

VALUE AND PRIORITY

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Which of these two--VALUE and PRIORITY--is the more important? Are they separable? Are they mutually exclusive? Is one dependent on the other?

A diamond lying in a safe deposit box is of high VALUE, but low PRIORITY--right? My little granddaughter is of most high VALUE to me, but her care and weaning is a concern with me but of lower PRIORITY to other things in my life. How wrong am I?

At other times though, and perhaps always by circumstances, things of VALUE become high priorities. For example a treatise on the imminent danger of something is of high VALUE and also may be of high PRIORITY, if the danger is great enough and close enough. True?

Can it then be said with some certainty that these two parameters tend to modulate, on an uneven basis, from being close and almost coincident, to being remote one from the other?

Now why bring this up in the realm of specifications and specifications writing, and ancillary situations? Well, perhaps just for the sake of discussion and also to highlight the need to recognize, at times, that these factors have greater impact than at first observed.

The VALUE of our work products (and other items relative to them), be we in-house, or consultant, is so important that their careful preparation needs to be a high PRIORITY with us. Their VALUE, though is high with contractors in bidding, ordering and working but carry less of and a different PRIORITY than with us. This is also true in other situations where things we hold in VALUE really are items of low PRIORITY with someone else.

So much like beauty ("...eye of the beholder..." etc.), the disconnect between VALUE and PRIORITY can become a problem or at least a frustration at times. We all are impatient and by setting our minds to a certain mindset we compound impressions and scenarios not those of other people.

Also, we have virtually no control of how other people set their priorities and the do their work. Too often, I would guess, we tend to formulate certain sequences and events in our minds that are not reality with other people involved. Hence, often what we truly VALUE comes down to a low PRIORITY with someone else--too bad! Or is this a situation that needs more open-mindedness in us, or some other resolutions?

Basically, we need to understand the time to "let go" of things, even when they are of high VALUE to us, and merely let the PRIORITY of others work as they must--tough chore! While it seems to undercut what we hold dear (so to speak) all of our things are not of equal concern to all other people we contact or work with.

Comes down to tolerance, I guess. And this starts as a function of VALUE and how much we feel we can give up and still retain the quality and level of VALUE in our possessions, etc., no matter the PRIORITY assigned them, by anyone else.