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## Attraction Means You Are Willing to be Different

Hello Everyone,

Well, it's been about a year and this topic popped in my head again. If it seems familiar, thanks for understanding my need to really express my feelings about how being different is wonderful.

Maybe because I keep encountering people who are "different" or "want a be's" still hiding under conformity. I recently spoke to a group of several hundred government employees and I was amazed how many people in this large group were willing to share their secrets about what gives them joy.

I have always considered myself "different" and there are probably lots of people who have thought that as well. My passions are diversified and I tend to follow them as well as my heart. Of course, my desire for professional and personal improvement have crafted a career of coaching, consulting, speaking, writing and now the TV world has opened up to me to be a hostess or spokesperson.

My love of music and entertainment has opened up a world of fantastic people with incredible talent that I can call my friends. Take a look at my new friends.

### Success May Mean Being Different

One of the great paradoxes of life is that being "normal" or "reasonable" often means settling for ordinary results, while success requires that we step outside our normal boundaries, be different and, often, uncomfortable.

Highly successful people are, by definition, not average people!

Have you ever been criticized for dressing, speaking, acting or thinking (or being) different? The subtle and not-so-subtle pressures to accept conventional norms are powerful. "To get along, you have to go along."

All of us have been pressured to conform at one time or another. Have you ever been told to:

- "Sit still" in school
- "Stop interrupting"
- "Stop making a scene"

Often times we say things without thinking about them. Becoming more aware of what we are saying will allow us to be more connected to others and ourselves. By being aware of what we are saying we become more conscious of how what we are saying is affecting others and how it is affecting us. Simply saying words out of habit doesn't add anything to the conversation or support other people, or ourselves for that matter. Being more conscious of what you are saying you can connect at a deeper level, both with others and yourself.

Keep in mind the following when you feel you are being different:

**Marie Curie, Florence Nightingale, Helen Keller, Amelia Earhart, Eleanor Roosevelt, and Oprah Winfrey are not admired because they were "average" people!** Thomas Jefferson, Thomas Edison, Charles Lindbergh, Franklin Roosevelt and Bill Gates were not conventional people. Abraham Lincoln is widely regarded as the greatest American president, yet the thing he was most known for among his friends was his obnoxious refusal to quit running for office, even after he lost 32 elections! That is not normal!

**One of the things that makes America and capitalism great is our love of individuality.** We have always had a loving attitude toward our "mad inventors." The Wright brothers thought they could fly! Henry Ford thought he could put a car in every garage. Ben Franklin flew a kite in a thunder storm (didn't his mother tell him to come in out of the rain?). Mary Kay thought she could make a living selling make-up and Steve Jobs thought every home would some day have a personal computer! That's just crazy!

**All great ideas were crazy before they were brilliant.** Alexander Bell thought he could talk over copper wires, and even worse, Marconi thought he could send messages through thin air! When David Sarnoff wanted to launch the first radio network (now NBC), one investor ridiculed him by asking, "Who would pay to send a message to no one in particular?" Jules Verne thought people might one day travel under the ocean or, even more ridiculous, fly in outer space. How crazy was that!?

Truthfully, a lot of crazy ideas really are...crazy. We've all had brilliant ideas in the middle of the night, only to find that in the clear light of day they weren't worth pursuing. I've made many fortunes while taking my shower, only to find them going down the drain when I tried to tell my partners about them. Just because an idea is weird doesn't mean it's wonderful. Many great ideas (and fortunes) have been lost because the genius who thought it up was intimidated by someone's comment that, "You can't do that!"

To achieve your unique version of success, follow your heart. Yes, you'll want to learn from others. Yes, you'll want to obey the law and applicable regulations, but aside from those things, you become great by being exactly and uniquely yourself.

This is a call for more eccentrics, more individuals, and more creative, unrepentant adventurers. Go where your heart and your instincts lead you. Follow your dream. I loved watching Susan Boyle following her dream on Britain's got Talent. Instead of following the "normal" highway, blaze a new path and leave a trail for others to follow.

Here's to BECOMING in 2009!

Contact Deanna Frazier For Speaking and Coaching!

Deanna Frazier will speak to any size group or meeting. She incorporates humor and shares dating stories and advice in all of her speeches.