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What is the juxtaposition?

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TTI - Issue #54: Of Ants and Our Vitality, Viability, and Vulnerability

**Elizabeth M. Lembke - Chief Talent Navigator (HR Consultant)** 

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"It's not enough to be busy, so are the ants.

Henry David Thorean

The question is, what are we busy about?"

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1. Safeguard our lives (read: our vitality) 2. Safeguard our livelihoods (read: our viability) Albeit, what they neglected to plot onto their graph was the energy toll of making it through these times as a human whilst juggling those two key imperatives - our vulnerability. How can we tell? Let's do a side by side comparison of a 2019 answer to a 2021 answer to a

"How' you doin'?" - an easy question to ask, but nowadays, in this #middleofstrangeness, it is a difficult one to answer. So why is this simple question is no longer met with the 2019 knee-jerk reaction of "fine" - but rather is only answered, after folks stop to take a

breath to consider their vulnerable honesty to speak their truth out loud? Well, in my opinion, it is because the challenging reality of the complex interweaving of our work-life, home-life, school-life, financial-life, sociallife, health-life, family-life, and heck, self-life have become more front and

center in our conversations than they were in the past. The "stop to take a breath" honesty has come from the broader societal and personal awareness that "doing something just because we feel we should" is taxing - and the general willingness to put "lipstick on the pig" is

becoming less prevalent.

simple question:

This is playing out in how we are seeing employees respond to the <u>"return</u> back to the workplace" politics, when candidates debate if they should accept a job offer or not depending on how the role would impact their quality of life, tennis players choosing their mental health, chess players

choosing their principles, and other such examples of brave choices.

This "stop to take a breath" willingness, despite the chaos, exhaustion,

one hat, has also brought an awareness around the juxtaposition of our

subjective well-being, that lies in the cross-over of the three key

imperatives to our health and outlook.

fact that the build-up, effects all three areas.

we busy about?"

How can I lead myself before leading my team?

**Take a Breath: Viability** 

7 Tools for Workplace Resilience

From Home - Bloomberg

is back in the office by September."

**Take a Breath: Vitality** 

Webinar, Dr. Noémie Le Pertel

this <u>VUCA+++</u> world we are living in.

**White Paper Series** 

**Resetting the World with Wellness** 

The Global Wellness Institute put out an incredible

compendium of 8 white papers about preventative

health and wellness with the aim of "Resetting the

Teach You About Wellbeing and the Future of Work.

Some helpful insights and ideas.

Take a Breath: Vulnerability

**High Touch Leadership in the Low** 

"As restrictions lift and choice of workplace

emerges, how we lead our distributed workforce

www.forbes.com

**Touch Economy** 

19

vimeo.com

www.bloomberg.com

Culture amp does a great job putting together

ebooks on various topics. This edition goes into the

The drive to get people back into offices is clashing

with workers who've embraced remote work as the

new normal. Insights on the perks of flexibility - and

the pressure on employers to rethink the "everyone

Suite players.

www.nytimes.com

It is reminiscent of the quote from <u>Henry David Thoreau</u>

anxiety, and headaches of bringing all-of the aforementioned lives under

What is the juxtaposition? Well, it is that our *viability* (as employees, professionals, parents, spouses, friends), our vitality (in terms of health, diet, self-care, work-life choices, purpose), and our vulnerability (our mental health, our willingness to actualize our own energy, needs, and areas, we want to improve upon) are interlocked, in ways in which were perhaps not as apparent as before. The

awareness that we cannot rationalize away the stressors - nor ignore the

"It's not enough to be busy, so are the ants. The question is, what are

There is beauty and freedom in that question. As with everything, there are

things that lie within our <u>locus of control</u> - and outside of our influence. Yet

at the same time, there are many things in which we do have optionality

with the freedom to choose. By asking ourselves: "What am I busy about?"

we invite the opportunity to weigh in and "take a breath" in the broader

scheme of things that are important for our vulnerability, vitality, and

viability - and our <u>freedom to make brave choices</u> in their favor.

WORKING REMOTELY BEING CONNECTED YOU ME US

The Mystery of the Miserable **Employees: How to Win in the Winner-Take-All Economy** The business unit was doing well, but the employees were sad. Could data offer a clue? Neil <u>Irwin</u>, is the author of "How to Win in a Winner-Take-All-World," a guide to navigating a career in

the modern economy, and he gives a short insight into the learnings in his

book- and the world we are living in now where optionality isn't only for C-

#workingtremotelybeingconnected (#WRBC) model from @ElizabethLembke (2021): "How

am I leading myself, before leading others?"

wElizabeth Lonbke

various aspects which help build up resilience starting with well-being and ending with future forward approach. www.cultureamp.com **Return to Office: Employees Are Quitting Instead of Giving Up Work** 

**DEVELOPING VITAL LEADERS IN A VUCA WORLD: AN EVIDENCE-BASED APPROACH** This is a masterclass that applies multidisciplinary research from fields including neuroscience, psychology, learning, and medicine to explore how

the Vitality framework developed by Dr. Noémie Le Pertel & Dr. Nick van

Dam, can inform leader behaviors for health, wellbeing, and happiness in

World with Wellness" - a treasure trove of resources. globalwellnessinstitute.org **Wellness And The Future Of Work: Some Of The Best Companies Share Their New Solutions** What Wiley, KPMG, ServiceNow and Monster Can

needs to be geared differently to ensure equity amongst our workforce." My wonderful friend, Michelle Fogarty, who is doing incredible work as COO of Peptalk, led this great discussion with Robert Mac Giolla Phádraig (Founder Talent Summit and COO Sigmar Recruitment) and Aine Murray (Head of Marketing, Communications, CR & Bid Support, Veolia) on high touch leadership. Definitely worth a listen in beyond the charming accents. www.sigmarrecruitment.com

**Understanding how human factors** 

affect teams and safety during COVID-

"How do we make it easier for other people to work

with us?" Martin Bromiley, Liz Crowe and Oli Flower

discuss the ways human factors affect teams and

safety, and share communications tactics to help

Working through it – Part 1 Start with

A collective, seven–part journey through crisis.

**Restoring health and wellbeing after disruptive** 

"We're all realizing that simply 'soldiering on' isn't

going to cut it – that ignoring bad habits, unmet

before taking that next step.

hbr.org

today

events.

Kudos!

www.cultureamp.com

Summit 2.5

Cross-Over

Viability, and

Vulnerability

ELIZABETH LEMBKE

JANE MOORS SAIRA SETHI

WORKING

All of my best regards,

Liz

Your Chief Talent Navigator,

Junction:

Vitality,

10 Keys to Happier Living

lessons outside of medicine into other fields. codachange.org When Burnout Is a Sign You Should **Leave Your Job** "When the conditions and demands you encounter at work exceed your capacity to handle them, you're at risk of burning out. And unfortunately, suffering employees are often left to manage burnout on their own. Many find that leaving the organization is the only remedy. " The professor and career coach Monique Valcour takes one

through key questions to ask yourself while you stop to take a breath,

hrough it e seven-part

rough crisis.

GREAT DREAM

**L&D CARES** 

alleviate potential issues. The lessons they discuss are very applicable

A lot of folks I know, have found a lot of strength and inspiration by checking in with the evidencebased Action for Happiness resources. Their 10 Keys to Happier Living that consistently tend to make life happier and more fulfilling "GREAT DREAM" is a helpful sign-post as you map your ants and your own Vitality, Viability, and Vulnerability. The calendars help make the check-ins a habit. www.actionforhappiness.org

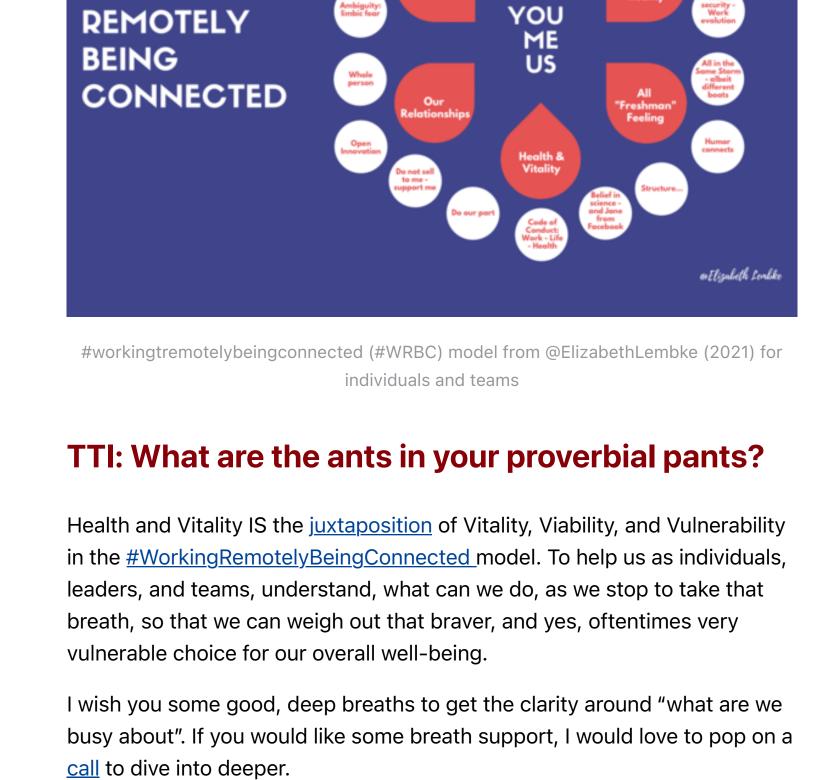
**Cross-over Workshop with Saira Sethi, Jane** 

Moors and I for the L&D Cares Career Growth

needs and looming fears will end in disaster. " again Culture Amp knocks it

out of the park in terms of helpful resources, presented in a simple manner.

Cross Over Junction Vitality, Viability, & Vulnerability Elizabeth Lembke, Saira Sethi & Jane Moors **Breath Support in Working Remotely Being Connected** 



Elizabeth Lembke, Transforming Talent

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