



Stanford eCorner

Leave Ego at the Door

Wences Casares, *Bling Nation & Lemon Bank*

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Video URL: <http://ecorner.stanford.edu/videos/2747/Leave-Ego-at-the-Door>

Serial entrepreneurs Wences Casares and Meyer Malka believe it's vital for partners to leave their egos at the door when it's time solve a problem. While a certain amount of ego is valuable when communicating outside the organization, in this clip, each co-founder shares appreciation for the other's willingness to set ego aside and to share credit for success.



Transcript

But I think that the formula for us is this, is the ego. We live, we have a lot of ego from the door out when we are doing businesses but when we're together, there is nothing like that. We leave it at the door. Yup. I still remember the shock, I left being the CEO and I came back and, and Micky was the CEO. But all it took me was a phone call to understand why it was the best decision and never doubting that it was done in the best interest of our, ah, of our company. And uhm, and it's a tricky thing because I believe that to be an entrepreneur, you need to have a high ego or at least a very strong conviction about what do you think that the world is going about your own abilities so it would be very hard to be an entrepreneur with low ego, I don't know if that's possible. So like Micky says, from the door outwards, you need to have a very, very high strong ego, strong conviction but between the partners I think that the low ego requirement it's almost ah, a required, a good partnership cannot work without that. I need, it means not only at funny situation like this but in many other situations not needing to take the merit for the things that you think you deserve, whether you think you deserve them or not to be fine with the other partners taking that the credit and uhm, sometimes you see partnership when one of the two partners is OK not taking the credit and the other needs the credit, that can work. I think it's healthier when neither of the partners really cares who takes that as long as, as the partnership is successful.

And we were 27 at that time and the things become a lot more clearer with time and with perspective. But I don't think we had it that clear at that time. Looking back I think we are convinced that that's a very important element.