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THE TOP 5 MYTHS ABOUT MILLENNIALS

ERICA DHAWAN is a globally recognized leadership expert whose work with transforming Gen-Y & future-thinking companies creates workplaces where profitable innovation, creativity & collaboration can flourish. For *real*.

With Ivy League prowess, Wall Street experience & Bollywood flair, Erica's workshops & keynotes integrate sound business sense with sparkling intuition — and leave audience dancing in their seats. (And often, on their feet.)

To learn more about Erica's consulting, coaching & speaking offerings for emerging leaders & organizations, see here.

CONTACT: Got an audience, a date — and a keynote, in mind? Get in touch, and let's talk *alchemy*.

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Myth #1: Millennials are selfish.

Amazingly, Gen Y is more engaged in community service work than older generations, according the Twenge's Gen Me v We study. The record turnout of youth in the 2008 election is not an anomaly - the Millennial generation is a civic-minded one!

Myth #2: Millennials are lazy.

It's not all Facebook checking and living with their parents! The truth is, millennials are the most productive generation, and they're much more active than any other generation. And perhaps they're still fueled by youth optimism and their hope to make an impact in the world.

Myth #3: Millennials want to change everything.

This is a commonly belief held by senior managers in today's companies - 'What all this about Twitter?! Things were just fine the way they were!" The majority of Generation Y wants to learn from older leaders and have an opportunity to contribute to your organization. They want their ideas to be heard and they want to be judged by the same standard as their older colleagues. This generation is comfortable with asking why and pushing the status quo.

Myth #5: Millennials aren't interested in their work.

While Gen Y is interested in their work, they're not motivated by boring work. But who among us is? Gen Yers emphasize their desire to do meaningful, energizing work.

What does that mean? Generally, lower-level employees are less motivated than higher level employees. Most Gen Yers understand that an entry level job isn't going to be all fascinating, all the time. But a reasonable portion of a job should be engaging, or why not find a new job?

Bonus: Myth #6: Millennials are entitled.

Gen Yers are devoted to to finding a job they *love* rather than settling into a stable, if uninspiring, job for 40 years. What a novel concept! Loving your job! Obviously, there's a big difference between entitlement and choosing to not to be miserable. Call it idealistic or call it hopeful - you choose.