## DIALOGUE IS THE DIFFERENCE

"The health of any relationship, team, or organization can be measured by the lag between identifying and discussing problems."

Joseph Grenny co-author of *Crucial Conversations* 

Whenever you're not getting the results you want, it's likely an important conversation either hasn't happened or hasn't been handled well. In fact, both individual and organizational success are largely determined by how quickly, directly, and effectively we speak up when it matters most. At the heart of healthy and high-performance organizations are people willing and able to hold Crucial Conversations.

## WHAT IS A CRUCIAL CONVERSATION?

A Crucial Conversation is a discussion between two or more people where the stakes are high, opinions vary, and emotions run strong. When conversations turn crucial, people tend to follow one of two ineffective paths: they either speak directly and abrasively to get the results they want but harm relationships, or they remain silent with the hope of preserving relationships only to sacrifice results.

#### THERE IS A BETTER WAY

Crucial Conversations® for Mastering Dialogue gives people the skills to step into disagreement—rather than over or around it—and turn disagreement into dialogue for improved relationships and results.



### The Crucial Skills

#### Crucial Conversations<sup>®</sup> for Mastering Dialogue teaches nine powerful skill sets

grounded in decades of social science research. Whether experienced in-person or virtually, the course helps learners develop these vital skills through instruction, application, practice, group discussion, and self-reflection – not just theory – for lasting improvement.

**"This is by far the most impactful course I have attended.** There are important takeaways and I want to immediately act on them to have crucial conversations with one of my staff and at the home front. I am hopeful that this will improve the work environment and my psychological well-being."

*Ng Shi Lei Acting Deputy Director Corporate Events and Visits Corporate Communications Group Housing & Development Board* 

#### **GET UNSTUCK**

• Identify problems contributing to poor results and broken relationships.

#### MASTER MY STORIES

- Keep composure when feeling angry, defensive, or intimidated.
- Identify victim, villain, and helpless stories you might be telling yourself to justify behavior.

#### START WITH HEART

• Consider others' perspectives and assume they have good reasons before speaking up.

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#### STATE MY PATH

• Speak honestly and respectfully.

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#### **MAKE IT SAFE**

- Recognize when you're at cross-purpose and take steps to rebuild safety and return to dialogue.
- Find and cultivate mutual purpose with those who hold opposing viewpoints.

#### LEARN TO LOOK

• Spot the warning signs that indicate safety and dialogue are at risk.

#### SEEK MUTUAL PURPOSE

- Seek a purpose that both parties are committed to.
- Find common ground.

#### **EXPLORE OTHERS' PATHS**

• Bring people back into dialogue when they clam up or blow up.

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#### MOVE TO ACTION

• Turn each Crucial Conversation into a course of action that leads to results.

## DIALOGUE PAYS DIVIDENDS

Crucial Conversations for Mastering Dialogue skills lead to results, including:

#### **EQUITY & INCLUSION**

The central benefit of effective dialogue is psychological safety. When people feel psychologically safe to speak up, they are more likely to add meaning to and take responsibility for their workplace cultures.

#### **DECISION-MAKING**

When people are able to quickly surface critical information, decisionmaking is not only more efficient, it's also more likely to be fueled by facts rather than ego and politics.

#### EFFICIENCY

Almost nothing saps time and money as much as silence. Our research suggests that every crucial conversation that doesn't happen costs the organization an average of \$7,500 and more than seven workdays.

#### ENGAGEMENT & TEAMWORK

When employees have evidence that their voice matters, that they can speak up and be heard, they know their role is vital and their contribution critical. Cultures of dialogue foster employee engagement. You won't find one without the other.

#### **AGILITY & ADAPTABILITY**

Organizations that weather chaos and crisis do so through effective communication. Staying agile in changing circumstances and environments requires people who can dialogue with care in the face of stress and uncertainty.

#### **IDEATION & INNOVATION**

With skills to dialogue effectively about difficult topics, people are more likely to share novel ideas and challenge the status quo. Innovation thrives where candid and respectful dialogue exists.

#### **QUALITY & SAFETY**

Mistakes don't happen in secret; they happen in silence. Too often employees observe risks to quality and safety but choose to say nothing. Imagine the impact of a workforce that speaks up the moment they observe an error. Mistakes are flagged and fixed, and quality and safety are preserved.



# LIVES TRANSFORMED

Many international, multinational and local organizations, government agencies and educational institutes have sent their teams for Crucial Conversations<sup>®</sup>. Participants in Singapore and Hong Kong who have benefitted from and been impacted by the course include those from:



AIA Group Boehringer-Ingelheim Boeing Central Provident Fund Board (CPF Board) Defence Science & Technology Agency Dell Facebook Google Hongkong Jockey Club Hospital Authority Hong Kong Housing and Development Board

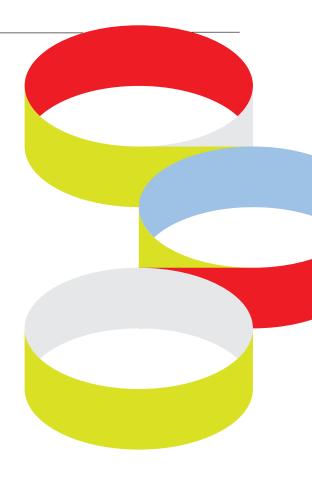
> Infineon Technologies Asia Pacific Johnson & Johnson MTR Corporation Monetary Authority of Singapore Oracle Procter & Gamble Salesforce Sentosa Development Corporation Singapore General Hospital Temasek Polytechnic Visa ... and many more



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# THE PROOF IS IN THE PERCENTAGES

Organizations around the world—from large to small, from Fortune 500 to tech startups, from government agencies to school districts have turned to Crucial Conversations for Mastering Dialogue to improve quality, efficiency, engagement, safety, and more.



#### PRODUCTIVITY

**Sprint** reported a **93**% improvement in productivity metrics being met.

#### SAFETY

**Pride International** reduced safety incidents by **55%** in one year.

#### TEAMWORK

Employees at **MaineGeneral Health** were **167%** more likely to speak up and resolve problems with colleagues after being trained in Crucial Conversations.

#### COST

AT&T reduced billing costs by 30 percent and Sprint reduced customer care expenses by \$20 million annually.

#### ENGAGEMENT

Rocky Mountain Equipment reduced turnover from 30 to 16%.

#### SATISFACTION

**San Antonio School District** saw a **50**% drop in grievances that previously clogged the administrative system.



## WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING

#### **BEST COURSE**

"Definitely one of the best courses I have attended. **The skills can be used for meeting discussions, design thinking and conversations with reporting officers during performance reviews**."

Bernard Woon Senior Manager, Operations Sport Singapore

#### VERY APPLICABLE

"I have attended numerous communications/coaching workshops previously, so I was initially skeptical about the outcome of this program. I am happy that the things learnt in this Crucial Conversations® program are very applicable to both my work and personal life."

*Gladys Tan Gek Yen Director DSO National Laboratories* 

#### **HIGHLY RECOMMENDED**

"The course is one of the best and most interesting courses that I have ever attended. I found the "how" and "what" skills as well as the stories that we have to avoid when we are having a crucial conversations, the most useful aspects of the course. I will recommend this course to my supervisor and higher management as well as my staff and teammates."

*Wendy Ho Procurement Manager Defence Science and Technology Agency* 



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