

Impression - First or Last?

When we talk about impressions, we definitely want it to be good, no matter where we go and what we do. It is often said that 'first impression is the last impression', but does it even matter? Or if it even does, should we care about it? While most of the crowd said yes, I think, we should explore the cases we may find ourselves in.

Thinking about the impression part, one thing we all do know is that it more or less depends on two factors, first, on what and how you behave and carry yourself like, second, how open is the receiver to address your personality. Thinking about how you carry yourself, it always feels good to have knowledge about how to attend presentations and how to give a speech, how to behave in an interview and all the professional fronts. Always predicting what aftermaths can your one action lead you into, proves to be crucial for one's carrier and depicts his/her leadership and risk management capabilities.

But, is it applicable out of the business realm too? Let's see.

Not more than a week ago, did I find a shopkeeper at a grocery shop, reading a book on 'Indian Economy', I could not avoid asking him if he did like reading or why and what was he reading, the humble man replied with only a few words - "Well I know why are you surprised, but I really like the subject of Economics and even pursuing my masters from Delhi University, its my father who asked me to sit here while he was out for some hours".

That day I got to know that there is whole wrong perception of impressions in our society, the general impression of a shopkeeper did not allow me to easily welcome this new era shopkeeper who was a real milestone for us, our society, showing us how serious we all are regarding our education.

What I did was not to recall all about what a shopkeeper usually does, it was prejudice instead. The thoughts that never came to my mind but were depicted by my actions was 'how cum a shopkeeper be so educated?', and this is what everyday happens in and around us without much of our knowing.

Seemingly same incident happened today when I saw a slum area having people very tensed about water crisis, standing in a queue and arguing for water. While most of the teenagers I saw were making fun, I was disappointed. I asked them why were they laughing, they told me it is a daily act of these slum people.

This time I was sure that some non-ethical influencers are running this era of youth into nothing but disaster, Getting a nice amount on the name of "course for self-development" or names similar to these and making them forget the roots they all have emerged from.

The great leaders we had like "A.P.J Abdul Kalam", "B.R. Ambedkar", "Bhagat Singh", "Sardar Patel", "Maharana Pratap" and even my parents have to face a lot of atrocities during their daily lives, but instead of learning from them, reading them, we are learning to earn and escape the poverty all our families faced at some point in history. If someone in the office cannot afford a \$500 suite or a car, we mock and make fun of him/her, just because everyone else in the same room can afford it.

Instead we should make an environment where all the well-to-do professionals join hands and make sure that no next "Kalam", "Saina Nehwal", "Sam Bahadur", "Subhash Chandra Bose", "Kalpana Chawla" loose their shine because of the problems like poverty, malnutrition, lack of facilities and education.

Moreover, we should never make any impression of any individual to be the last one, the day we do that, it will turn into prejudice towards the person everytime we meet him/her. Instead we should always expect a surprise form every individual we know to prove us completely wrong about what we did think of him/her.

Always remember, the dust, we call it filthy and remove it using a broom or vaccum cleaner, is the ultimate destiny everyone of us has to meet in the end. Lend a hand to those who met this dirt before time.