Rotterdam School of Management Erasmus University



# **Managing Team Diversity**

Dr. Sofya Isaakyan Associate Professor in Organizational Behavior



### **Agenda**

1

Introduction to Diversity

2

Diversity in Teams

3

Managing Your Team Diversity

4

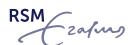
Diversity & Inclusion



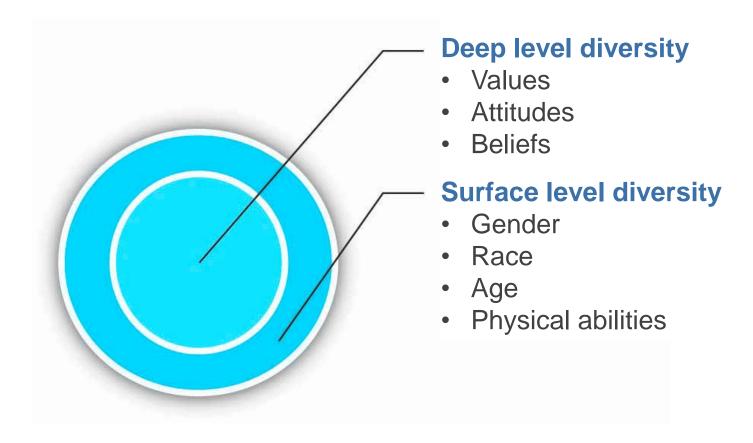
### **Diversity**



The degree to which differences exist between members of a social unit (e.g., team) (e.g., Harrison & Klein, 2007; Van Knippenberg & Shippers, 2007)



### Levels of Diversity





## Does diversity benefit teams?





## Does diversity hurt teams?





- Lack of cohesion & trust
- Relationship conflicts
- Less information sharing
- Low satisfaction

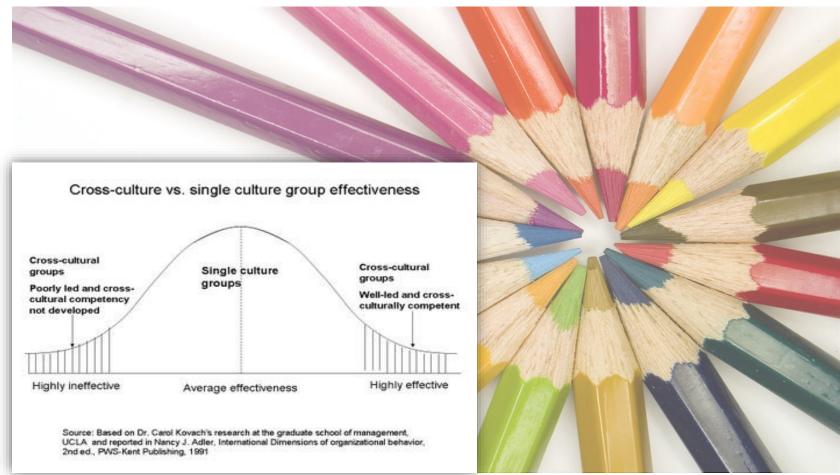
- Greater pool of resources
- More flexible and adaptive
- Greater pool of talent
- Greater capacity for learning





Studies	Diversity attribute	Findings	
Baugh (1997)	Gender, race	No direct effects	
Campion,(1993)	Experience	Negative relationship	
Campion,(1996)	Experience	Negative relationship	
Chatman (2001)	Race, gender, citizenship Positive effects		
Choi (2007)	Age, gender, tenure, function	Negative relationship	
Choi,(2003)	Age, gender, race, education	Positive effects	
Drach-Zahavy (2002)	Function, age education,	Positive effects	
Ely (2004)	Age, gender, race, tenure	Negative relationship	
Jehn (2004)	Gender, race, age, tenure,	Positive effects	
Kirkman,(2004)	Race	Negative effects	
Leonard,(2004)	Race, gender, age	No effect	
Lovelace (2001)	Function	No direct effects	
Østergaard (2009)	Gender	Positive effects	
Pearsall (2008)	Gender faultlines	Negative effects	
Pelled (1996)	Race, gender, company tenure	No direct effects	
Pelled (1999)	Gender, race, age	Negative effects	
Schneid (2015)	Gender	Negative effects	
Stewart (2009)	Gender	No effect	
Reagans (2001)	Company tenure	No direct effects	
Williams,(2007)	Surface- and deep-level	Negative effects	







Although diverse teams do offer greater potential to outperform homogenous teams, diverse teams often fail.









# Welcome to 2027!





#### **Your Team:**

- Finance VP
- Operations VP
- Marketing VP
- R&D VP
- CEO

#### Decide as a team:

- The best market to enter;
- Which car to sell;
- Price your car.





Step I: Read your role first, please do NOT share written material (5 min)

Step II: Team Discussion (15 mins)

#### **BUT**:

2/3 English speakers:

- CEO, Finance, and Operations
- Can discuss everything

2 non-English speakers:

- Marketing and R&D
- Can only write physically on paper and show it to them
- Can communicate with each other







Team #	Car	Market	Price	
BB	ОНМ	EU	24.000 EURO	
CC	ОНМ	SA	19.995 EURO	
DD	ОНМ	INDIA	18.750 EURO	
EE	ОНМ	INDIA	16.500 EURO	
FF	ОНМ	CHINA	18.720 EURO	
GG	ОНМ	CHINA	18.720 EURO	
II	OHM	CHINA	18.720 EURO	



	Middle-class	Fraction that				Total Market	Total Market
	population	owns cars	Owner	Replace cars	Replace cars	Potential	Potential
Country	size	(%)	information	<20K (%)	<30K (%)	<20K	<30K
China	510	23	Marketing	72	34	84,5	39,9
EU	250	48	Finance	60	55	72,0	66,0
India	398	42	R&D	62	41	103,6	68,5
SA	460	44	Operations	53	43	107,3	87,0

Pricing:	
Operations	The Atom is having issues and that tests are indicating that it is not performing as well as it should. The Ohm for now has overall operations/production costs of \$10,000.
Finance	You would like to sell your cars at a profit margin of 20%.
Marketing	Marketing costs per car are about \$2000 for the Ohm. The Atom does not still have a marketing plan.
R&D	You have developed a new battery with a longer battery life that will do well in the Ohm. This battery costs \$3600.



### Why Do Diverse Teams Often Fail?

# Lack of Inclusion





## Diversity & Inclusion





### Diversity & Inclusion

- **Diversity** is being invited to the party;
- Inclusion reflects whether people dance with you at the party.





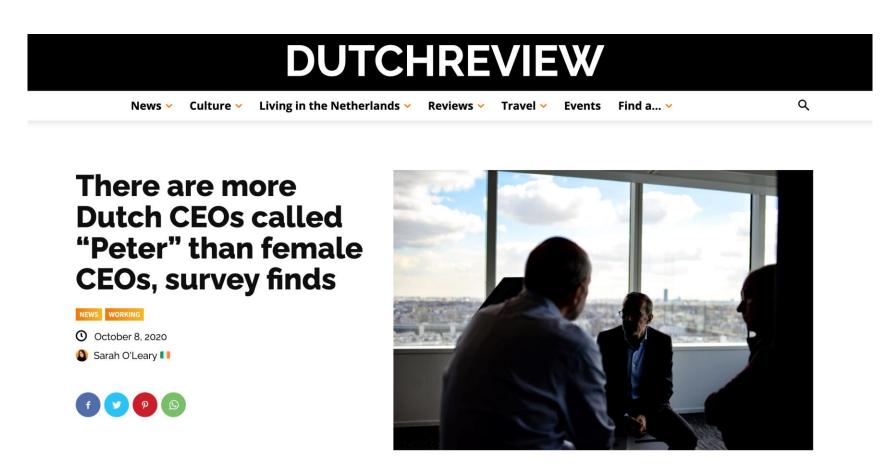
### Some Are Not Invited to The Party...

Results of a survey by Intermediair and Nationale Vacturebank among over 2,100 Netherlands residents:

- 55% of the respondents (and 85% among the unemployed respondents) faced discrimination at some point when applying for a job
- 53% of the respondents faced age discrimination
- 27% of the respondents faced ethnicity discrimination



### Some Are Not Invited to The Party...

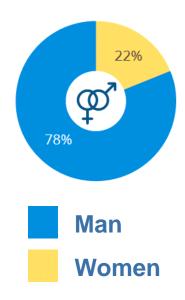






### Some Are Not Invited to The Party...

Share of men and women in the Dutch Maritime sector in 2022<sup>1</sup>



Share of women in mid-management, technical core and support roles in the Maritime sector in 2021<sup>2</sup>

Mid-management: 39% of 53,131

Technical core roles: 28% of 94,180

**Support roles:** 48% of 35,825

<sup>1</sup> Maritieme, Arbeidsmarkt, en Haven Monitor 2022

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Women in Maritime: Survey 2021



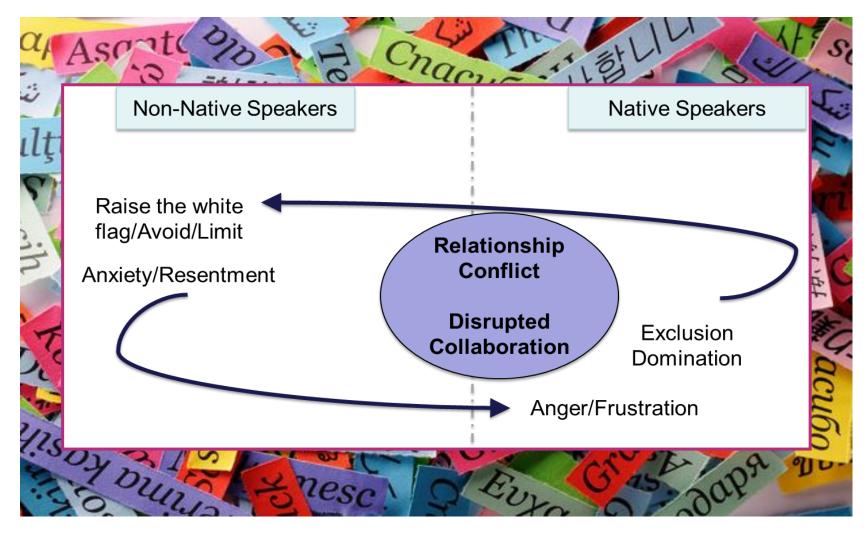
### Diversity & Inclusion

What happens once people are in?





### **Diversity & Inclusion**





### Why Do Diverse Teams Often Fail?

# Lack of Inclusion







What leaders can do to create a more inclusive culture?



### Ask yourself:

- Do I include everyone?
- Do I treat everyone equally?
- Do I (truly) encourage everyone's participation?
- Do I (truly) invite objections and dissent?
- How do I react to dissent?



**Build trust** 

Actively work against discrimination & subordination

Embrace a wide range of styles and voices

Make differences a resource for learning

(Ely & Thomas, 2020)



# Create an Inclusive Culture: Build trust

- Invest in building relationships
- Have open communication with your colleagues
- Demonstrate consistency and integrity





### Create an Inclusive Culture: Actively work against discrimination & subordination







### Create an Inclusive Culture: Embrace a wide range of styles and voices

Factor that reduces silence: Psychological safety

"It's not safe to share your views openly"

- Monitor
- Protect
- Ritualize
- Frame and reframe

Factor that increases voice: **Perceived impact** 

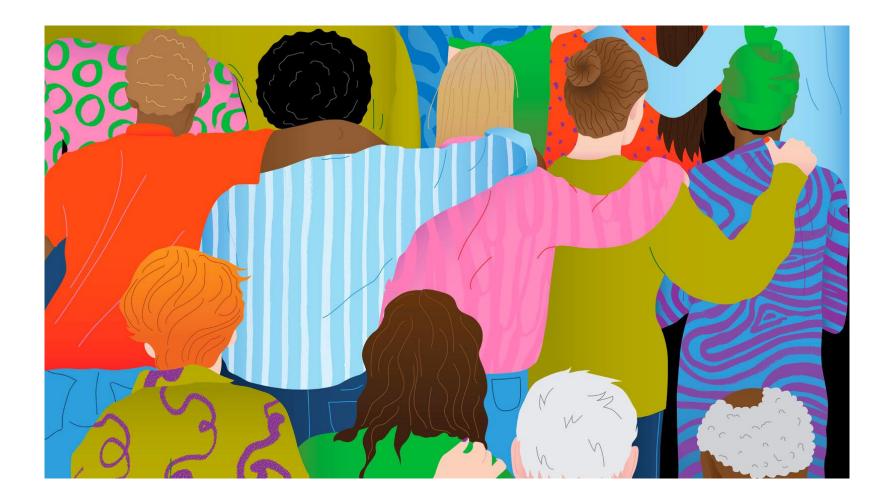
"Some leaders spend millions collecting ideas but then never really review them"

- Consult
- Consider
- Communicate

(Parke & Sherf, 2020)



### Create an Inclusive Culture: Make differences a resource for learning





**Build trust** 

Actively work against discrimination & subordination

Embrace a wide range of styles and voices

Make differences a resource for learning

(Ely & Thomas, 2020)



### **Key Takeaways**

- 1. Diversity goes beyond gender, age, race, and nationality
- 2. Diversity can hurt if it is not combined with inclusion
- Actively work towards creating a more inclusive environment & be a role model for your team







# Thank you!

E-mail: <u>isaakyan@rsm.nl</u> LinkedIn: Sofya Isaakyan