

# Progressive Leadership

Challenging the theory of  
the firm in the 21<sup>st</sup> century



Greg Park

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# **Progressive Leadership: Challenging the Theory of the Firm in the 21st Century**

BY

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# Preface

Whilst outwardly exuding an air of confidence and competence I, like many others, have for long recognised that there was some deeply embedded factor, silent and hidden to many, yet not all, creating a fog of confusion within the firm, acting as a significant drag factor on operational effectiveness and the attainment of optimal firm performance. The result has been that perspiration, persistence, silent acquiescence and a determined, if often blinkered focus, rather than an understanding of and consensus on firm purpose, guiding principles and priorities, have largely been the primary determinants in achieving firm targets, objectives and career progression. Any efforts to address this drag factor by one or a number of individual leaders, whilst often instinctually and widely acknowledged as overdue, were consciously or subconsciously viewed with suspicion and fear, if not belligerence for their potentially negative career implications.

My previous books have fleetingly alluded to this apparently immovable and embedded operational leadership blindspot. However, after some decades as an operational manager and leader within a variety of national and global firms, aided by scholarly research, I have in this text sought to question and undermine the purpose, principles and perspectives which continue to support a pervasive logic which I consider to now be wholly dysfunctional within the twenty-first century business context. This dysfunction, in my view, has ultimately not only consistently created a severe negative impact on optimal firm performance and survival but also on socio-economic growth and well-being.

I therefore write this book as a means of readers achieving a short cut to relevant reflection and commitment. By this means, it is my intention to achieve a re-orientation in cognitive priority towards a more enlightened, progressive and psychologically focused leadership mindset in this dynamic twenty-first century business and socio-economic context. It is my hope that this will ensure more contextually relevant leadership insight, perspectives and priorities going forward, evident more during the front rather than the back end of future leaders' careers.

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