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Be Challenged & Lead On!

Published on July 2, 2019 [Edit article](#) | [View stats](#)**Anupama Kinatukara, PgMP®, PMP®**Certified Speaker, Coach, Trainer - Woman
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Have you been challenged lately by anyone? Did you ever feel threatened or intimidated when you were challenged? How did you feel when you were asked to take on more responsibility than you were used to? What was your first reaction?

Let me share with you from my own personal experience.

I have been privileged to be one of the minority -

(1) I learnt how to **focus** on my priorities being amidst a class full of boys (when only 2 girls opted for Computer Science specialization) - it was a CHALLENGE being an introvert & having studied at one of the most prestigious institution in India (**IIT-Bombay**).

(2) I learnt how to have **fun** alone & make new friends in a foreign country (when I was sent to Belfast, Northern Ireland for an assignment to work at the **British Telecom** office) - it was a challenge not being surrounded by family & familiar faces.

(3) I learnt how to **fight** for my rights at work (when I was not given the promotion I deserved and had to remind my supervisors about my accomplishments) - it was a challenge to blow my own horn when I was brought up in an environment where I was taught to be "humble" always.

(4) I learnt how to **find** the positive in any situation (when my assignment ended earlier than expected) and enjoy the precious time with my children at home - it was a challenge to start over again since I realized that I had a clean slate & I was meant for so much more!

Have you wondered what life would be like if you could plan your own day? Did you ever wish that you were given the flexibility to work from anywhere in the world? How did you feel when you met someone who got inspired by you? What is your greatest strength?

Let me give you a glimpse of how I got to LEAD and become a "Woman Entrepreneur" - President of **ZNDKIN Solns: Be Challenged & Lead On!**

I realized that I was an exception and I am UNIQUE (that's also the meaning of my name Anupama) -

U - Uncommon Leader who relates with her team members and other leaders, knowing that they are doing their best at work and always acknowledging them for their efforts privately and publicly. *"Your ultimate goal as a leader should be to work hard enough and strategically enough that you have more than enough to give and share with others."* John C. Maxwell

N - Nurturing Leader who empowers others with the idea of making a bigger impact than they are currently being able to do by themselves. *"The bottom line in leadership isn't how far we advance ourselves but how far we advance others."* John C. Maxwell

I - Inspirational Leader who instills the confidence in others to take steps that are out of their comfort zone. *"If we are growing we are always going to be outside our comfort zone."* John C. Maxwell

Q - Qualified Leader who has spent time studying & applying the concepts and methodologies from PMBOK published by Project Management Institute(PMI) to get PMP certified and was recognized to be amongst the top 2500 in the world to be PgMP ([Program Management Professional](#)) certified.

E - Equipped as a Leader with a lot of experience leading others in the corporate world globally (Asia, Europe, America) - I have been working as a Project/Program Manager for the past 15+ years with Fortune 500 companies (like IBM, MetLife, TIAA).

