

According to a March 27, 2017 report from *Education Dive*, artificial intelligence will play a significantly larger role in the education of our youth over the next five to seven years. We, who almost worship those “Good old days”, need to get used to it!!!

Many large corporations will be dying for the simple reason that they are still operating from a conglomerate management concept. A conglomerate is the combination of two or more corporations, where each is engaged in entirely different businesses, but fall under one corporate ownership group. This concept has worked very well for many in the past.

It's usually a parent company with added subsidiaries. Frequently the parent company doesn't understand the industries underneath, only the bottom line. Toshiba, a very large older one, fell into this category and eventually it caught up with them. Those in charge didn't comprehend the offerings, nor how to upgrade or update when needed.

As we mentor the younger generations, we must always be sure the senior leaders are kept abreast of current trends and technology. They must stay updated on the influence they demonstrate to today's culture. It's far different than it was even just a decade ago. Recognizing how life and culture is evolving can enable improvements in how we influence, engage, and even direct the strategic goals they set.

I believe that, while executive level leaders must lead with the big picture in mind, they cannot operate in a vacuum. Their influence will be more up to date if they spend some time “in the trenches” or receive updates from those in contact with new young leaders.

Large conglomerates don't usually continue inventing. They only improve what others have done. Over time, Toshiba became known only for taking products others created and improving them. There's nothing wrong with this, but eventually, you can't keep up with the upgrades. Change happens so rapidly that the copiers cannot beat creators.

In the 1980s, imitation and improvement worked fine. Over the last fifteen years, however, innovative companies in the United States, China and South Korea have whipped Toshiba and other Japanese companies in the “Big Six.” They lacked ideas and cultural diversity and it ruined them.

Similarly, we should never be satisfied with merely emulating others. We must welcome diversity (ethnic, gender and generational diversity) if we're going to be able to observe where the world is going. People who are different offer unique and perhaps wider perspectives than we currently experience. This should lead men and women from different races and generations to team up together.

Older folks aren't refreshing with the times. This is the big one. It's easy to fall in love with the past. It's settled. It's comfortable. It's familiar. But living in the past is like driving our car while staring at the rear view mirror. We are bound to have an accident.

While we may not know precisely what lies in the future, it's where we will spend the rest of our lives. We must welcome it, and adjust to the changes it brings.

So, get over the “GOOD OLD DAYS.” and enjoy the adventure!!!

[-Click to go back to website](#)