EXTRAORDINARY LEADERSHIP IN AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND: THE FIVE PRACTICES THAT GENERATE GREAT WORKPLACES

By James Kouzes and Barry Posner with Michael Bunting

Authors who write about leadership in the workplace often do so at their publisher’s peril. There have been so many takes on this subject, what else could an earnest manager possibly need to know? However, the beauty of this text lies in its easy-to-navigate structure and strong grounding in Australian and New Zealander culture.

The authors offer an accessible framework of five key practices for exemplary leadership to create higher engagement and generate great results: Model the Way; Inspire a Shared Vision; Challenge the Process; Enable Others to Act; and, Encourage the Heart. Each section includes local research data, reflective questions and useful summaries. Insights from well-known business executives from a range of industries across Australia and New Zealand add colour and relevance.

It concludes with an excellent list of suggested reading. Highly recommended to educators, managers and those aspiring to positions of leadership for guidance towards a more sustainable approach.

Reviewed by Lisa Elias

SO YOU’VE BEEN PUBLICLY SHAMED

By Jon Ronson

Many L&D professionals have found Twitter to be an invaluable learning tool, expanding their personal learning networks and engaging in new forms of social learning. There is certainly a lot to be gained from Twitter as a learning channel, but users need to be mindful of the dark side of the Internet.

In So You’ve Been Publicly Shamed, John Ronson explores how the Internet has given a voice to the masses, but can also be used by trolls and bandwagon-jumpers to give rise to a virtual mob. Unpacking several high-profile shamings of ordinary people, Ronson shows how quickly a seemingly innocent tweet can be taken out of context and lead to abuse from largely anonymous strangers.

The message is one of empathy and restraint – Ronson encourages people to think before they tweet, give others the benefit of the doubt, to speak up in the face of injustice, and to support people to bounce back from humiliation.

Reviewed by Elizabeth Robinson

Members are encouraged to contact editor@aitd.com.au if you would like to review a book.