



CREATIVITY – A PRELUDE FOR INNOVATION

Marian Baltazar
Class of 1980 University of the Philippines, College of Manila
AB Political Science

Hundreds of years ago, technology was never the same the way we have it at the moment. With the space age, the computer era and modern technology present around the world, one can not disclose the fact that... everything changes. These things also brought a lot of improvement and modernization in all aspects in the history of humanity. During those times, it is impossible and illogical for us to think of people driving in cars and seventy years ago, we very well know that space travel was just a fiction created by our illusory mind. Man's mind is not docile, for its novelty has been proven after so many years (with the rate that our mind is going) of how inventive, fresh and unique our mind is. Producing these creative ideas brought about modernization and the like, thus leading to innovation. The process of generating and applying these creative ideas in a specific context is what innovation means. This is the reason why the creativity of an individual serves as the starting point and can therefore be referred to as a prelude for innovation. Yes, creative thinking is man's ability to be able to utilize his skills in problem solving which lead to innovative solutions, and this allows our society to make advancements. (which were thought impossible to happen before.)

The pool of ideas that swirl our thoughts and eventually make our mind come up with fresh, unique and novel ideas are the things that bring about change and progress in our society. As complex as the word creativity implies, man's creative thinking paved the way and spawned our talents and skills that set off innovation in the process. It is at times our subconscious mind that we have to crack and challenge, for us to pick the best course of action that there is to find. Every individual needs a boost to his own creative power and with the right perspective and positive mindset; we can achieve it and increase our ability to improve our way of living and experience growth. With the help of proper motivation and having that enthusiasm, you can let loose your ideas at many angles. Try to broaden your horizon with ideas from the past, present and the future to come, and this means trying something new to stimulate your imagination, giving you that great confidence builder effect.

Venture into the world of creativity and make that big leap to produce innovations in your life. Be brave enough to explore your creativity, to bring out the best in you. Take that chance to make your efforts worthwhile and expect failures to come your way; after all it is healthy and wise to experience them so as not to shun your creative efforts. Remember the saying, "Experience is the best teacher." Failure can provide us with the opportunity to learn, grow and may even lead and expose us to new opportunities and ideas! Many of this world's "failure" led to incredible inventions. Remember Thomas Edison? It took him 50,000 attempts to create that alkaline battery whose benefits we now reap and this is what we use today! Slacken your imagination and experience the ingenuity of having that creative thinking which encompasses the innovations in our life.

Questions for discussion:

1. In what way can an individual culture his creative thinking?
2. How could you bring out that creativity within yourself?
3. Define creativity in your own perspective.
4. Is creativity an innate character of a person? Why is it or why is it not so?
5. Do you believe that failure can trigger the creativity in a person? Explain your answer.