

## **Better Together**

Creating Connectivity in a Divided World



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#### **Vox Populi**



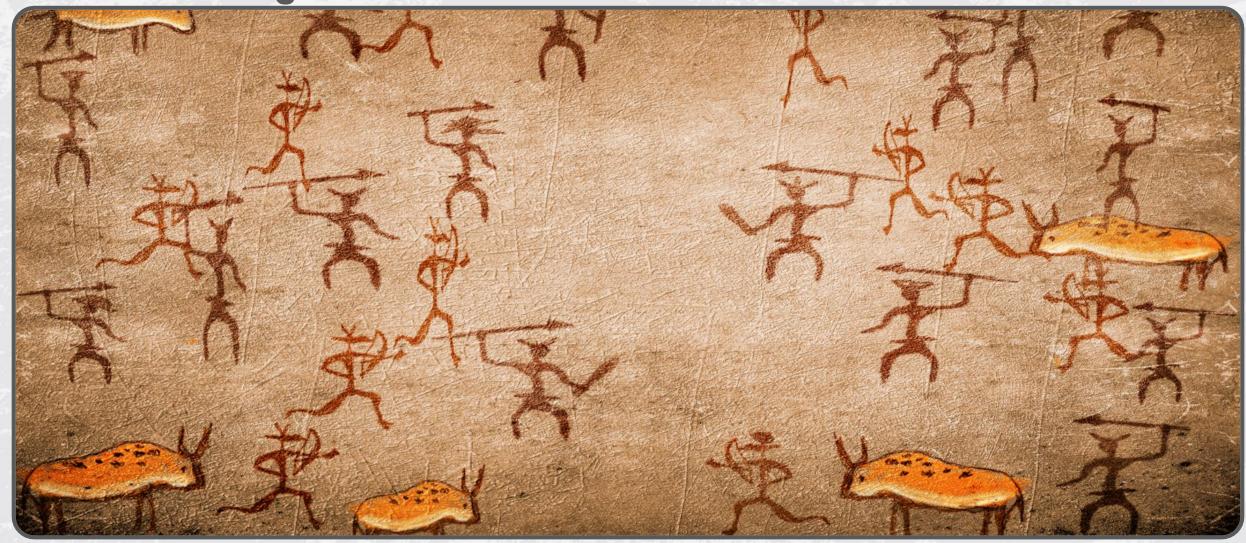
#### **Disconnected**



### **Built for togetherness**



### From throwing rocks....



#### To the division of labor...

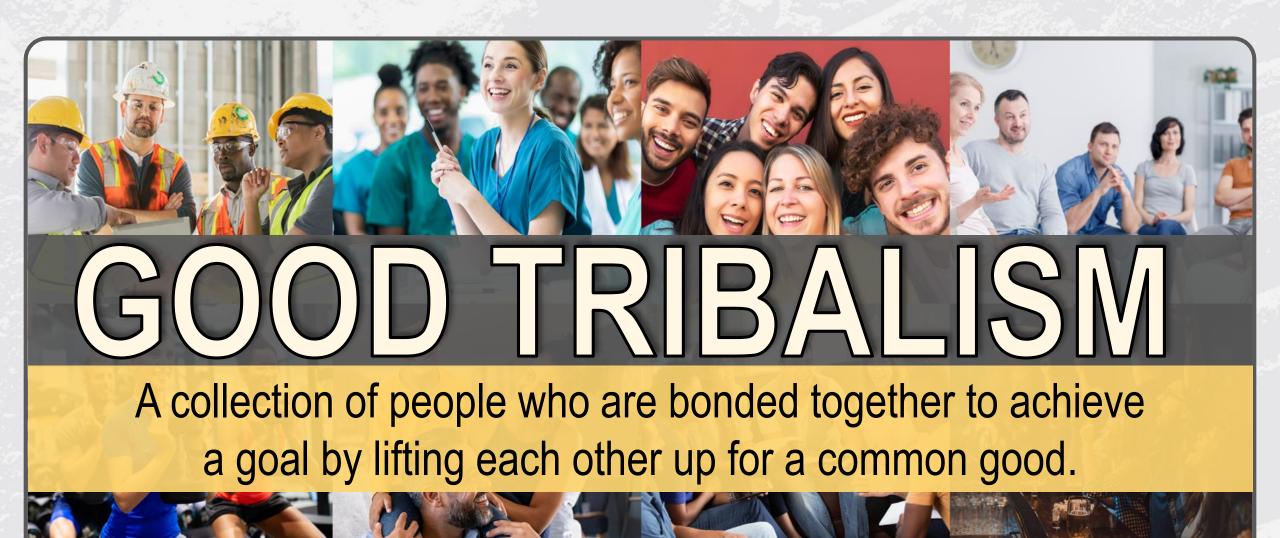


### ...to building empires.



#### Cooperation =





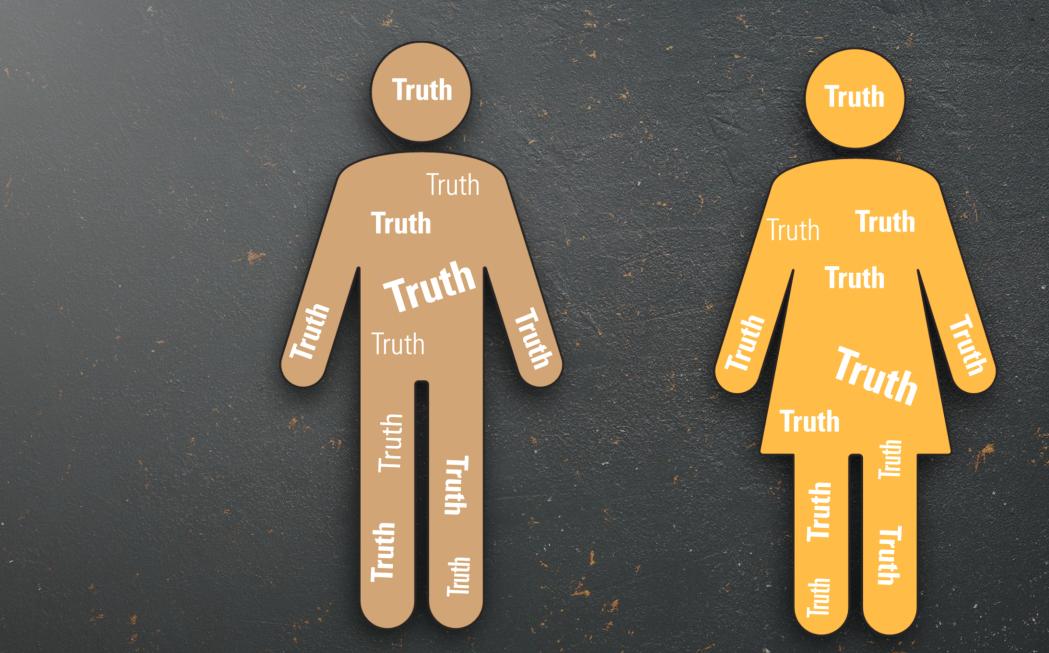
How can tribalism strengthen worksite safety?

How could Good Tribalism be promoted among teams to create a safer culture?

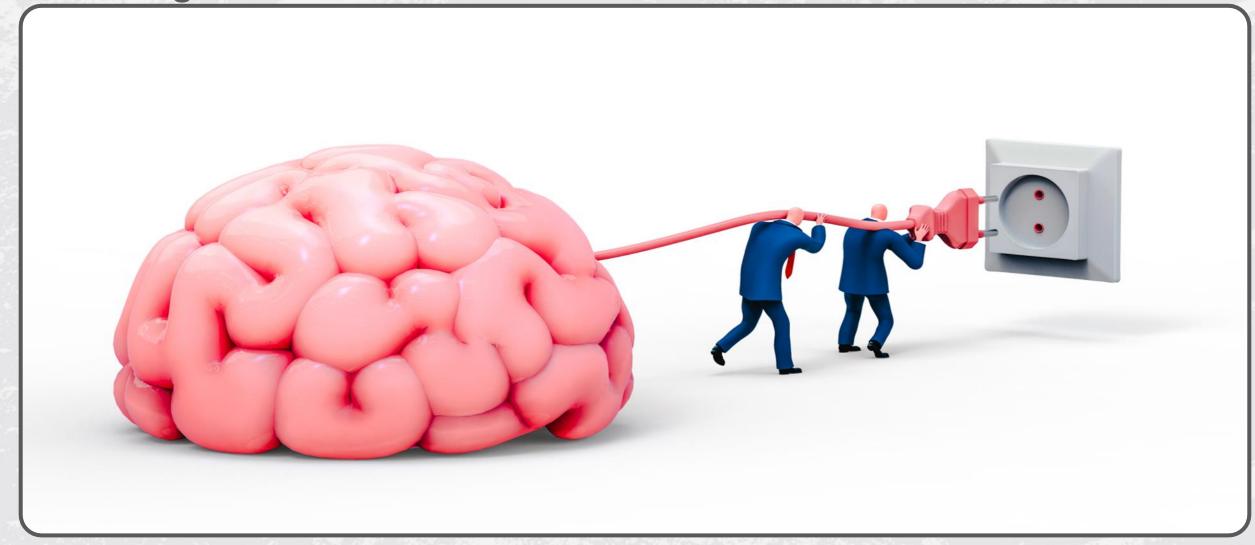


#### Who do you think you are?

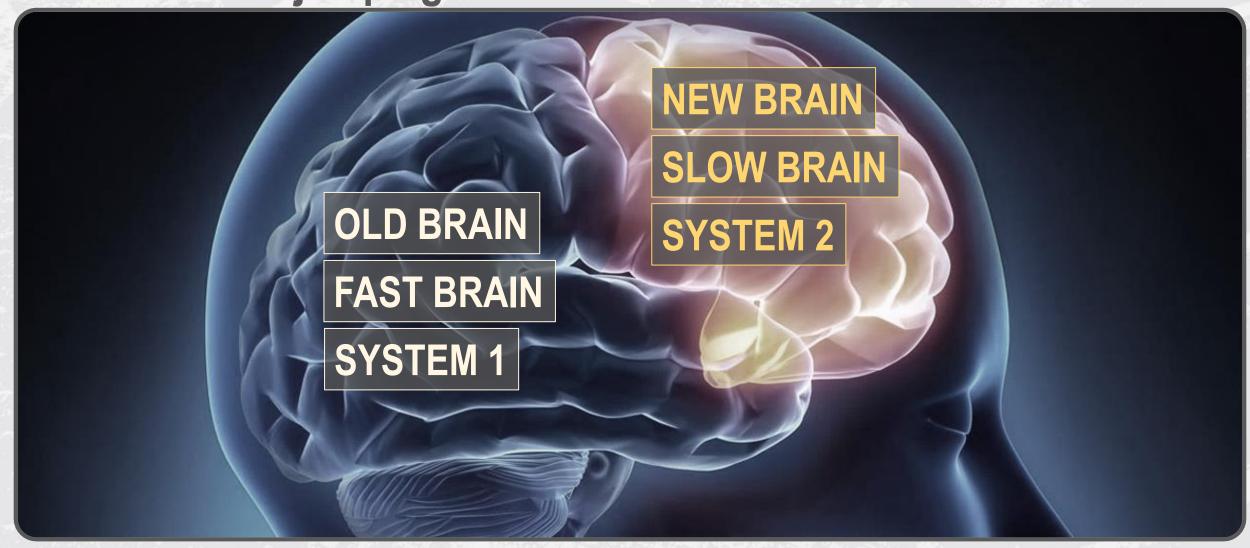




#### Think again?



#### A machine for jumping to conclusions



#### **Armchair Gumshoes?**



#### **WYSIATI**



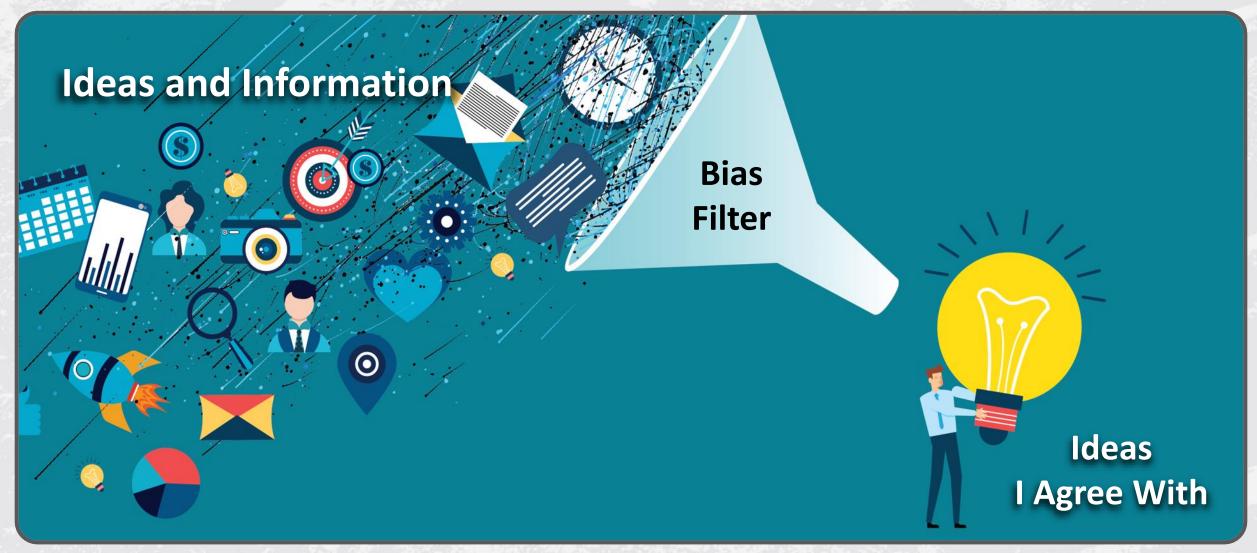
### **Evolutionary intuition**

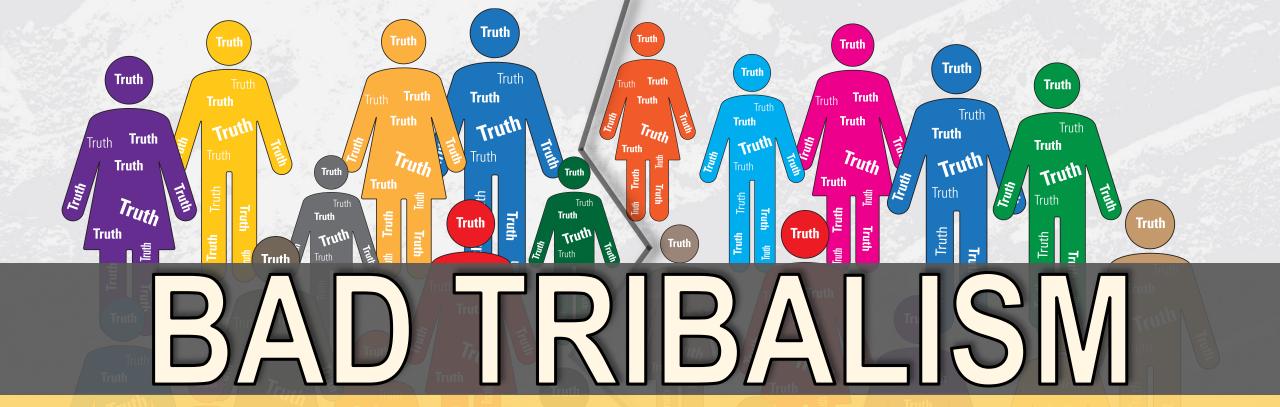


#### Wall builders beware...



#### The echo chamber of bias





A group identity that fosters bullying and scapegoating of others not like you, joining people out of anger, jealousy, and spite, not for collective well-being.

How does understanding ourself make us better team members in safety situations?

How can we avoid creating opportunities for Bad Tribalism in workplace safety?





**Preachers:** deliver sermons defending their truths and promoting their ideologies



**Prosecutors:** look for flaws in the reasoning of others and are dead set to prove them wrong to win the case



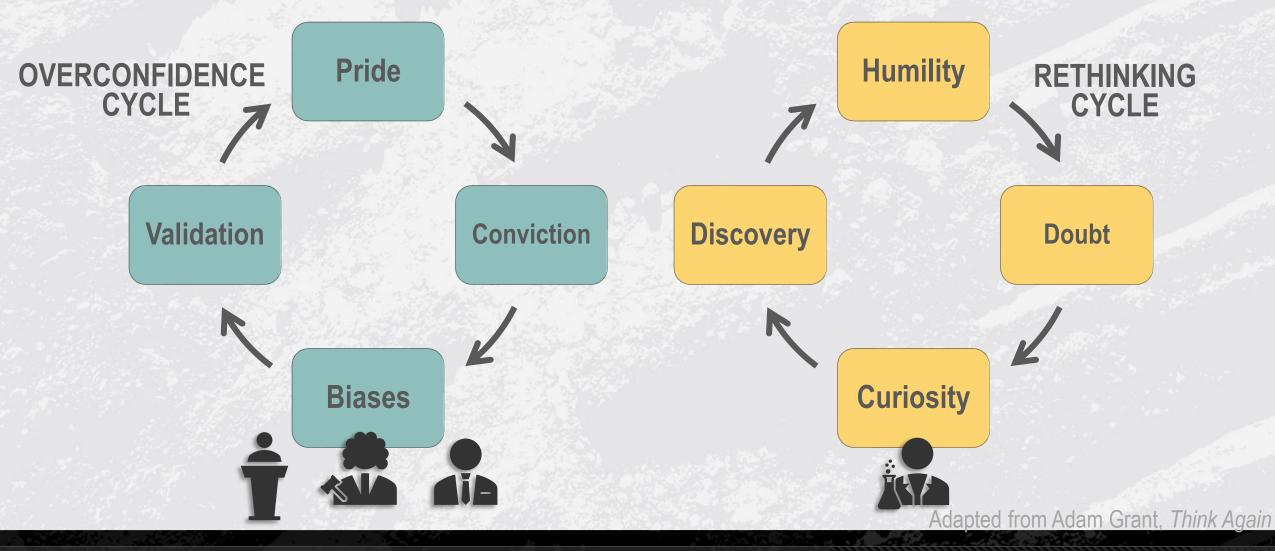
Politicians: try to win others over by campaigning and lobbying for approval



Scientists: doubt what they know, are curious about what they don't know, and update their views based on new data

Philip Tetlock / Adam Grant, Think Again

#### Ideas, not ideologies





Take a breath

"I think/believe" statements...



Why do I think/believe this?



A story, evidence or research aligned with my belief...



What makes this evidence credible? What is the sample size and is it representative? Is it peer-reviewed? Is it widely accepted as fact?



Take a breath

An unwillingness to budge...



What would it take to change my mind, and have I investigated that evidence as thoroughly?



A stance that feels like Bad Tribalism?

Take a breath



What am I willing to risk if I'm wrong? How much does this matter to me? Who is someone outside of this tribe I can ask for clarity?

What closely held beliefs have become ideals that have caused division among or between your teams?

Where have you become a preacher, prosecutor or politician when you could be more scientific?

Does your organization's culture allow for examination and rethinking of the way things have always been done?



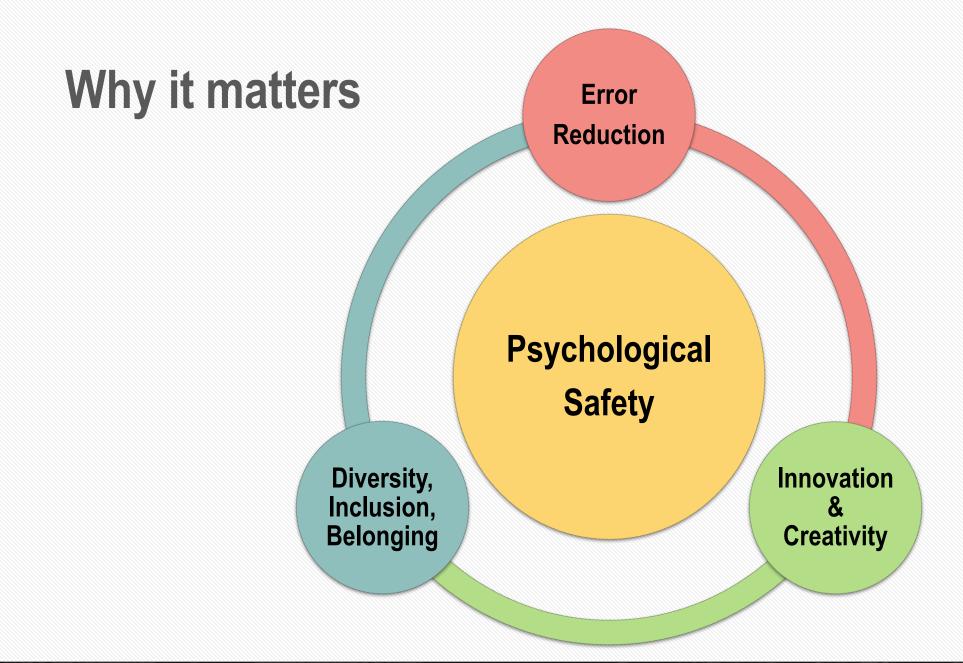
# GOOD TRIBALISM? BAD TRIBALISM?

#### **Psychological Safety**

Is about fostering a climate of respect, building trust, cultivating openness and offering concerns and suggestions without fear of reprisal.

Is NOT about relaxing standards, making everyone comfortable, being nice and agreeable and giving unconditional praise.





#### Psychologically safe tribes...





Make interpersonal risks more surmountable.



Promote a greater sense of belonging and loyalty.



Report more errors but make fewer errors collectively.

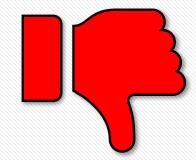


Focus on what is working well and recognize it.



Achieve greater results with diverse talents and perspectives.

#### Psychologically unsafe tribes...



- Focus intensely on outcomes versus processes.
- Hide mistakes to avoid penalties.
- Blame others for failures.
- Promote self-censorship and hinder innovation.
- Say different things in meetings than when the boss isn't around.

## EMPLOYEE CALLED TO BOARD ROOM TO TELL LEADERSHIP TEAM HOW SHE CAUSED SAFETY INCIDENT.



# LEADER SHARES HOW HE MADE A MISTAKE IN FRONT OF HIS TEAM AND WHAT HE LEARNED FROM IT.



# PEERS OPENLY SHARE AND DEBATE IDEAS, THOUGHTS & CONCERNS IN REGULAR STAFF MEETINGS.



# SAFETY MEETING FOCUSES MORE ON ACHIEVEMENTS AND IMPROVEMENTS MADE THAN ON FAILURES.



#### **Building Psychological Safety as Leaders**



Acknowledge your fallibility and appreciate those who point it out.



Create a routine for team to share concerns, ideas, struggles.



Spend time in the trenches learning the realities of your people.



Make it clear that accountability goes both ways.

Do people feel safe speaking up, taking measured risks, innovating, challenging the status quo? How do you know?

What is our reaction to mistakes and failures? Are we getting to the root cause and preventing future incidents? How do you know?

Is there a greater emphasis on what we've done right or on what we've done wrong? How does that impact our culture?



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WWW.CAT.COM/SAFETY

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#### To your tribe...





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Tribe, Sebastian Junger