

**4. Review your responses to assignment #3 above. Think of ways in the past (especially recently) that you have exhibited, to some degree, these same behaviors, thoughts, emotions, and motivations. In a digital document, briefly write a summary of at least one such case and save your work in the document. You will submit this work along with your responses to assignment #8 below.**

When I think about it, there is an overlap in my egocentric tendencies and the ones I called out in "V" in assignment #3. A few years ago, for example, just like V, I remember carrying a sense of self-importance when I had moved into a new team after just having been promoted to a senior role. I was often quick to point out problems in the new team's standards or processes, without first asking relevant questions about why things were the way they were. I rarely asked about others' perspectives or opinions when discussing a problem. This intellectual arrogance and lack of fair-minded thinking served no real purpose, made me less effective, and got in the way of creating any real impact or bringing real value to the team.

#### **8. Identify the Impact of Group Influence**

> Make a list of the groups you believe have had the strongest impact on your thinking.

Complete these statements for each group:

*This group has influenced my thinking in the following ways...*

My family has shaped my thinking in many ways. For example, it has taught me the value of a good education, of working hard, and saving for the future. It has also inculcated in me ideas such as the importance of serving others and having faith in God.

*The following ideas within this group seem incompatible with each other...*

My family taught me that the essential aspects of life were to get an education so that you could get a job to make a living and raise a family. At the same time, my family also admired people who had made significant contributions (like run successful businesses or achieved other great things) without an education or a family, and taught me to take inspiration from them. These ideas seemed incompatible and created much confusion in my upbringing.

*I would now question the following beliefs I "received" from this group...*

Now I question the idea that there are only predefined essential aspects of life. I believe that everyone's path is vastly different and atypical, and some or all of those predefined aspects may not appear in their lives at all. I believe each is free to choose and experiment with what works best for them as long as they conduct their lives peacefully and without hurting others.