



The 3 Big Questions for a Frantic Family: A Leadership Fable... about Restoring Sanity to the Most Important Organization in Your Life

Patrick Lencioni

[Download now](#)

[Read Online](#) 

The 3 Big Questions for a Frantic Family: A Leadership Fable... about Restoring Sanity to the Most Important Organization in Your Life

Patrick Lencioni

The 3 Big Questions for a Frantic Family: A Leadership Fable... about Restoring Sanity to the Most Important Organization in Your Life Patrick Lencioni

In this unique and groundbreaking book, business consultant and *New York Times* best-selling author Patrick Lencioni turns his sights on the most important organization in our lives--the family. As a husband and the father of four young boys, Lencioni realized the discrepancy between the time and energy his clients put into running their organizations and the reactive way most people run their personal lives. Having experienced the stress of a frantic family firsthand, he and his wife began applying some of the tools he uses with Fortune 500 companies at home, and with surprising results.

The 3 Big Questions for a Frantic Family: A Leadership Fable... about Restoring Sanity to the Most Important Organization in Your Life Details

Date : Published September 1st 2008 by Jossey-Bass (first published 2008)

ISBN : 9780787995324

Author : Patrick Lencioni

Format : Hardcover 221 pages

Genre : Leadership, Parenting, Business, Nonfiction, Family, Self Help, Marriage

 [Download The 3 Big Questions for a Frantic Family: A Leadership ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The 3 Big Questions for a Frantic Family: A Leadershi ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online The 3 Big Questions for a Frantic Family: A Leadership Fable... about Restoring Sanity to the Most Important Organization in Your Life Patrick Lencioni

From Reader Review The 3 Big Questions for a Frantic Family: A Leadership Fable... about Restoring Sanity to the Most Important Organization in Your Life for online ebook

Tigran Mamikonian says

This is another leadership fable from Pat Lencioni which attracted my attention due to very interesting angle of the management/strategy topic considered - leadership and management in families.

Author as always provides an fable from life before explaining the model itself. If you would ask me to give a 1-sentence narrative of the book it would be: a family has to be managed as a company, i.e. it should have a single and agreed-upon values and strategy, shared context and clear and visible short-term priority to be accomplished.

So Author says that though families are inevitably frantic, stressful and challenging for all members and parents, if families use the proposed model they can achieve more meaningful, effective, fulfilling and happy family life.

The model proposes 3 questions to be first answered then constantly discussed and always shared in a visible place for example in the kitchen.

Question 1: What makes our family unique? - i.e. what differentiates your family from every other one you know? Answering this aims to reinstate the basis of your family - its core defining values and strategy they choose.

- What values you share specifically? As an example, these values can be found if parents think what inspired their relationship in the first place, and what it was about one another that made them consider getting married.

- What strategy you choose? It is nothing more than the two or three purposeful decisions a family makes that drives how it will live week by week, month by month, year by year.

Question 2: What is your family's top priority right now? This refers to a single, agreed-upon top priority, something the family can rally around for unity and maximum impact. The best way to determine that priority is to ask - "...if we accomplish just one thing as a family in coming 2-6 months, what that would be?"

Question 3: How do you talk about and use the answers to Question 1 and Question 2. The idea here is that the answers should be regularly discussed at meetings and also they have to be put in some place visible to all members of the family (eg. whiteboard in the kitchen).

To make the model work Author proposes to add to the picture:

- Defining objectives for Your family Top Priority (Question 2) - these are those steps/aspects of the top priority to be accomplished for the successful completion of top priority, and;
- Standard objectives - these are those standard objectives which should be monitored always, they can be Friends, Fitness, Finance, Faith, etc.

Here is the great template and summary of the model prepared by author
<http://www.tablegroup.com/imo/media/d...>

It is also recommended to use color coding during meetings or on whiteboard to assess progress of each aspect of Defining objectives and Standard objectives - Green - on track, Yellow - at risk, Red - means you are way behind and it needs immediate attention.

All these done, we are achieving clear Context for the family. AND AUTHOR GIVES A GREAT STRESS TO VERY IMPORTANT IDEA TO ME - IMPORTANCE OF CONTEXT: without context every decision that confronts us, every situation we encounter, calls for unnecessary anxiety, stressful uncertainty, and unproductive conflict. Which, in turn, makes our lives much more challenging than they need to be.

In the bottom line, I rate this book with 5 stars for trying to cope with very difficult subject with such structured way, however sometimes the story line in the fable might be lost, but explanation and examples in the Model section are great! So enjoy and have great family in the most important organization of you life.

Danielle says

My husband, who only reads management books, is insisting that I read this one.

Maria says

The gist of this book is quite simple. All you need to do is answer these three big questions:

1. What makes our family unique?
.... (include core values and anchor points)
2. What is our most important priority in the next two to six months?
.... 2a. To do that we will...
.... 2b. We will also have to stay on top of our regular responsibilities...
3. How will we use our answers and keep them alive?

That's it.

By core values, the author means 2-3 values your family rates highly. For me, they are honesty and dependability. For my brother, it's fun, (and he refuses to list more than that). By anchor points, he's referring to the things that are true about your family, as in, 'Mom stays at home,' or 'we go to church every week.'

2a and 2b refer to the direct objectives and standard objectives, respectively. This is basically four to five things you need to do to realize the priority in the next two to six months, and four to five things that need to keep happening in order for you to be happy and healthy (like managing finances, or continuing to work out).

#3 simply means that you schedule a time to look over both standard and direct objectives, and examine the priority to make certain that you're on the right track and that it's still the priority for you. To rate your success level on the standard and direct objectives, Lencioni recommends you use three colors: Green for going swimmingly, Yellow for needs work, but acceptable, and Red for this needs immediate attention.

The book is organized in a different way than I've seen up to now... but perhaps this is the style of Lencioni's

3. ??? ?? ????? ?????????? ????????? ?????? ????????? ? ?????
????? ?? ?????????? ????????? ????????? ?????????? ????????? ?????? ? ?????????? ????????????? ?????, ??
?????????????. ?????????, ?? ? ?????? ?????? ??? ???? ? ????????????? ?????? ?? ????????????? ?????????) ?
?????????? ?????????? ???????.

Evan Hoekzema says

Really enjoyed this book, very easy read and incredibly practical. As life has picked up for us I've thought about different ways to bring clarity and purpose (strategy) to what we do as a family but it's seemed forced and ultimately unusable. Lencioni does a great job boiling it down to three questions and a way for families to adopt important short term goals while also keeping the big picture in mind.

Cory Howell says

I've discovered that Pat Lencioni's books are about the only books in the "management philosophy" genre that I can stomach...and even, dare I say it, enjoy. 3 Big Questions for the Frantic Family was even more enjoyable than his 3 Virtues of the Team Player book. It's almost scary how well some of his observations in this book fit our family. In fact, the only reason I'm giving it 4 stars instead of 5 is that I'm kind of scared to try the program described in the book. But I'm even more scared of NOT trying it, if that makes any sense.

Virginia says

Surprisingly, I enjoyed the fable part the most. Then, I remembered that I tend to absorb lessons via story more so than a list of instructions (like a business book). I can see why Lencioni uses fables. (I mean, if Jesus taught in parables, it makes sense, right?)

Like all self-help books, though the information is useful, without my actual implementation, it is dead and useless. I do think this will be more useful to me as my kids get older and do more things. It would definitely be a benefit to me now, however, I may be too lazy. LOL.

However, it does bring up important issues - especially this day and age when we have the means and ability to sign up our children for a multitude of activities. I look forward to forcing my husband to read some of it. :D

Cindy M says

I really like the ideas for creating family cohesiveness. The fable was maybe a bit forced, but the tools the author presents seem really helpful. Looking forward to doing this with our family.

Joseph Dalton says

This was a fun read. I didn't expect the fable when I started, so that made it a fast read, easy to pick up for a short time and put it down. The concept/lesson could be covered very briefly - maybe in 3-5 chapters, but the story drives home the probable effectiveness of the method. Relating the concept to business also helps give concrete ideology to the theory for the three questions.

I can easily recommend it, but may not be life-changing for everyone. Some families may find themselves looking to make drastic changes after reading it though, and that would be a good thing.

Gina says

Definitely not a great literary work, but a fun way to think about both family life and personal goals. I have read other books that suggest things like family mission statements, but this is the first one to focus on how to use those mission statements to determine goals and then to list the steps required to make progress toward those goals.

My only criticism would be that standard objectives receive very little attention. To simply say, "Stay on top of our regular responsibilities" seems a bit disingenuous in this sort of "How to" manual for pulling your life together. I think that those regular responsibilities are often being neglected or are part of the problem that sends one looking for this book in the first place, and getting the dishes washed, the laundry done, the errands run, and the bills paid are completely necessary, even though they probably don't move the ball forward on your family's rallying cry...

Lara Krupicka says

Remember "Who Moved My Cheese?"? Think that book, only couched in a family setting. It's another "fable" - which is basically a literary term used to describe a made up story that perfectly illustrates the point the author wants to make. How convenient. It's also a way of taking a short topic and stretching it out to a book-length work. I have little tolerance for the fable as marketing gimmick.

The sad thing is, I think Lencioni has some important things to share with families - important concepts that can make a big difference in family life. The trouble is, all the good stuff gets buried at the end of this long, drawn-out fable thing.

Really, this is a non-fiction book. And the average reader could save themselves a bunch of time and just skip to the end (pp. 179 to 200) where Lencioni gets into what the book is really about. Those 21 pages are worth reading. But I wouldn't spend money to buy the whole book just for those few pages. Borrow it from a friend. Check it out of the library. And skip the fluffly "leadership fable" thing.

Lewis Van Osdel says

Most Pat Lencioni books focus on how to fix specific work problems i.e. boring meetings, team building, or etc. This book takes ideas from the business consulting world and how to apply them to the family.

The 3 big questions are

1. What makes the family unique?
2. What is the top priority for the next few months?

There is a rallying cry. Then are defining objectives. Lastly there are standard objectives.

3. Have consistent weekly family meeting to measure progress with the family goals and re-adjust the goals.
-

Nicoleta says

Exemplu cu Southwest Airlines ?i valoarea lor, umorul.

Cindy says

Pretty good application of business goal-setting principles to the running of a family - and the author applies it to all types of families (dual parent, single parent, empty nesters, even singles who want more sanity in their lives). It is a very accessible book and the 'fable' gives a true-to-life example of the evolution and application of the principles.

Anne says

I am so pleasantly surprised by how much I liked this book. I think I expected it to be just another presentation of the family leadership strategies I have read about before but never managed to implement. But it really isn't! If I were going to recommend a family leadership book, I think this would be the one. It doesn't bog you down or make you feel guilty about all that you "should" be doing, but you can see how implementing this very simple tool could really change your family life. I am between a 3 and a 4, but I am giving it a 4 because I appreciated the simplicity and am actually motivated to try the method.
