A large orange circle is positioned on the left side of the slide, partially cut off by the edge.

How to ask
fearless
questions in
a respectful,
professional
way.

Aim: Learn to ask questions that demonstrate your leadership nous, your professionalism and your commitment to being fearless.





Start from a place of curiosity. Phrase
your question appropriately.

Use '*Please help me understand....*' to neutralize
your question and demonstrate you are acting in
good faith.



Don't use emotive language.

Never presume to know all the facts about the situation. Don't be accusatory.



Don't ask
pointless
questions.

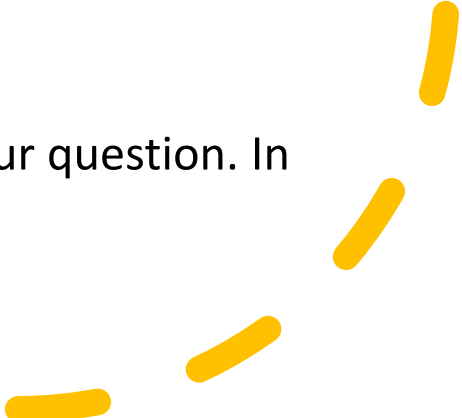
Some examples of pointless questions with emotive language:

*Does Diversity and Inclusion mean us men will lose our jobs? ***

Were you lying when you said we could work from home?


Do you even care that some of us have to work overnight to deploy this fix?

**BTW – google this to find the answer if this is your question. In short, the answer is No.





Will your
question cause
embarrassment?



Before you ask your question, ask yourself this:

What is the intent behind my question?

If you want to show up your leader or play to the audience's base sentiments or want to cause embarrassment, then don't ask.



Think!



Then think again before you ask your question.

Better yet, write it down and edit it to ensure it is pithy and professional.



Do you feel nervous?

You should. All fearless questions should give you a level of anxiety. But do it anyway. Because if you are thinking about this question, then others are, too.


You be the leader.

Culture rules!

In some organisations, **fearless questions are rarely asked** – because they are considered to be career-limiting. In such organisations, stand out by asking fearless questions that demonstrate your leadership acumen.

In other organisations, fearless questions are asked in a **combative manner**. Stand out by asking yours in a professional, measured way.

If yours is an organisation where fearless questions are asked in a professional way – then **stand out by supporting those who ask these questions**.

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Ask the fearless questions. Be the role model that others need to see.

And do it in a way that demonstrates your leadership.

Thank you!