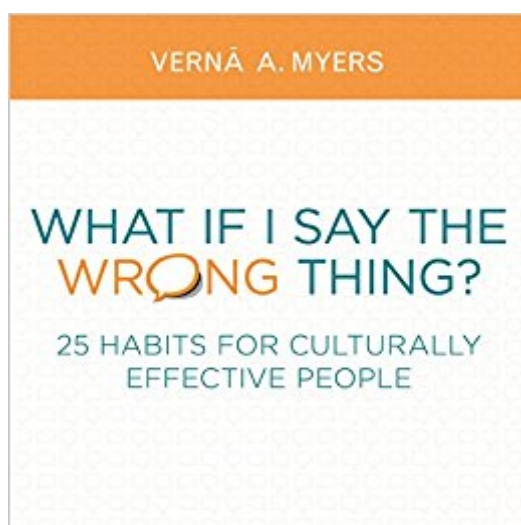


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# What If I Say The Wrong Thing?: 25 Habits For Culturally Effective People



## Synopsis

In this compelling new tip book you'll find innovative and surprising ways to keep your personal diversity journey moving and the diversity commitment of your organization. Written to make this information bite-size and accessible, you'll find quick answers to typical "What should I do?" questions, like: What if I say the wrong thing, what should I do? What if I am work and someone makes a sexist joke, what should I say? Purchase copies for everyone at your organization to make sure everyone knows the culturally effective way to approach diversity situations. With this book they can be prepared and practiced at moving diversity forward!

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

In a very clever, relatable and user-friendly fashion, she's put her finger on the things that many of us struggle with as we balance our desire to be inclusive while embracing and honoring our differences. Her 25 habits are pearls of wisdom, packaged in personal stories to which we can all relate. (Linda K. Myers, P.C., Partner, Kirkland & Ellis LLP) True cultural effectiveness grows not out of cognitive brightness, but rather "emotional, social, and spiritual intelligence." Verna makes clear that these qualities have the greatest chance for being developed when we humble ourselves by admitting what we don't know. One of the most compelling themes in the book is the simple, yet profound idea that enhancing opportunities for inclusion not only requires modification of our office cultures, but we are frequently challenged to also change ourselves. A truly wonderful book! (James K. Grasty, vice president & assistant general counsel, Office of General Counsel, Merck & Co., Inc.) I love the format of the book; it acknowledges implicitly that bad and old habits are

hard to break and require alternative behaviors to practice in order to form new ones. I was delighted by the simple yet actionable new behaviors and responses offered for controversial habits. Practitioners will benefit greatly from the wisdom of this guide! (Pamela Culpepper, senior vice president global chief diversity and inclusion officer, PepsiCo, Inc.)[O]ne of the most useful books I have read on how to combat the tensions that inherently occur in a diverse global workplace. . .with concrete tips for individuals and organizations on how to handle varied situations that frequently occur in the workplace and in our personal lives. (Theodore J. Boutrous, Jr., partner & member of executive and management committees, Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP)

Verna Myers, Esq., principal of Verna Myers Consulting Group, LLC (VMCG), is a nationally recognized expert on diversity and inclusion within law firms, law departments and law schools. A highly sought after speaker at numerous conferences worldwide, Verna sponsors her own successful annual Opus Conference on Race and Ethnicity in Large Law Firms.

Verna Myers takes key points and tips from her awesome book, *Moving Diversity Forward: How To Go From Well-Meaning to Well-Doing*, and condenses them into a concise, informative, insightful and entertaining pocket guide. Using personal stories, business examples, and psychology research, she addresses all the diversity challenges that can arise in the workplace, around the family table, or even in the supermarket. Myers offers cogent analyses of how racism and prejudice influence all of us, and offers positive and practical suggestions for being effective in our culturally diverse world. I bought 10 copies to give to colleagues and clients, and I'm sure I'll order more.

This book made me take a second look at myself and want to make changes in my thinking when it comes to different types of people and situations. I suggested this book for my book club, the discussion was about our different isms and biases that we weren't even aware we had. I especially enjoyed the historically advantage and disadvantaged chart which will allow you to determine which group you belong to. The author chooses one-up and one-down for each category which I found interesting. This is a book I can refer back to for help in my daily walk in life. *What if I say the Wrong Thing* is a book for everyone and I have suggested it to family and friends.

A quick read and worth every minute. Verna has some easy and enlightening tips to help us all out. I have heard her speak and her voice comes through her writing. We are all human, we all make mistakes, this is a great book for helping us get over them.

Ever purchased books with the intent to read them immediately? Instead, some of them end up placed on the---I will get to it---shelf of good intentions. Please consider doing yourself (and others) a kind favor---get this book, read this book, and fortify your journey on every possible level.

This purchase arrived in a timely manner."We think we earn what we have, but it is a gift. What did we do to earn the gift of life?"

As an educated white professional leader in my field, I have been trying to incorporate diversity, inclusion, and social justice into everything I do for 25 years. This book is a practical, succinct guide to identifying all the situations I've run into and what the culturally competent responses would have been. Wish I had had it at my fingertips all those years. A lot of good analysis and advice packed into a simple, easily digestible format. Excellent, accessible, practical advice.

Might help you forgive yourself for the stupid things you have said to minority people in the past. Gives concrete examples of what to say and what not to say. This is perhaps the most useful book I have seen to help white advocates change our behavior in concrete and helpful ways.

Once I started reading I had to finish this. The whole time I kept thinking "I have to be able to retell these concepts with the same passion and effectiveness". My wheels are already turning with ways to especially present these ideas to children.

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