



Group Decision Tip

E-mailed every two weeks to help groups make good decisions

My part

In principle, there are at least two pieces to every puzzle, at least two parts to every solution. No solution to a problem is entirely in the hands of just one person. For example, people at the back of a room might have a hard time hearing the speaker at the front. When this happens someone is apt to suggest to the speaker: "speak up." But another solution is in the hands of the listeners: "move closer."

If I have a problem with someone's behavior, one solution is for them to change. Another solution is for me to change. I can change how I interact with them or I can change my attitude toward them.

When I assume my problem is entirely because of someone else, I am hiding an important part of the solution. When I deny my part, I am in the way of the group moving forward.

Practical Tip: With every problem remember that there are multiple parts to the solution. Ask, "What's my part?" If you want the problem solved, act in ways that will help solve it rather than talk of ways that others should.

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[Site Index](#)