

# Workshop asking stupid questions

A TRAINING IN PURE OBSERVATION  
AND FREE ASSOCIATION

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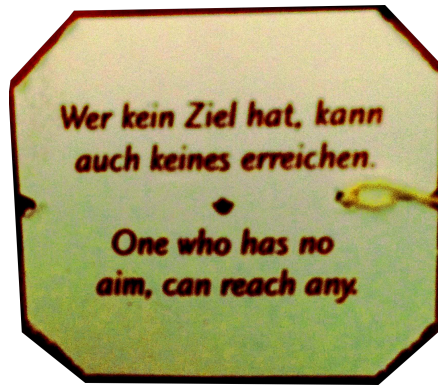
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DEDICATED TO ANYONE  
WHO TRIES TO UNDERSTAND

# YOU CAN LEARN TO ASK STUPID QUESTIONS....

A TRAINING IN PURE OBSERVATION AND FREE ASSOCIATION

AS INDICATED EARLIER, ASKING STUPID QUESTIONS IS ESSENTIAL. STUPID QUESTIONS ENCOURAGE BETTER PERCEPTION, CREATIVITY (LESS GOAL-ORIENTED THINKING) AND SHED A DIFFERENT LIGHT ON AND AROUND THE SO-CALLED OBVIOUSNESS.

EXAMPLE:            IN            WHAT            RESPECT            HAS            THIS            BEEN            STATED            BEFORE?

THIS FICTIONAL APRÈS-AVANTGARDE WORKSHOP ASKING STUPID QUESTIONS CREATES CONFUSION, WONDERS, QUESTIONS AND PUTS YOU ON YOUR OTHER LEG, JUST AS ART AND SCIENCE HAVE TRADITIONALLY TRIED TO DO SO SINCE AGES. THUS LEARN TO LOOK AT THE WORLD AS IF YOU WERE NEVER BORN AND GET RID OF YOUR FIXED HABITS OF THINKING BY OBSERVING VERY PRECISELY.

BASED ON ROUTINE AND EXPECTATION PATTERNS, MOST OF DAILY REALITY IS COMPLETED AS A DEAD BORING FORM. THIS IS A PITY, BECAUSE THERE IS SO MUCH MORE TO EXPERIENCE WITH AN OPEN-MINDED VIEW! BUT IN ORDER TO THINK OUT-OF-THE-BOX, AT LEAST YOU HAVE TO PRY OPEN THE TOP A LITTLE.

THIS IS AT ODDS WITH EVERYDAY LIFE, WHERE THE DESIRE FOR EFFICIENCY SWEEPS ALL HILARITY OFF THE TABLE. BUT WATCH OUT; THE PARADOX OF THE STUPID QUESTION IS THAT IT IS CERTAINLY NOT EASY, BUT ALL THE MORE ADDICTIVE.

## IMPLEMENTATION

A STUPID QUESTION CAN:

- \* QUESTION A SITUATION? (WHERE AM I!)
- \* QUESTION INDIVIDUALS? (WHO ARE WE!)
- \* DENY ITSELF? (WASN'T THIS A QUESTION!)
- \* ASK FOR ITSELF? (DID YOU FIND MY QUESTION!)

TYPES OF STUPID QUESTIONS:

- \* YOU CAN ASK OTHERS PRIVATE QUESTIONS ABOUT YOURSELF THAT NO ONE CAN KNOW: HOW DO YOU KNOW!
- \* YOU CAN ASK A QUESTION ABOUT A QUESTION (PARADOXICAL QUESTION) HOW MANY EXAMPLES DO YOU HAVE LEFT!
- \* YOU CAN TAKE ONE OR ANOTHER THING TOO LITERALLY WHERE DID YOU GET ALL THOSE LETTERS FROM?
- \* YOU CAN ASK FOR THE KNOWN WAY WHAT OR WHO IS IN YOUR SANDCASTLE!
- \* YOU CAN CREATE CONFUSION WITH A STUPID QUESTION IS THIS IS THE PRACTICAL EXAMPLE FOR LATER!
- \* YOU CAN SWAP ELEMENTS AND MAKE "WRONG" CONNECTIONS YOU DIDN'T SEE SOMETHING < HOW DO YOU KNOW!
- \* YOU CAN ASK VARIOUS QUESTIONS TO A (PERSON IN) A PICTURE DO YOU HAVE A MUSTACHE!

## BEYOND THAT,...

A STUPID QUESTION CAN APPEAL TO THE IMAGINATION: DO I GET THAT?

A STUPID QUESTION MAY CONTAIN AN ANSWER: HAVE YOU SEEN THE BOX WITH ANSWERS YET?

IN THIS AGE OF PUMPING UP, CENSORING, ACTING SUPERFICIAL AND INTERESTING, POLITICALLY CORRECT OR CLIMATE NEUTRAL, ONLY THAT WHICH LOOKS COOL AND IMPRESSIVE SEEMS TO HAVE A RIGHT TO EXIST. FORTUNATELY, THE STUPID QUESTIONS ARE DIAMETRICALLY OPPOSED TO THIS AND HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH THE OUTSIDE TEMPERATURE. AFTER ALL, DURING THIS WORKSHOP YOUR SENSES, OBSERVATIONS AND PROCESSING DEVICE ARE YOUR ONLY TOOLS. YOU WILL PRACTICE INTENSIVELY WITH MAKING A FOOL OF YOURSELF.

THE UNIVERSAL KEY (WHICH ONE?) IS A SKILL THAT CAN BE PRACTICED BY LEARNING TO ASK STUPID QUESTIONS. THIS IS DONE BY EXPOSING THE PIECE OF REALITY, THAT YOU NORMALLY DON'T THINK ABOUT. FREE THINKING THEREFORE STARTS WITH GOOD PERCEPTION, ASKING STUPID QUESTIONS GOES EVEN LIGHT YEARS FURTHER: NAMELY, IT TRANSFORMS PERCEPTION, RATHER THAN JUST LETTING IT WASH OVER YOU.

HOWEVER, THE PITFALL IS TO WANT TO BE TOO FUNNY, WHEREAS THIS WORKSHOP IS PURELY INTENDED AS A THINKING-EXERCISE AND NOT AS A CABARET-COURSE. WANTING TO BE TOO FUNNY CRAMPS THE PROCESS. SO TRY TO KEEP ASKING STUPID QUESTIONS IN AN OPEN MINDED WAY, WHICH BY THE WAY CAN BE QUITE FUNNY AS AN AFTERTHOUGHT ANYWAY. IN A GOOD OBSERVATION, YOUR SILLY QUESTION IS ALREADY WAITING FOR YOU: IS IT TRUE WHAT I SEE HERE?



# DEFINITION

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A STUPID QUESTION IS A COUNTERPRODUCTIVE OR IRRELEVANT QUESTION THAT AT FIRST GLANCE APPEARS TO SERVE NO PURPOSE. THE STUPID QUESTION DOES NOT NEED TO BE ANSWERED AND IS NEVER MEANT TO BE HUMILIATING OR INSULTING.

# PURPOSE

STUPID QUESTIONS ENCOURAGE BETTER OBSERVATION, FREER THINKING AND THEY SHED A NEW LIGHT ON THE SO-CALLED OBVIOUSNESS.

THE QUESTION ITSELF IS NOT FROM YESTERDAY, AS YOU MAY KNOW. YET WE IGNORE SOCRATES, PLATO, AND MODERN MANAGEMENT-METHODS (HOW DO I MOTIVATE MY EMPLOYEES) IN ORDER TO FURTHER CARVE OUT OUR OWN FOREST PATH IN THE SAND.