

REIMAGINING LEADERSHIP FOR THE AGE OF MACHINE INTELLIGENCE

MIKE WALSH

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INTRODUCTION

There has never been a more exciting and challenging time to be a 21st century leader. Tomorrow's customers, accustomed to real-time, personalized experiences made possible by data, algorithms and machine-learning, will demand an unprecedented level of service, product and attention. And in order to meet those expectations, tomorrow's companies will need to be agile, responsive and driven by the very same digital DNA as the giants of e-commerce, social media and search.

Algorithms and AI are transforming not only business, but every facet of consumer life - from how we communicate, to the way we shop and entertain ourselves. No traditional organization, defined by silos, departments and static job titles can meet the scale of that challenge, without a profound digital transformation. But while many fear that robots will take their jobs, the rise of machine intelligence begs a more important question: *what is the true potential of human leadership in the 21st century?*



MIKE WALSH

Mike Walsh, best-selling author of *FUTURETAINMENT* and CEO of innovation research lab Tomorrow, is a leading authority on 21st century business. Rather than focusing on the distant future, Mike takes an anthropological approach - scanning the near horizon for disruptive technologies and consumer innovations on the verge of hitting critical mass, and then translating these into usable business strategies.

What does success
look like in an
algorithmic age?

WHAT WILL THE NEXT GENERATION EXPECT?

QUESTION # 1

The biggest influence on the future of business will be the **algorithmic** data-driven experiences that your kids now have on a daily basis



THE INSIGHT

The next generation, shaped by AI, will expect organizations to **predict** their needs, make their interactions more **personal**, and be **persuasive** about their behaviors.

That's a wake up call for companies and leaders to reinvent, redesign and reimagine what they do, and how they do it.

NEXT ACTION

Constantly challenge your assumptions about the future.

What can you learn from the youngest members of your team?

Ask them to describe how their personal experiences of connected devices, data and machine learning might impact the future.

MIND GRENADE

When you hire someone fresh out of college, what do they find the most strange about the way your teams work, make decisions and communicate?



WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO BECOME AN AI-FIRST COMPANY?

QUESTION #2

If technology has changed
your hardware, then how
do you make **culture**
your operating system?



THE INSIGHT

Designing an AI-first organization requires more than a technological upgrade. It demands a cultural operating system that allows all of your people to thrive.

Seek out agile thinkers, rethink human productivity, and use data to hack your culture.

NEXT ACTION

Quantify what high performance actually looks like in your team.

Brainstorm with some of your high performers about how you might better identify, track and visualize data about the workflows, decisions, and approaches that achieve the best results.

MIND GRENADE

If you were going to design an AI-first competitor to your business today, what kind of internal and external data would you need to succeed?



HOW DO YOU BE SMART, IN AN AGE OF EVEN SMARTER MACHINES?

QUESTION #3

The **algorithmic leader** of the future will need to combine a deep understanding of human complexity with a flair for computational thinking



THE INSIGHT

The new AI era demands that 21st century leaders not only upgrade their analytical skills, but to be ready to lead the transformation that needs to happen.

Make **data** your strategic focus, get smart about your approach to **decisions**, and **design** work, rather than do it.

NEXT ACTION

Run a decision audit.

What are types of decisions that might better made by machines, and where in the future might be the best use of your human insight?

Everything that has made you successful until now, may be exactly what kills you in the future.

MIND GRENADE

In the future, what kinds of roles will automation, AI and algorithms take over in your team, and what will be the human capabilities most in demand?



The Dictionary Of Dangerous Ideas is a collection of the most challenging concepts facing business leaders at the dawn of the 21st century.

At the intersection of emerging technologies and new patterns of human behavior, the ideas in the Dictionary have been chosen for both their potential to transform the way companies operate, and inspire new forms of thinking.

Global futurist and innovation expert Mike Walsh presents 88 scientific breakthroughs, emerging technologies and disruptive business models - all with the potential to shake the foundations of the world we know.

Each of the ideas are concisely explained in a single page, with references to the latest case studies and research, as well as one of Walsh's characteristic 'Mind Grenade' questions to prompt further discussion. Fully illustrated with a custom typographic alphabet and original black and white photographs - The Dictionary of Dangerous Ideas is the essential companion for any leader who wants to understand what it will take to survive and thrive in the near future.





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