

The Junkyard Paradigm

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You know that "survival of the fittest" theory? Did you know that Darwin never said anything at all about survival of the fittest. He did, however, talk about the survival of the quickest to adapt.

OK. So what if we compare Junkyard Sports like Fryingpan Baseball and Hoseball Golf to official Arena Sports like football, soccer,?

Here's something chart-like: Junkyard Sports Arena sports

- Play with anything
 - Play with anybody
 - Play anywhere
 - Play any way you all want to
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- Play only with the right stuff
 - Play only with the right people
 - Play only in the right place
 - Play only according to the rules

Think of each kind of sport as a different kind (like a species, as it were).

Which species do you think (he asks rhetorically) is more likely to survive the long haul?

Think of what it means to be a team when you play Junkyard Sports, vs what it means to be a team when you play the other kind.

Which kind of team is more likely to thrive (he asks tongue-in-cheekily) when things start changing, things like roles and rules and goals and boundary lines?

Which leads me to the conclusion that Junkyard Sports is an opportunity to present a different paradigm for both workplace and fireplace conversations, a paradigm that is radically different from that of traditional sports, and yet I'm thinking more accurately describes how we really experience ourselves and each other when we really work as a team.

Whaddya think?

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