

CONCERNS ‘THE BANK OF MUM & DAD’ IS KILLING THE FUTURE

Many parents who were looking forward to a debt-free retirement are now helping their children enter the property market. The Australian Treasury is concerned about the trend and there are implications for financial advisors, legal professionals and regulators – not to mention mum and dad themselves.

A report on **INTHEBLACK’s website** looks at a significant and seemingly willing shift away from ‘making our own way’. Not only are adult children taking longer to leave the family home, thousands are turning to their parents for loans, gifts and guarantees to help them buy their first property.

As beautiful a gesture as it may seem to be, there are implications. And when houses are involved, those implications are big and long-lasting. [See the report here](#)

CEO MEGA BONUSES LEAVING MOST OF US SHORT-CHANGED

While the average base pay for Australia’s top CEOs has dipped more than three per cent to A\$1.86 million, many of our big bosses are receiving substantial bonuses... supposedly to encourage harder work and better results. The problem is, there’s no real evidence to suggest executive bonuses are delivering for anyone other than the CEOs.

A special report in leading business publication **INTHEBLACK** examines the growing debate around the concept that bonuses make CEOs perform any differently than they would without them. Changes are already being touted in the UK and in the US (where president Donald Trump has described CEO salaries as a disgrace and a joke).

THE RISE OF THE SOCIAL MEDIA SCAMS

Because many of us share our lives through social media networks, it is becoming increasingly easy for thieves to fleece people who are out of town – by using phantom messages to ask colleagues and relatives to make urgent payments on their behalf.

It is a case of identity theft being used to commit a theft, and the scammers are extremely slick in how they operate. A report on **INTHEBLACK’s website** explains how the sting can work, and what to be wary of. [See the report here](#)

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WHY HEADPHONES ARE THE NEW ‘CONE OF SILENCE’ AT WORK

Like it or lump it, many of us are forced to conduct our working lives in open-plan areas – with little sense of privacy or thinking space. Often, our thoughts and conversations are distracted by those around us, making it difficult to do our job. In 2017, many are turning to headphones to combat the problem.

A report on **INTHEBLACK’s** [website](#) notes that some people work to classical music, some play rock, and some even listen to ‘white noise’ to create a wall between them and the surrounding office. [See the report here.](#)

IS YOUR BOSS AN ‘X’ OR A ‘Y’?

There is a long-held view – developed by a leading management psychologist in the 1960s – that bosses view you in one of two ways. One type of boss (the X manager) views you as lazy and irresponsible, motivated purely by punishment or reward. The other variety of boss (the Y manager) believes that people want to participate, strive and achieve.

Fifty years on, as part of her regular Ethics column for **INTHEBLACK**, Dr Eva Tsahuridu (CPA Australia’s policy adviser on professional standards and governance) discusses the current-day relevance of management attitudes on what motivates workers.

The views our managers hold have a very real impact on our lives – and whether those views are productive and appropriate is another matter entirely.

HOW BIG TECH OWNS THE GAME – AND CONTROLS OUR WORLD

They are worldwide names that have become part of our lives. 24/7. Facebook, Google, Apple and Amazon. They’re known as the digital Gang of Four and they never sleep. And even though each of them makes their money in different ways, each is the master of a business model we’re all familiar with but may not really grasp – the platform.

A special report in leading business publication **INTHEBLACK** explains what the platform is all about, and how these world-beating brands are making the most of it.

When it comes to owning the game, making money and making a profit may sometimes be less important than being World Number One. Now, however, these giants are fighting to have the biggest voice, literally. One of the biggest platform battles at the moment, centres on who will rule the roost with voice command technology.

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LEADERSHIP AND THE ART OF RALLYING THE TROOPS

Is collaboration for wimps, or the only possible way to achieve genuine, long-lasting success?

The art of leadership has many components, with results seen as the ultimate measure. The question is whether the head or the herd should prevail when making business decisions, and especially when trying to make changes at work.

The latest issue of leading business publication **INTHEBLACK** explores what it takes to run a happy ship, and arrive at the desired destination.

At the end of the day, the support of the team is not only desirable – it is most likely essential to succeed. So, what is the best way to go about it?

TO ORGANISE INTERVIEWS:

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