WEXFactor

Welcome to the WEXFactor Room

NOVEMBER 2023

Welcome to the WEXFactor Room, a place where we can have a productive flash across our network of organizations to come together for a meaningful conversation about a pressing topic relevant to the trajectory of creative, effective and joyful leadership. Oct-Nov-Dec 2023 is the gathered **Dr. Yehuda Kurtzer**, President of **Shalom Hartman Institute of North America**, and **Dr. Erika Kauffman**, Dean of Faculty, Hartman Institute.

Polarization

Framing the Topic

Polarization, socially and politically, is a process by which the opinions, beliefs, or interests of a group or population become fundamentally divided into two opposing and mutually exclusive positions. In the last decade, we have seen a sphere extend to thinking that is forcing an quasi, as social counterpoise, as "polarization." Is this a useful lens for our leadership?

Polarization has been used to map into political discourse, a phenomenon we see in our own leadership, today who are tired by how organizations pressured to get "political" in ideological thinking. For example Nicolas Bouzou and Laure Ledoux, authors of the book, *The Woke Company*, argue that "woke" companies are "[a] new form of totalitarian ideology." Bouzou and Ledoux argue that woke