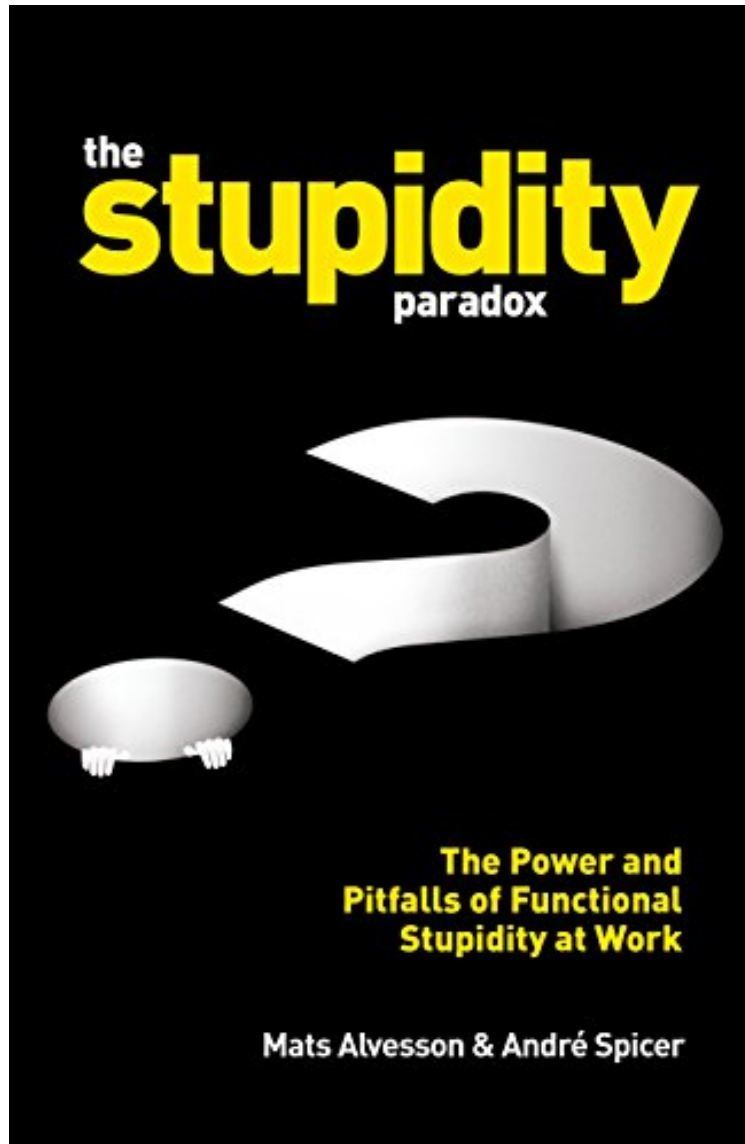


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## The Stupidity Paradox: The Power and Pitfalls of Functional Stupidity at Work

*Mats Alvesson, Andreacute; Spicer*  
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**Mats Alvesson, Andreacute; Spicer : The Stupidity Paradox: The Power and Pitfalls of Functional Stupidity at Work** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Stupidity Paradox: The Power and Pitfalls of Functional Stupidity at Work:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A MUST read for "Smart" boys and girls from Kinsey, Accidenture (!), Berger, BCG, PwC etc...By Book WormFantastic. The book has its lengths and repetitions and it is in the end a business or management consultant's book.But the authors point at what most of us experience at the work place

almost daily (mostly in offices, on an oil rig you can't allow for much stupidity): inconsistent regulations, forms, and processes made by reasonably intelligent but unimaginative and often superfluous (in terms of generating a product or a result) people left uncontrolled to express their desires to be relevant and important. Interesting theory the authors pose: if such people didn't have jobs, society would have to feed them through dole, and this way they are kept docile. The authors also call for managers and CEO to look at the long term cost of stupidity they allow in their corporations - the short term benefits are just that, short term. 12 of 13 people found the following review helpful. Emperor's new clothes - great book By Dhruba S Mukherjee This is one of the finest books I have ever read on business related topics and I found it 100% accurate. The best thing about this book is that it has tried to reveal both sides of the "functional stupidity" phenomena. How it benefits the organization and how it can harm the industry. I think its a must read for all senior executives. But I fear that if I share snippets from this book in my linkedin profile, I might loose my job. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I love this book. By annlee Life can be so simple. So easy. So beautiful. This does not keep massive populations employed or fragile egos stroked. We could live love and laugh but that is communism in its purest form and capitalism keeps us lean and hungry. Perhaps we need this endless mouse on the treadmill life to stay sharp mentally or we stagnate and die. Have some more sugary coffee people.

Functional stupidity can be catastrophic. It can cause organisational collapse, financial meltdown and technical disaster. And there are countless, more everyday examples of organisations accepting the dubious, the absurd and the downright idiotic, from unsustainable management fads to the cult of leadership or an over-reliance on brand and image. And yet a dose of stupidity can be useful and produce good, short-term results: it can nurture harmony, encourage people to get on with the job and drive success. This is the stupidity paradox. The Stupidity Paradox tackles head-on the pros and cons of functional stupidity. You'll discover what makes a workplace mindless, why being stupid might be a good thing in the short term but a disaster in the longer term, and how to make your workplace a little less stupid by challenging thoughtless conformity. It shows how harmony and action in the workplace can be balanced with a culture of questioning and challenge. The book is a wake-up call for smart organisations and smarter people. It encourages us to use our intelligence fully for the sake of personal satisfaction, organisational success and the flourishing of society as a whole.

"A book many in business will secretly treasure for its trove of unbelievable anecdotes and spot-on observations" - People Management "Beat dumbing down: buy this book!" -Economia