

ENGR 303 Gender and Engineering
Assignment 2A

In this writing, I recount one of the scenario that I have faced at my workplace where I was formerly working. 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 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 had to pick up 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. 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 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 workplaces and on top which 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 observed that Mr. A was playing devil's advocate continuously. 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 were open 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 of the 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.

Over the course of time, I realized that my presumption about Mr. A being a relational person was wrong as he was more of an individualistic person than a relational person.