

ENGR 303 Gender and Engineering
Final Paper

Topic 2A:

Individual Case Study:

Background:

I was working at a company XYZ in India which is a branch office of a renowned company in the United States. I would like to chronicle a situation where I had to face a lot of communication difficulties with a co-worker named Mr. A, an individualistic person, who was located in the US. Both of us were reporting to manager Mr. N, a relational person, who always wanted employees to build relationships to co-operate and work together to achieve higher productivity. I was assigned a task that was to be completed in collaboration with Mr.A whom I presumed to be a relational person which took turns towards the end. Eventually, after the task was initiated, the flow of the task was like, there was a bit of subtask that had to be completed by Mr. A and my next task would be a follow up task of what Mr. A has developed. So, this had to be partnership project.

Issue:

When there were problems to be discussed, Mr. A turns out to have conflicting opinions and was not even open to set up meetings for discussions. He adopted to work his way with a different methodology and send it back to me which wasn't the accurate solution to the task. Due to his behavior, I had to make a lot of modifications in my way of developing the task which led to furthermore errors

since there was no sync in the methodology used. There was already a communication latency developed due to the time zones between both the workplace (India and US time zones) and on top that Mr. A was not open to take inputs from others and adapt to a mutual solution. I being a relational person, even after constant efforts could not join hands with Mr. A to arrive on a perfect solution. I was ready to change my way of working towards the task but Mr.A had no sync with the way of implementing the task. I observed that Mr. A was playing devil's advocate continuously. I being a fresher at that company without any remark till then, was disturbed because even after a lot of efforts form my side I was being not able to make progress to complete the task on time.

Solution:

As a result, I had to involve our manager in the loop to reduce this communication bridge which was hindering the completion of the project. I and our manager Mr. N decided to schedule a meeting to clearly elaborate on the task and ideas of implementation to consider all possible executions (My methods as well as MR.A's) to ensure that we were on the same page on which methodology to work on. Finally, Mr. A changed his course of action and collaborated to work on a common platform only after his manager Mr. N insisted him firmly. Only after this change of workstyle in Mr. A, we were able to successfully complete the task and deploy it onto the project. I learned how to adopt to work with people of different work styles and how to adapt to other people's competencies.

Topic B:

My greatest learnings from the class are:

- I learned about individualistic and relational personalities which I was not aware of before taking this class. Now, I can relate to these individual and relational traits in people with whomever I cross paths.
- Came to know about how Brain Science works and how it has influence on behavioral differences between men and women. I realized that the reason behind the less eye contact maintained by boys during conversations is due to the affect of Brain Science.
- One of my greatest learning from this class is that Communication can play a vital role to make or break a problem. I learnt that every discomfort situation should be discussed with your peers or parents or friends to arrive at a mutually acceptable solution to reduce the communication gap.
- I also learnt how to deal with various personalities without unintentionally hurting other people feelings. Group Presentation take me an opportunity to indulge in discussions with diverse people and got know about the cultural differences.
- Learnt how Adapt and Adopt implementation eases working with different people at a workplace.
- I was enlightened by the informative workshop by Ray Plaza about the LGBTQ community. I was unaware of the abbreviation of LGBTQ+ before this class. The problems faced by the LGBTQ community in their day-to-day life as well as professional life were explained by sharing various

experiences and I got to know how to communicate with them without creating any discomfort or put any stress on them.

I feel fortunate enough to take up the Gender and Engineering class in my first quarter of master's education. At a very early stage itself, It gave me a lot of insights on how to conduct myself at various situations and I also learnt on how I can effectively communicate and convey myself with both men and women personally as well as professionally. I can already see myself being attracted to towards inculcating various concepts such as adopt and adapt to the situations in my daily life.

Topic C:

I am really amazed by the depth in Gender Intelligence and would like to explore a lot more in this subject. As a starting step, I got to understand the basic concepts around Brain Science and how gender intelligence works between men and women. I would definitely want to know more on how this plays a important role in all sectors of life. And I will try to educate people with these concepts in order to make the world a happier place for everyone without any discrimination between people either based on cultural differences or gender interests.