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DATA-DRIVEN DEI
The Tools and Metrics You Need to
Measure, Analyze, and Improve
Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
By Dr. Bandal Pinkett

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MAKE DEI PART OF YOUR DNA

New Book by Dr. Randal Pinkett Provides Blueprint For Using Data to Create Measurable and Impactful DEI Initiatives

"Any effort to mitigate bias and grow inclusivity within an organization must begin with people," says diversity, equity and inclusion expert Dr. Randal Pinkett. "At the end of the day, organizations do not change; people change," he adds. Dr. Pinkett's new book, DATA-DRIVEN DEI: The Tools and Metrics You Need to Measure, Analyze, and Improve Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (Wiley, March 14, 2023), centers first and foremost on personal transformation, presenting a five-step cycle that enables individuals and their organizations to measure, analyze, and improve their DEI.

"DEI represents a unique and unparalleled opportunity to break down the walls that can separate us in our personal lives, within our organizations, and throughout our society," writes Dr. Pinkett. Co-founder and CEO of the global consulting firm BCT Partners, Dr. Pinkett has spent the past three decades helping people and organizations across the globe become more diverse, equitable, and inclusive. His approach relies on using data to measure, analyze, and improve DEI. This entails assessing the existing situation; establishing objectives and goals; developing strategies with defined measures; and using data to gauge progress, evaluate results, and demonstrate impact.

For each step of the process, Dr. Pinkett covers both the personal and organizational levels of DEI improvement, while discussing the role of "the DEI Council" – a diverse and inclusive body representing different functions, levels, roles, and responsibilities throughout the organization. The five steps include:

- **Step 1: DEI Inventory** Your DEI strategic plan will only be as good as your DEI assessment. The author details how to measure preferences things people think, feel, or do and competences which are a combination of knowledge, skills and attitudes/attributes. He points out that preferences developed over years due to life experiences are also biases. "The objective when it comes to improving DEI is to shift, stretch, or expand into areas outside your preferences and mitigate blind spots," he says.
- **Step 2: DEI Imperatives** Once you've established your starting point, the next step is to determine where you want to go (DEI objectives) and how you will know you have arrived (DEI goals). Dr. Pinkett explains how to set objectives and goals, and includes dozens of illustrative examples. DEI objectives might include "Increase my awareness of intercultural conflict styles to resolve conflicts effectively" or "Be an effective and supportive mentor to women within my division."
- **Step 3: DEI Insights** Before moving on to developing strategies, the author suggests pausing to see what has worked in other contexts that might work for you and/or your organization. "The 'What Works' models outlined here are all flexible and can be adapted to your unique journey," he writes.
- **Step 4: DEI Initiatives** Here the author provides frameworks to guide you in turning your DEI objectives and goals into specific strategies. He addresses how to craft DEI statements and how to gauge progress. This step concludes with examples of both personal and organizational strategic plans. Dr. Pinkett points out that people often rely on training to foster behavior change. Instead, he recommends a "Personal DEI Learning Journey" a series of activities and experiences designed to achieve change, learning, and new performance outcomes.
- **Step 5: DEI Impact** The final step explores how to determine DEI impact. The author discusses data analysis using scorecards and dashboards. Re-administering the DEI assessments from Step 1 is a key component of evaluating results and establishing new baselines as you continue to improve. He also addresses the power of "DEI storytelling" integrating results and findings to craft and communicate compelling DEI stories. "DEI storytelling enables you to personalize the DEI journey, contextualize data, chronicle progress, synthesize findings, integrate results, and comprehensively demonstrate impact," he writes

"The ultimate objective," Dr. Pinkett explains, "is to make DEI a part of your DNA. Your overarching aim is that the five-step, never-ending, continuous cycle of data-driven DEI becomes a natural part of who you are and what you do." **DATA-DRIVEN DEI** provides the tools that people need to achieve this aim for themselves and their organizations.

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

DR. RANDAL PINKETT, author of **DATA-DRIVEN DEI**, is an entrepreneur, innovator, and DEI expert. He is the co-founder, chairman, and CEO of BCT Partners, a global research, training, and data analytics firm whose mission is to provide insights about diverse people that lead to equity. The company has been recognized by Forbes as one of America's Best Management Consulting Firms, Ernst & Young as EY Entrepreneur of the Year, Manage HR Magazine as a Top 10 Firm for Diversity & Inclusion, the Black Enterprise BE100s list of the nation's largest Black-owned businesses, and the Inc. 5000 list of the fastest-growing private companies in America.

An international public speaker, Dr. Pinkett is the author or co-author of *Black Faces in High Places, Black Faces in White Places, Campus CEO*, and *No-Money Down CEO*. He holds a B.S. in electrical engineering from Rutgers University; an M.S. in computer science from the University of Oxford; and an M.S in electrical engineering, plus an MBA and Ph.D. from MIT. The first African American to receive a Rhodes Scholarship at Rutgers University, he was inducted into the Academic All-America Hall of Fame as a high jumper, long jumper, sprinter, and captain of the Rutgers men's track and field team. Dr. Plnkett was also the Season Four winner of the reality television show, *The Apprentice*. You can learn more at www.datadrivendei.com.