



Mentor W Michael King, PhD

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June 2013 Mentor of the Month: Biography

W. Michael King, Ph.D., BCC, in a career of over five decades of experience, serves as a Trusted Advisor, Mentor and Consultant. He is deeply trusted in corporate organizations, and renowned for his objective no-nonsense approach. His focus ranges from the executive suite throughout the spectrum to teams and individuals and is a mentor to many across the spectrum of humanity. As a mentor his focus is to help others gain objectivity using reason and logic to build, enhance, self-esteem.

In technology, he is a world-renowned leader in systems integration regarding electromagnetic waves and fields. He developed internationally recognized seminal research about how electrostatic field boundaries collapse. As a leader, advisor and mentor, his methods aim to enhance objectivity using reason and focus, building clarity for operational efficiency by developing common-purpose cultures for company and team operations. His work inspires individuals to identify issues that impede their self-esteem, and that diminish their objectivity: factors permeating every aspect of lives and careers. He has served an international client base of over 1,000 corporations.

With training in Psychological Operations (Foreign Service, 1966) doctorates in applied physics for electromagnetic fields (1974) and in psychology (1982), he has presented courses at major universities such as Oxford, and in many technology corporations. His work of over decades in psychology started as a counterpoint to his technology career as an adjunct to embrace the psycho-dynamics of human interactions.

He previously served on the Board of Trustees of the Exceptional Childrens' Foundation, a major organization in Los Angeles providing service for developmentally disabled citizens, serving as Vice-President, Executive Committee Member, and President of the Foundation.



Dr. King Answers Your Questions:

- 1. Your biography talks about your focus on helping your clients to “gain objectivity using reason and logic to build, enhance, self-esteem.” Can you give a few examples of different strategies you utilize?**

Challenges in life including careers and all decisions tend to cause frailties related to self-esteem to be exposed. When engaging with clients the process begins by observing their actions (including body language and voice intonation) and other responses (ranging from presentations to written prose) to challenges, looking for disproportional emotions, inconsistencies and uncertainty.

When self-diminishing/negating issues surface, discussion and inquiry begin to learn and expose the root cause behind the issues and the approaches may take many forms. To be certain there are various strategies than may be used: accountability to the self; studies of body language and physiological responses; guided meditation for introspection are examples; all pointed to enhance objectivity and become authentically on-point in the contrast between the challenge and the response. Interspersed into the discussion is the simple question “why?” in the search for causation.

- 2. Did you find it difficult to transition from your work in electromagnetic fields to psychology? What sparked your interest in psychology?**

To the first question: Not at all. In fact it is possible to apply, at least by allegory, various scientific observations to the dynamics of human interaction. Isaac Newton correctly observed that “action causes reaction” and further that a “body in motion tends to stay in motion”, and those are true of human interchanges as well. The open question is if the reaction is proportional to the action, and if not: why?

To the second question: there were many experiences that lit the spark that continues today. The first “spark” happened during training for field work in the Foreign Service: the concept of learning how to maintain logical/rational thought with stable emotions when threatened and pushed to the limit. Another spark from the late 1960s was that in

science we learned by experiment how human emotions can be stimulated by electric fields, and how specific variations of the fields caused variations in human emotional responses.

Finally, I went through a period of several years that personally challenged with continuing crises in my own life so my initial training in holistic psychology was for my own survival and that success sparked me to eventually gain a doctorate to build my proficiency both for myself and all others in many circumstances (Board room to battered women).

3. What are some pitfalls or challenges that you have experienced or witnessed that can happen among students or anyone who is new in the field?

I had to learn that engaging on a deep and intimately revealing level with others carries the risk of a double-edge sword: the mentor can become dependent on having mentees; and, the mentees can become dependent on having the mentor as a crutch. My approach is pointed to working with individuals so that the evolution of their self-esteem causes them "not" to be dependent on their mentor; or anyone else for their image of their self-value. In Zen philosophy there is statement that the "master" is an unconcerned man and that yields the ability to love as a freedom of choice and not a dependency. What to look out for?: 1) dependency; 2) disproportional emotions that may distort judgments; and 3) feeling that change for others is YOUR responsibility rather than setting that change is THEIR responsibility to themselves.

If you are interested in engaging further with Dr. King, please feel free to email him at michael@meta1.com