

# RIT

Saunders  
College of Business  
Executive MBA

## Leading Change



# Leading Change



# 30%



# Why does change not meet intended outcomes?

- Poor Leadership
- Weak Communication Strategy
- Resistance to Change - 37%
- Lack of clear goals

Research shows that 83% of employees experiencing change fatigue lack the necessary tools and resources to adapt, leaving them unprepared and overwhelmed ([Capterra, 2022](#))

Similarly, 39% of employees feel resistant due to a lack of understanding about why the change is happening ([Oak Engage, 2023](#)). This hints at a critical gap in communication.

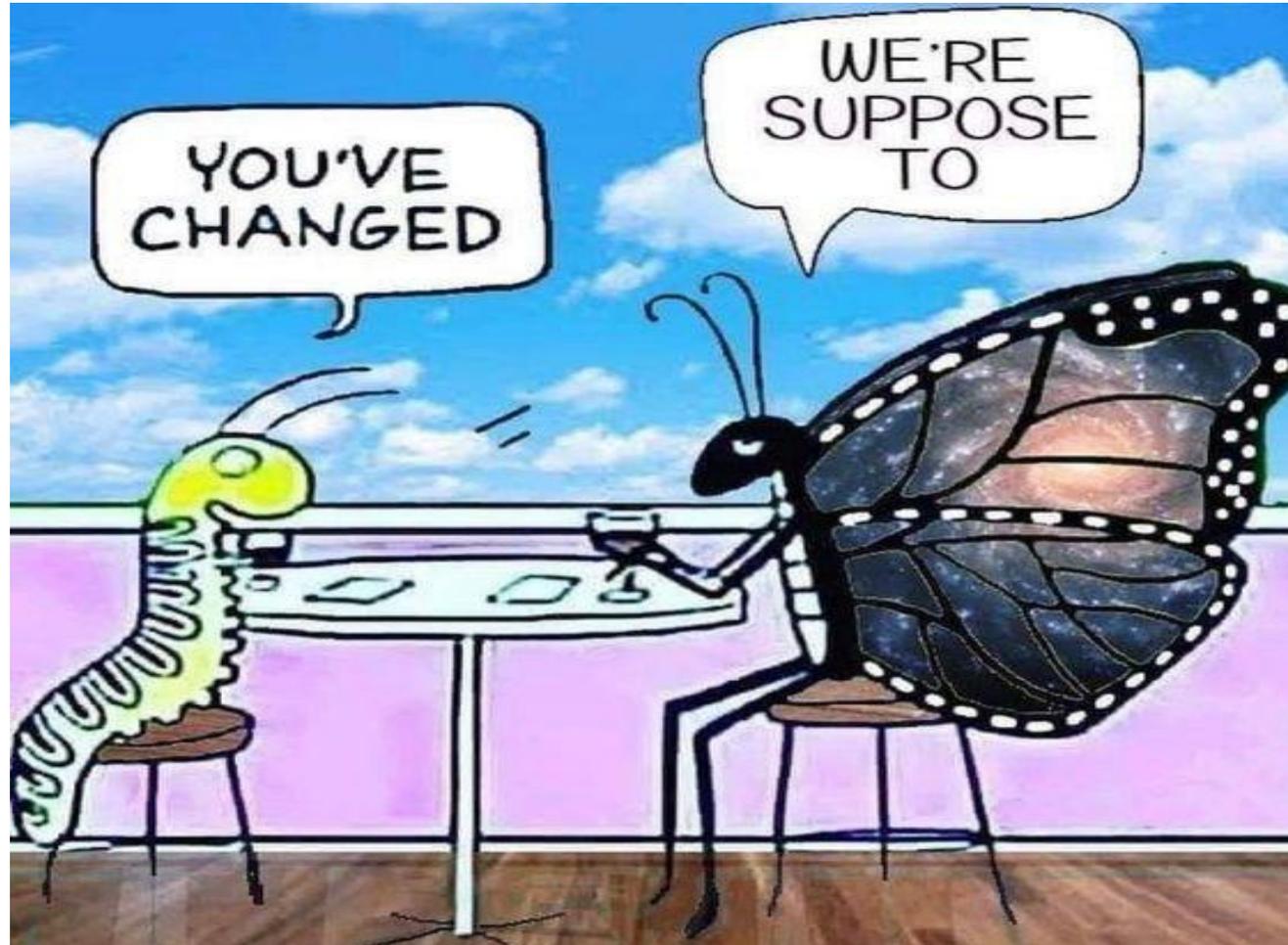
# McKinsey Research -2023

- Mental Health: Investing in a Portfolio of Interventions
- True Hybrid: The New Balance of in Person and Remote Work
- New Rules of Attraction, Retention, and Attrition
- Leadership that is Self-Aware and Inspiring
- Making Way for Applied AI
- Increasing Speed, Strengthening Resilience
- Closing the Capability Chasm
- Walking the Talent Tightrope
- Making Meaningful Progress on D, E & I
- Efficiency Re-loaded

## McKinsey Shifts 2026

- Unlocking the AI –enabled organization
- Humans and AI agents
- Leveraging AI to rewrite the future of shared services
- Finding value in a new geopolitical context
- Reaching the next productivity frontier
- Focusing on the core
- Aiming higher with a new performance edge
- Sharpening the focus on diversity and inclusion
- Leadership reinvented: Leading from the inside out

# 70% / 37% - Why Resistance?



# DISC Styles and Change...

## Styles in Change...

### CAUTIOUS

Let's make calculated change  
Let's see how the numbers look  
Let's keep risk low  
Feelings of people are least important  
I will create a process for change  
We need to get it right

### DOMINANT

Let's make decisive change  
Let's start now and get it done  
We will do whatever it takes  
Risk and people are least important  
I will lead the change  
Let's deliver on the results

### SUPPORTIVE

Let's make slow and steady change  
Let's see how everyone feels about it  
Let's keep as much as possible the same  
Reality and facts are least important  
I will support it if I feel safe  
I want peace and harmony

### INSPIRING

Let's make inspiring change  
Let's talk about it and get excited  
Let's think outside the box  
Risk and facts are least important  
I will inspire the change  
Let's celebrate our success

<https://www.discoveryreport.com/schnieder-model-change-management.html>

# The Neuroscience of Change



# Anxiety



*Turns the fear system up*

*Turns the calming and reasoning system down*

*Keeps the brain and body preparing for danger*

# What are the costs?

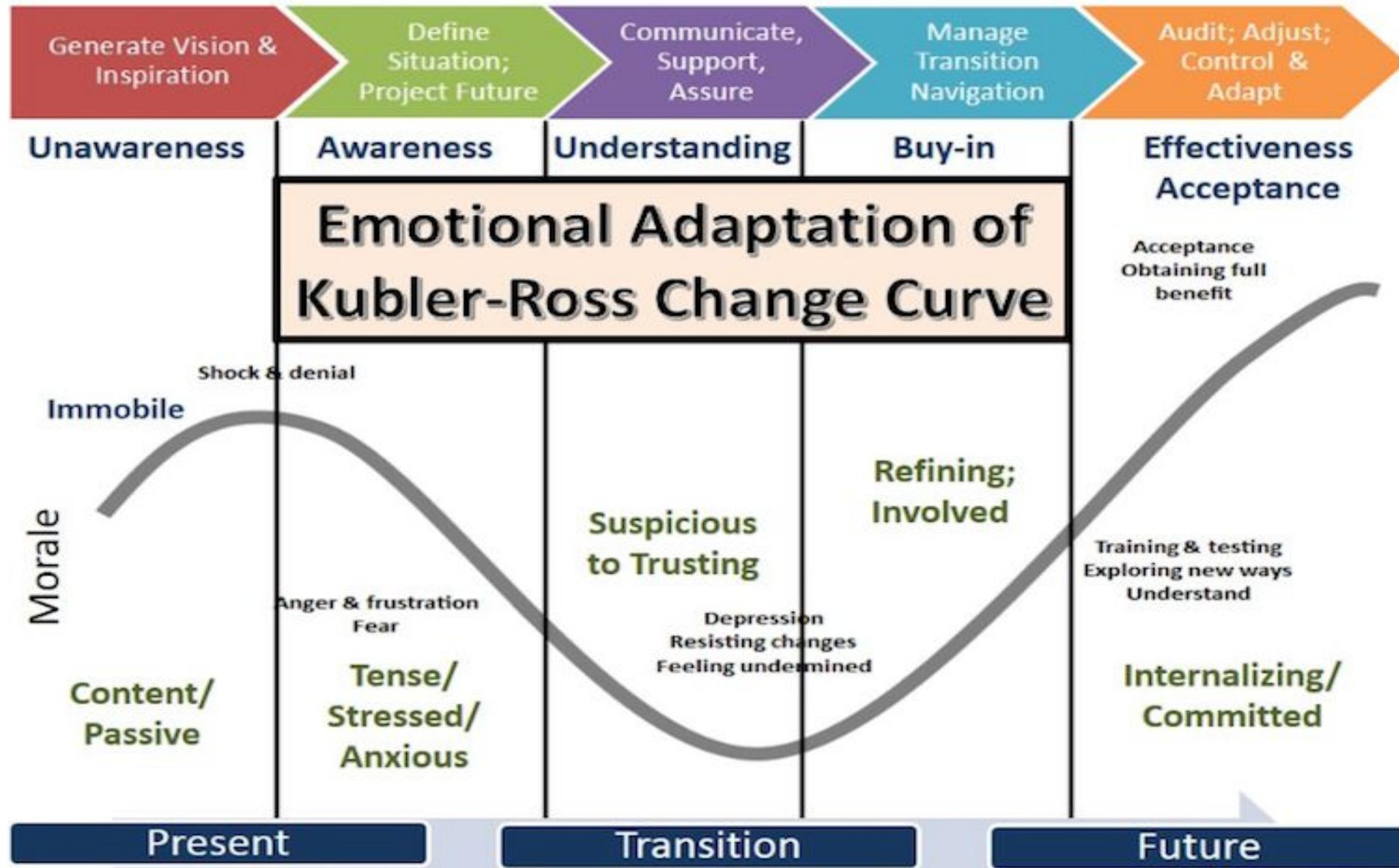


## Costs:

- ❖ Change Fatigue
- ❖ Mental Health Issues - anxiety, stress, depression
- ❖ Financial Loss
- ❖ Turnover

# Strategies

- ❖ Reduce unnecessary uncertainty
- ❖ Protect dignity and identity
- ❖ Preserve choice and fairness
- ❖ Normalize emotion
- ❖ Strengthen connection
- ❖ Pace demand realistically
- ❖ Leaders need to self-regulate



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**“I want you to find a bold and innovative way to do everything exactly the same way it’s been done for 25 years.”**

# The Appreciative Inquiry Process



Source: Based on Gabriella Giglio, Silvia Michalcova, and Chris Yates, "Instilling a Culture of Winning at American Express," *Organization Development Journal* 25, no. 4 (Winter 2007): 33–37.

# The Eight Stages of Planned Organizational Change



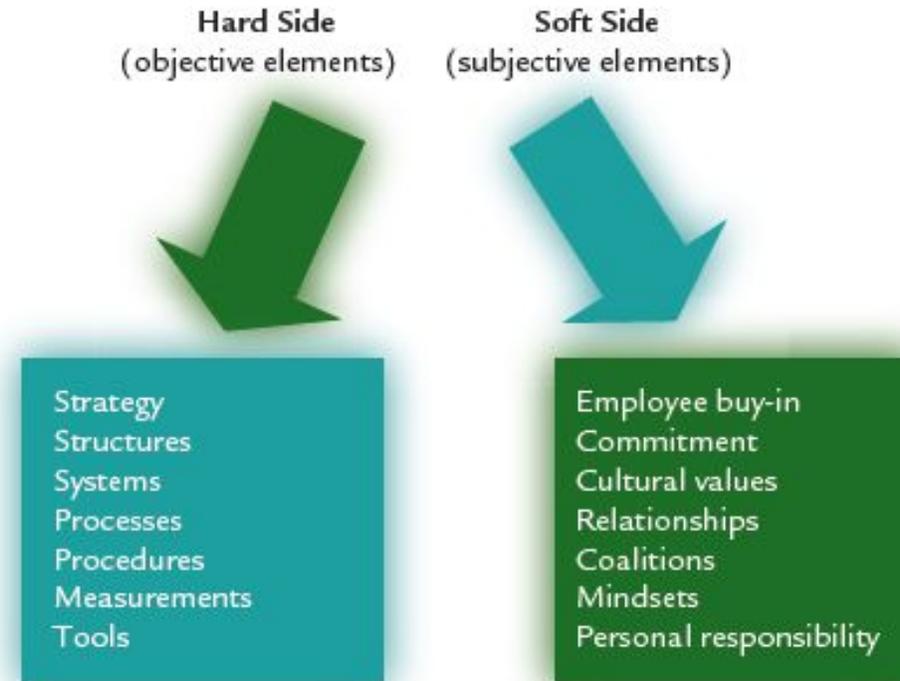
Source: Based on John P. Kotter, *Leading Change* (Boston: Harvard Business School Press, 1996), p. 21.

# Key Change Roles



Source: Based on Daryl R. Conner, *Managing at the Speed of Change* (New York: Villard Books, 1992), pp. 108–109.

# Leverage Both the Hard and Soft Sides of Change



Source: Based on Ed Oakley and Doug Krug, *Enlightened Leadership: Getting to the Heart of Change* (New York: Simon & Schuster, 1993), pp. 44–48.

# Prosci – 3 Phase Process



# Change Plan – Why, What, Who, How

1. Create the vision - define the why, and what can be, light the



2. Describe the What

3. Identify the WHO -the stakeholders, build buy in, communicate the why, what, how

4. Design the How – the plan – the hard & soft sides, the support, sustainability, the small wins

5. Plan the Celebration!

## Summary Challenging the Process

- People are often at their best when dealing with significant change, difficulties, problems, adversity and other challenges.
- No one gets it perfect the first time they try something new. The best leaders are the best learners-and the best creators of a learning environment.
- “A desk is a dangerous place from which to watch the world” John Le Carre

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