#### EDLS810 S4L5

Improving Leadership: Analyzing and Managing Organizational Phenomena by Reframing; symbolic and cultural frame

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# Understanding and developing organizational culture; part 1

The origin of organizational culture reform can be traced back to Dr. Edward Deming's invited trip to Japan in **1950** to present the **statistical quality control method**. Joseph Juran traveled to Japan in 1954 emphasizing the management part of quality.

Val Feigenbaum followed Juran with TQC (Total Quality Control), a management approach that required <u>all employees to participate in quality improvement activities.</u>

# Understanding and developing organizational culture; part 2

By 1975, Japan had developed into the world leader in quality and productivity. In contrast, "quality teachings" were mostly ignored in the US. Deming remained in the quality wilderness of America for a whole generation.

On June 24<sup>th</sup> in **1980** an NBC television documentary "**If Japan can ... why can't we**" triggered the TQ movement in the United States.



#### The culture reform movements

The Z Organization (1981)
Ouchi

Learning Organizations (1990); Senge

Quality of Working Life (1991)
Weisboard

Reinventing Government (1993)
Gore

Process Reengineering (1993)
Hammer & Champy



### Common elements in most of the movements were:

- Empowerment of individual employees and work teams
- Eliminating policies, procedures, and layers of hierarchy
- Granting individuals and work teams autonomy and discretion to make decisions
- Replacing accountability to bosses with accountability to customers
- Introducing data-based information systems to provide information needed to correct actions in real time
- Eliminating middle management (out of the way of empowered workers)

# Organizational culture in a learning organization -1

- Supports and rewards learning and innovation
- Emphasizes two-way communication
- Utilizes the knowledge in the whole organization in creating visions and strategies
- Promotes research, communication, risk-taking and experimenting
- Encourages honest facing of internal problems and solving them openly



## Organizational culture in a learning organization -2

- Allows mistakes and sees them as a learning experience
- Uses constructive critique
- Values the well-being of all employees
- Emphasizes the importance of values and ethics
- Emphasizes openness and mutual trust



## Leadership in the symbolic and cultural frame:

- Leaders lead by example
- Leaders use symbols
- Leaders communicate vision
- Leaders tell stories
- Leaders respect and use history



#### Leadership in the symbolic & cultural frame

Effective leadership Ineffective leadership

<u>Leader Leadership style</u> <u>Leader Leadership style</u>

Prophet Inspiration Poet Framing

Experience

Fanatic Fool

Mirage, smoke

and mirrors



#### The four frames according to Boleman and Dealin

|                                | Structural                                  | Human<br>resource                     | Political                     | Symbolic/<br>cultural                          |
|--------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| Organizational<br>metaphor     | Machine,<br>factory                         | Family                                | Jungle                        | Theatre,<br>carnival                           |
| Central<br>constructs          | Rules, roles,<br>goals,<br>technology       | Needs, skills,<br>human relations     | Power, conflicts, competition | Culture,<br>meanings,<br>stories, heroes       |
| Manifestation of<br>leadership | Social<br>architecture                      | Empowerment                           | Seek for support              | Inspiration                                    |
| Challenge of<br>leadership     | Form structure in line with the environment | Align the organizations' and peoples' | Agenda and sources of power   | Emphasizing<br>trust, loyalty, and<br>meanings |

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