

## **SUBJECT: Modern Management Techniques**

### **Dead Horses**

The tribal wisdom of the Dakota Indians, Passed on from generation to generation, says that whenever you discover you are riding a dead horse, the best strategy is to dismount.

In modern education and government however, a whole range of far more advanced strategies are often employed, such as:

1. Buying a stronger whip.
2. Changing riders.
3. Threatening the dead horse with termination.
4. Appointing a committee to study the horse.
5. Arranging to visit other countries to see how others ride dead horses.
6. Lowering the standards so that dead horses can be included.
7. Re-classifying the dead horse as “living, but impaired.”
8. Hiring outside contractors to ride the dead horse.
9. Harnessing several dead horses together to increase the speed.
10. Providing additional funding and/or training to increase the dead horse’s performance.
11. Doing a productivity study to see if lighter riders would improve the dead horse’s performance.
12. Declaring that as the dead horse does not have to be fed it is less costly, carries lower overhead, and therefore contributes substantially more to the bottom line of the economy than do some other horses.
13. Re-writing the expected performance requirements for all horses. Consider discontinuing inbreeding.
14. Promoting the dead horse to a supervisory position.

“ -- the safest course is to do nothing against one’s conscience. With this secret, we can enjoy life and have no fear from death.” - Voltaire