Influence of Wider Reading on Business People

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Evidence suggests that many business moguls who have survived the test of times have been avid readers of various materials. It is said that they revered reading and came up with libraries that were stocked with enough reading books to expand on their knowledge. One notable business titan Steve Jobs had a library at his home where one was required to take off their shoes and bow before entering. From this, it is clear that such business titans revered reading. My essay will argue for the influence of wide reading of articles, poetry, literature, textbooks, or even newspapers.

As John (2017) puts it, reading can improve a leader's innovation, insight, and intelligence. One famous quote from Winston Churchill says that “deep, broad reading cultivates knowledge, talents, and habits that improve an organization." From this statement, it is clear that business leaders can read widely to become smarter by gaining a large vocabulary and abstract reasoning skills. Doing this expands their reasoning skills and ideas on how to solve daily work challenges that arise from work.

Additionally, another proponent Steve Jobs says that "reading can make a leader more effective by improving their verbal intelligence." From this assertion, he says that wider reading can make a leader more adept and an effective articulator of issues affecting the organizations they lead. One researcher Anne Kramer links traits such as understanding social cues and empathy to increased organizational effectiveness due to reading improvement. She says that any adept leader should understand that their leadership skills will improve significantly if they possess a heightened emotional intelligence. They will manage to handle their workforce with much ease.

She says that reading any kind, whether for obtaining information or for leisure, is encouraged to organizational leaders to help them build their skills in solving work-related issues.

Another famous quote from scholars around the globe suggests that “a larger vocabulary and more knowledge of the world improves one’s abstract reasoning.” In support of this argument, some proponents such as Shakespeare say that a leader for any organization should live an active and effective life. Such a life can only be managed through effective personal reading. Doing this will enable them to relax their minds and improve health (John, 2017). He says that executives who might be encountering work-related stress should read widely to relieve off the stress. The authors suggest that reading for at least six minutes in a day manages to drive away stress levels by 68%. Other studies advocate for wider reading among organizational leaders and say that it can help drive away Alzheimer's disease. If this disease is kept off, the mind can function for a longer time as the stress is reduced significantly, which can slow it down through depression.

Contrary to my argument, I found Nation's (2018) reasoning that reading widely can negatively affect reactions. Some reactions such as fear, guilt, and obsession over a certain idea are seen to be some of the effects of reading widely. The author says that reading widely can amplify such thoughts and make readers more susceptible to copying negative behaviors. As much as his ideas seem to be correct to some extent, I found them irrational. Reading should make one skilled in solving challenges related to life, especially at the workplace. Leaders who are an effective readers and love reading should never construct such ideas in their minds.

The idea of fear, feeling guilt should be sent away through effective reading as one is fed with skills and knowledge on how to overcome such things as fear and guilt. Reading should empower one to think proactively.

Fear should not arise as reading is meant to cultivate proactive thinking in reacting to an organization's issues. I, therefore, refute such claims by saying that reading is good for the mind as it is meant to drive away such attributes as fear, anxiety, and a feeling of guilt over an issue. Doing this is possible as advance reading brings on board effective organizational leading strategies by building on one's emotional intelligence and capacity to react to issues at hand from an informed angle.

In conclusion, I support effective wider reading among organizational leaders. The benefits that accrue outweigh the negative effects as put forward by naysayers as outlined in my argument. Leaders should embrace wider reading to cultivate their thinking abilities and improve their skills in response to work-related issues. Solving family and life problems can also be made easier if one decides to read widely. It is only through effective reading that one gets empowered and enlightened up.

References

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