies’ part, it is significant to ask customers for permission before using their data and if they are comfortable. Being respectful can also help organizations gain trust from customers and potentially gain loyal customers. Another example is fitness or health app tracker. Before collecting the data, it always asks customers if the publisher can collect their personal data. Customers are fully aware that their data are being collected daily, weekly, monthly, or yearly, and the company ask for permission before proceeding. Additionally, I find that identifying the right problem at the right time is necessary in our daily life. The book encourages leaders to use the DAD method to approach problems. They will be able to identify the right problem that needs to be solved at that time. Furthermore, it helps to keep the team on the right track as well as aligning with the company’s goal. Sometimes, I get overwhelmed and stressed with everything as I find that I have too many problems, but the fact is that all those problems come from one or two big problems. I do not see the big pictures, and I focus on solving little problems first, one by one. I lacked in managing my time and lack of selfcare. If I can identify the right problem to tackle, it would solve everything and save me lots of time.