

Ignatian Leadership



Chapter 10:

Failures in Risk-Taking



Jesuits in the 18th century had a long list of enemies...Jansenists and Enlightenment thinkers were far from the only ones throwing stones. Jesuit advocacy of indigenous people's liberties...hadn't quite enhanced Jesuit popularity with colonials... Advantages that accrued to religious orders in commercial ventures led to numerous clashes with powerful figures in Spain and Portugal...First expelled from Portugal in 1759, the Jesuits were later eradicated from France and Spain (1767). Pope Clement XIV made the suppression official in 1773.



Catherine the Great of Russia, in the interests of preserving the four great Jesuit schools in Russia, refused to permit the papal edict of suppression to be promulgated in her territories. Some 200 Jesuits continued and grew under her protection...Pius VII restored the Society in 1814, and within a generation, 5,000 Jesuits were working around the world.

Chapter 11:

Four Basic Values for a Life: *Our Mode of Proceeding*



Four Premises of Jesuit Leadership

1. Self-Awareness facilitates ingenuity
2. Ingenuity influences self-awareness
3. Heroism inspires ingenuity
4. Self-awareness gives rise to love and heroism



A leader understands that one's values and ways of working have to form an integrated whole, which reinforces itself, or, as the Jesuits say "a way of proceeding." In the case of the Jesuits, their work and the values of their life: self-knowledge, ingenuity, love, and heroism, were reinforced each to another in the circle of virtues...

Chapter 12: Summary





Infinitely more valuable than a plan, a product, or capital, which the Jesuits lacked, was the fact that the founders had unconditional dedication to an exclusive mode of working and living, a life in which were integrated the principles of leadership...

To lead is a personal choice...Loyola attracted some of the greatest talents in Europe, not through his superior intelligence and his notable achievements, but through his ability to help others to become true leaders, and to open that potential in others.



Ingenuity predisposes one not only to think in an original way, but also to live in an original manner... Ricci and others explored new tactics and strategies which transcended the narrow mentality of their contemporaries in Europe...



Self-knowledge ingrains and nurtures the other virtues of leadership. One who discovers who one is and what one desires, and defends them, has taken the 1st step toward heroic leadership... Self-knowledge is not a one-time project.

In a world of leadership from below, the outstanding leaders:

1. Lead themselves, inspire others by example, and create environments more of love than of fear;
2. Encounter the most able + develop them
3. Help subordinates track internal movements to generate motivated performance; and
4. Sustain the well-grounded + trust them.

Those who live in the manner of Jesuit leadership sustain 4 principles: They...

1. understand their weaknesses, strengths, values, and their perspectives on the world;
2. innovate confidently + adapt themselves to embrace a changing world;
3. treat others with a positive, loving attitude; and
4. strengthen themselves and others with heroic aspirations.

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