# High Stakes Decision - Making Series

#### Leadership Behavior Under Pressure

#### Message

1. Your true colors come out	Under pressure - your true natural DNA leadership style reveals itself
2. Lead with mental strength	Are you a cow or a buffalo? Do you head into the storm or allow it to chase you?
3. Reset your mindset	Knowing where you are at is important. Are you in a place of denial, depression or ready to embrace?
4. Check yourself before you wreck yourself	Stop, pause, listen, ask questions, decide
5. Address today's needs	Focus on today and your responses to events - but know you cannot control events, but you can control your responses to them.
6. Focus on others	Enhancing your relationships is critical - Contact people each day, raise people up
7. Maintain your confidence	Confidence is the foundation of performance
8. Live up to your identity	Who are you? Who do you want to be? Change behaviors to come out the other side strong and make good choices.
9. Define your purpose	This is your calling and key motivator
10. Center on your values	Foundational for decisions - and what is non-negotiable
11. Demonstrate character and courage	Do the right thing even if the outcome is not best for you
12. Be resilient	Dig into your toughest moment - what did you do? How did you pivot and adapt? Get in touch with your strengths - resistance builds muscles and this is the opportunity to build you.
13. Be adaptable	Need to be agile - some on your team will be, but also you need some "rocks"
14. Focus on creating value 15. Play a new game	Who wants to be sold to? Rather people want solutions which will eliminate danger, create opportunities and reinforce their strengths
19. Huy a new Barne	Forget the past and what was or could have been. Get part of a new game by pivoting and innovating - be flexible with your thinking - workout how to innovate at low cost.
16.Manage your emotions	Of yourself and others

17.Engage the team and clients	Check in with the team regularly and communicate with compassion
18.Manage different team responses	Recognize your team will respond to crisis situations uniquely
19. Show gratitude	Showing gratitude will get you out of yourself, away from negative people and thinking and and into a mode of being positive and the best thinking from which opportunities will come
20. Build a sounding board	Get wise people into your life

#### Financial Behavior Under Pressure

#### Message

1. Staying in the market	Cannot pick or time the market; focus on your goals
<ol> <li>Sticking to core principles</li> <li>Minimize withdrawals</li> </ol>	Broad diversification and core asset allocation Cut spending down
4. Assess your portfolio's risk	People believe they can take more risk than they can - portfolio's have too much risk
5. Know your risk tolerance	The real DNA risk tolerance level is the same in good and bad markets
6. Identify your loss aversion level	Prospect theory - 2x loss aversion to opportunity to make a gain
7. Know your behavioral biases	Intuition - listening to right voice, Biases lead to imperfect decision-making
8. Emotions trigger behavior	Emotions trigger our hard-wired behavior - leading to biases coming out stronger
9. Separate emotions from rationality	With discipline and self-knowledge you can separate emotions from rationality
10. The emotions of financial losses	Despondency, depression, anxiety, shame, guilt, embarassment
11. Check yourself before you wreck yourself	Stop and pause, consult with your advisor before every decision
12. Antifragile your life	Build in flexibility to take advantage of opportunities
13. Manage your spending	Spending is the greatest destroyer of wealth
14. Focus on your goals	Visualize achieving your goals - that is all that matters
15. Keep financially flexible	Keep 6 to 12 months cash, or a robust source of cash that flows
16. Avoid margin loans	A call will force you to sell winners and hold losers
17. Maintain a passive investment approach	Do not let your biases get in the way
18. Review your insurances	Are you covered for major events?
19. Shut out the noise	Do not follow the herd
20. Choose the right advisor	How they communicate with you, skills, values, balance

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#### **Business Decisions Under Pressure**

Message

1. Fight or Flight Response	When were you last faced with a high pressure business decision? How did you respond? The Tendancy is to think short term and not think strategically and long term. Check yourself before you wreck yourself - stop, pause, listen, ask questions, decide
2. Separate news from noise	Have you ever reacted emotionally to a business crisis? Move on from emotions - under pressure it is easy and normal for emotions to take over - leading to our hard-wired behavior coming out stronger. Data is ignored? Inappropriate discounts - that have permanent damage
3. Get enough reliable data	People are bad statisticians. Wait till you get 70% of the data that is from reliable sources - work with what you have and make the most of it - but realize that the world will change every day - some patience is needed - but at some point you have to move forward
4. Manage the Balancing Act	How do you maintain balance in your decision-making. We will tend to think and prioritize the short term, and will underestimate the long term disruption and not be good at planning for the contingencies. They key is to Balance: results and relationships (compassion), short term and long term, clients and the organization
5. Maintain organizational focus	Purpose, values, mission, strengths - and identity
6. Identify the decision-makers financial personality	Who has influence over the decisions? The decision-makers financial behavior (biases), education and knowledge to make a decision will be a factor
7. Recognize behavioral biases at play	What are your mental blind-spots - we all have them in varying degrees - and they will automatically show up when under pressure. They are what lead to imperfect decision-making. What biases show up for you - some are addressed in the following videos
8.Overconfidence	Is the decision-making too bold? Does the business expand into new areas without research? Nevertheless, in pressure times there are opportunities to take advantage of

9. Loss Aversion	Identify the businesses aversion to losses. Prospect theory - 2x loss aversion to opportunity to make a gain
10. Newness Bias	Are you constantly introducing changes to the business but not getting traction? Over innovating is a common business problem. But being positive, consider how the business can pivot with new products, and/or be leaner - but not over innovate without research on expected demand and ability to do it
11. Optimism Bias	Check your growth mentality -Do you set overly optimistic growth targets to look like you are being proactive? Ensure the expansion is well founded
12. Benchmark Focus	Do you stick to historical data that is flawed and may not be relevant in the current situation? It is easy to fall into a pattern your know.
13. Herd Following	Do you change prices or features because others do? Or introduce a new product that takes you off course?
14. Over trading	Does your business push too hard for short term results? Do you give quarterly discounts to get a last minute sale.
15. Consolidated view	Is there justification for the overall results but ignoring of the individual parts? Is appropriate attention paid to the parts?
16. Persuasion Bias	Do you follow advice because of a consultants reputation? What biases do they have?
17. Identify the viable options	Have a position paper prepared which documents 3 alternative choices
18. Distorting biases	Is there mining for red flags? Check for self interest, attachments, misleading memories, Conflicts of interest?
19. Strong Internal Controls	Does your business have appropriate internal controls to review the decisions of those who have influence? What is the decision-makers compensation benefit from the decision? Is there a financial incentive? Ensure review by people with different perspectives and knowledge
20. Antifragile your business	Remain viable: Fragile to robust to antifragile - financial structure (debt and reserves), revenue sources, re-purposing, diverse markets and clients

#### Entrepreneur Behavior Under Pressure

Message

1. Have a resilient mindset	Being mentally strong in adversity is critical, and take failure as a learning opportunity to come back better
2. Identify your X-Factor	10x your success by leveraging what you are the best at, and delegate the rest
3. Focus on your identity	Who do you want to be seen as and what level will you live up to? Your identity will govern many decisions.
4. Surround yourself with good people	Leading a business is lonely - have people who "get you" know where you are at and open up the pathway to get help -eg EO
5. Check yourself before you wreck yourself	Stop, pause, listen, ask questions, then decide when taking risks
6. Do not destroy your infrastructure	Balance short term vs long term, keep to purpose and values
7. Balance rationality and compassion in decisions	Recognize your and others emotions, use independent data and be compassionate when needed
8. Focus on costs	Review costs and cut what is not necessary - and defer where you can
9. Review your cashflow	Maintain flexibility so you can capitalize on opportunities
10. Address your leadership behavior	How you show up is important - see our leadership series
11. Maintain team engagement	Keep your team engaged - work on managing the differences - the team is key to your future
12. Demonstrate empathy but not fear	Show concern and compassion for your team, but do not show your own fears as that undermines team confidence
13. Do not fall in the Money Trap	Defining your value/success on money is a recipe for disaster - measure your success based on impact
14. Antifragile your business	Look at the opportunities to generate uncorrelated revenue streams in your business from different market segments
15. Start small and finish big	Recognize that trying to grow too quickly, too early can mean you will not be there when the timing is right
16. Learn to play bigger	Re-define the market category that your business can be the king of

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17. Innovate at low cost	Innovation can be at low cost - set a low budget and see what you can achieve – leverage what you have rather than creating completely new things
18. Be bold when needed	Be prepared to take opportunities when the time is right and remember the cascade impact on your existing business
19. Stay goal driven with a Traction Plan	Keep a growth mindset and ensure there is clarity about the goals and accountability
20. Be charismatic	People want to be led - set yourself up to lead a movement

#### **Business Principles**

#### Message

1. Choose the ideal clients or customers	The biggest mistake your business can make is choosing the wrong clients as that impacts team, energy, time, resources and profitability
2. Always create value	By creating value for clients you can command a higher price and also create your future
3. Data is the new currency	Think about data as reflecting the truth but also an asset that can be on your balance sheet from which value is enhanced
4. Cash is king	Having cash reserves enables you to capitalize on opportunities when they arise and be protected in bad times
5. Antifragile your business	Protect your business with uncorrelated revenue streams and not reliant on one industry, type of client, geography, product line.
6. Focus on your 10 out of 10	Exponential growth comes when you work in your X Factor
7. Flaunt your weakness	The weakness in your offering could be the biggest strength which you market; turn the negative into a positive
8. Adopt a flexible business model	Be able to scale up and scale down as times change - leverage AI technology and have an agile workforce
9. Fair pricing	The price must be fair with a win-win for all based on the value to each party.
10. Be a specialist	Establish where your business will be a Category King and dominate a market channel
11. Ecosystem participation	Workout how your business can lead an ecosystem but also where reciprocal relationships are buildt by participating in others multiple ecosystems
12. Platform	Look at how your business can build multiple products and services which come off the one platform
13. Network effect	Increasing the number of buyers and sellers with compatible products who leverage your platform to create value for each other.
14. Scalability	Use the right mix of technology and employees to generate exponential growth while deploying less overall resources
15. Build your brand	Your brand is your value so protect its identity, visiibility and memorability as a key contributor.
16. Embedding	Address how your product can be embedded in other products to build a snowball effect by being sold when others sell their product

17. Customization	Focus on hyper personalization for every client which enables a customized experience to be delivered while following a consistent process Build a workforce which blends adaptability for changing circumstances but
<ol> <li>Adaptability Quotient</li> </ol>	has stability to sustain the core operations
19. Social participation	Success comes from the impact your business has in engaging communities beyond your core market channel or offering
20. There is a solution for every problem	Every problem can be solved with the right mindset to break mental barriers and ability to think out of the box

Message

Leadership Principles

1. Business issues driven by behavior	Look at all business problems through a behavioral lens; 87% of business issues are caused by human behavior
2. Manage different perspectives	Have you ever been in a team meeting for 1hr discussing a critical team topic and later realize everyone has heard the same discussion differently?
3. Todays 5 requirements for all leaders	The following are "table stakes": Character, Courage, Confidence, Connection and Compassion - how well do you demonstrate these behaviors?
4. 3 Rules for winning in a new world	Strategic clarity - execute on the purpose, Operational discipline - grow customer relationships based on reliability, High performance culture - high standards motivated by people
5. Top 3 Business Trends for all Leaders	Mega customization, workforce adaptability, financial wellbeing - how is your business addressing these trends?
6. The power of behavioral insights	Behavioral insights are the denominator in creating hidden advantage - numerator is winning strategy + people culture
	Are you a "cow or a buffalo"? Buffalo's take the storm head on and
<ol> <li>The mentality of how ultra performers respond</li> </ol>	know it will pass quickly. Cows run away and end up getting taken over by the storm.
-	know it will pass quickly. Cows run away and end up getting taken over
performers respond 8. The Formula for Performance	know it will pass quickly. Cows run away and end up getting taken over by the storm. Capitalize on your strengths and manage your struggles; Struggle
performers respond 8. The Formula for Performance Acceleration 9. Balancing Results and	<ul><li>know it will pass quickly. Cows run away and end up getting taken over by the storm.</li><li>Capitalize on your strengths and manage your struggles; Struggle with your struggles</li><li>What is your leadership tilt? Ultimately a balance of results and</li></ul>
<ul> <li>performers respond</li> <li>8. The Formula for Performance Acceleration</li> <li>9. Balancing Results and Relationships</li> <li>10. Confidence is the Foundation</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>know it will pass quickly. Cows run away and end up getting taken over by the storm.</li> <li>Capitalize on your strengths and manage your struggles; Struggle with your struggles</li> <li>What is your leadership tilt? Ultimately a balance of results and relationships is required</li> <li>Are insecurity, doubts and fears getting in the way of your leadership?</li> </ul>
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14. Leading for results	Visionary, decisive, goal driven, courageous, innovative, fiscally strong
15. Manage your impact on others	Are you aware of how you come across? Do others trust you? Are you influencing them?
16. Build a healthy team culture	The team culture should provide for understanding, acceptance and respect for different styles
17. Manage every person uniquely	Adapt to each person's style in every interaction
18. Show appreciation	Always be giving gratitude to others and recognize others contributions over yourself
19. Mitigate conflicts of interest	Your integrity is critical - and it is key in decision-making you put the team's interests first
20. Manage biases in your decision-making	Review your own decision-making biases - history, experiences, situations and financial attitudes

#### Life Principles

#### Message

1. Essentialism will eradicate the unnecessary	Learn to build life equilibrium Focus on what is important, will help you grow and what energizes you
2. Learn to build life equilibrium	Decide what will make you happy, successful, and healthy
3. You are in the way of your own success	The only person blocking you is you - think about what is derailing you – it starts with you
4. Focus on the journey and not every outcome	Follow the right processes, and eventually the rewards come - instant gratification will not make you
5. Discover your identity	Work out who you want to be and live up to that. How do you want to be remembered at your funeral?
6. Know your strengths and struggles	Capitalize on your strengths/talents, and manage your struggles
7. Be purpose driven	Find your calling and be consistent about following it
8. Strive for higher goals	You have 50% more performance capacity than you think you have, and then keep on resetting
9. Live with meaning	If what you do has meaning, it will be more sustainable and rewarding
10. Unlock yourself from miserable situations	When you are feeling depressed, find ways to reset
11. Confidence is the foundation of performance	Confidence is the most important factor in personal success - a healthy belief in yourself - when you lose confidence, then decision-making gets uncertain and wayward, and normally you do not engage people as well - life spirals
12. Sow into your relationships	Life growth comes from the quality of your relationships and managing different perspectives
13. Never compromise your integrity	Have the courage to do the right thing
14. Be humble and show gratitude	People want to be appreciated
15. Culture gaps are important	People from different cultures have different perspectives based on their society
16. Change how you ask questions	How you ask questions will determine the outcome

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17. How you manage adversity Great success can come from adversity if you can focus on how you will grow out of it determines your success

18. Never make the same mistake twice	Do not repeat mistakes - look at the pattern of good and bad decisions
19. Read (listen) widely to history	Historical principles can teach you a lot about the future.
20. Time tells you a lot of things	Be prepared to give people and situations time - while your intuition may be strong, do not handle tough situations and decisions impulsively - get enough data, work out how to be compassionate - but nevertheless be decisive when it is clear

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