

Doubts... Are they good or bad?

One problem that I identified within myself this week during classes was my tendency to doubt myself when faced with external pressure regarding answers for our work. This became apparent when Peter entered our workspace during the workshop hours to ask us a few probing questions about the decisions we had made / were planning on making.

The process of making decisions within our Mikes Bikes simulation can often be one which takes several hours and involves some quite interesting debates regarding the merits and downfalls of particular strategies. It can therefore be surprisingly irritating, albeit constructive, when someone comes in with an outside perspective and completely throws a spanner in the works. This week as in previous sessions of the workshops we have been asked a series of carefully phrased questions by Peter that consequentially made us review our entire strategy. The question is, was this a good or bad thing? Is doubting yourself when faced with external pressure at all bad? Was it a waste of time to review our decisions or helpful for us to perhaps reconsider some of the more nuanced choices?

I hypothesize that this type of questioning can indeed aid us in improving and developing our thoughts and strategies in the foreseeable future as we continue exploring the simulation. Often when making decisions as a group in an intense environment it can be easy to lose track of the choices you can make as a whole. I noticed that whenever Peter questioned our decision making we approached issues with renewed vigour and from different angles. This helped us refine our decision process and as such was ultimately a good thing.

Next week I think it may be helpful if our group as individuals each play a similar role to what Peter did for us in recent weeks. The occasional person interjecting with a question that may seem entirely random, but in reality playing more of a devils advocate role... Where these questions initiate a change in outlook on the issues at hand and allow us to improve our choices beyond what they may have otherwise been. It may just be a matter of time to see whether this has any affect on our decision making process whatsoever.