

## CHAPTER 29

# THE FENG SHUI OF “THINKING BIG”

BY DR. LINJIE CHOU

Throughout my career as a public relations strategist, I have had the privilege of meeting and working with some of the greatest leaders and extraordinary public figures all around the world, from Shanghai to Monaco, Geneva to Beverly Hills, and almost everywhere else in between. In working with this elite group of achievers, I have discovered that they possess specific qualities that make it possible for them to accomplish their goals. It's not their bank accounts and it's not luck. The main factor that sets these superstars and world figures apart from average folks is how they think. They understand the relationship between the 'idea' and 'reality' and how to bridge that gap to achieve success. So how do they think?

### **THEY THINK BIG**

Thinking big is the key to success. This is true whether you are training to win an Olympic gold medal, auditioning for a major Hollywood role, or campaigning for a high-ranking political position. Thinking big is a frame of mind that is based on two fundamental conditions that must be present in order for you to be successful.

The first condition is visualizing success before it happens – picturing it and finding the right energy flow to carry the idea to reality. The second is location, location, location – ensuring you are in the right place and

that your network is established and in place to help you achieve your goal. These are the two main principles that allow people who Think Big to succeed, while others simply believe it's all about 'luck' or 'being in the right place at the right time' and therefore never truly believe they can achieve what their heart desires.

What many don't realize is that the person who succeeds in winning the major role in a movie, or the political candidate who is elected to office, visualized their success and ensured that they were in the right place at the right time. They didn't sit back and wait for luck. They created their own reality by Thinking Big.

Feng Shui is an ancient Chinese philosophy that seeks to harmonize people with their environment. This is often adapted to suit a variety of applications, such as in the placement of furniture in a room to create the right energy flow. The same principle applies to Thinking Big – harmonizing one's dreams and goals with the right energy flow to make achieving success a reality. This is the Feng Shui of Thinking Big.

### **Principle One: Visualizing Success and Finding the Right Energy Flow**

What distinguishes a highly successful individual from the average Joe? The successful individual believes that anything is possible provided he (or she) sets the right energy in motion, while the average Joe is only able to believe in what he (or she) can see or touch. The successful individual has dreams that are open to the challenges and moments of mystery. Dreams are related to reality, and all reality must first come from the creation of an initial idea. This is why dreaming big collects the height of energy to create the initial "thought" or blue print of the reality. The average Joe is skeptical of the possibilities that exist beyond their own backyard and therefore never truly follow their dreams and work towards achieving them.

Visualizing one's success is important – picturing yourself enjoying the success of reaching your goal is the first step to ever achieving that goal. This is the reason why many people who have accomplished great things in their lives are referred to as visionaries. They literally envision the success of their idea right from the beginning. Picturing the success in your mind is the first step to setting the right energy in motion – you are sending out the vision of success into the universe for the universe to set into motion as reality.

*How do we put the right energy in motion?*

We must understand energy to understand how we can use it to Think Big. In terms of physics, energy is something that an object possesses that can be transferred or converted into another form. Thinking Big involves taking one's idea, and with the right flow of energy, converting it into reality.

What does this mean? We have all heard the expression, "Think positive!" The truth is that thinking positive is the equivalent of sending out positive energy – and, as we know from physics, energy can be transferred or converted into another form. Therefore, sending out the right energy is likely to attract positive things and successes in your life.

The very nature of our universe is such that it records the amount of positive energy that you send out. The amount of positive energy that you send out will eventually come back to you – it's one of the laws of our universe. If you spend your time thinking of all the reasons that you can't possibly achieve your goals you are creating a negative reality that will block the positive energy flow. Negative thinking is the thought process of the average Joe. It needs to be eliminated to make way for a positive energy flow.

The speed of energy determines the speed at which you will achieve success. Your passion and the energy burning in your mind is what will propel you to reach the heights you desire. This is not some hocus-pocus theory. Major governments around the world are trying to accelerate their own national interests by researching and discovering metaphysical energy, through competitions in Hadron Collider machine construction.

Hadron Collider aims to find the vortex of atoms in their past, present, and future forms. By accelerating the speed of light, Hadron Collider hopes to find the height of energy. This may sound like science fiction, but the truth is that energy or invisible forces guide our very existence.

*Thinking Big with this kind of focus purifies your energy.*

If scientists and governments are able to realize that by focusing energy they can potentially reach new heights that may have unknown benefits to mankind and our planet and beyond, then individuals should realize

that focusing energy can help them accomplish great things in their own lives as well.

Focusing energy within each of us, and using that energy to better our lives is not a new idea or philosophy. Ancient Chinese wisdom calls our vital life force energy the “Chi.” Hindus call it the “Chakra.” These ancient wisdoms have long known that energy determines our passions and souls. That’s the true calling of our desire to make things happen. Every person has their own calling, and it doesn’t necessarily correspond to their role in reality. Unfortunately, most people do not know how to use energy to discover and embrace their true calling.

Steve Jobs was one of the past century’s most influential and accomplished visionaries and creative geniuses. His famous quote: “Making a dent in the universe” really signifies what energy means. Being successful is not merely striving for fame, and money and material success – it is being able to create a legacy. A legacy is what sets someone apart – creating a new reality – one that has the potential to carry on beyond the realm of what was once thought possible.

The word “legacy” is derived from the Latin word “Legotum,” which literally translates to “I mean” or “I choose.” Aiming to create a system or a solution that no one has done before in your industry, or offering services never dreamed of before, will set you apart from the crowd. This can be accomplished by focusing one’s energy into a positive flow that will help create the reality you desire.

In terms of Thinking Big, setting the right energy in motion and finding the right energy flow must be accomplished in order to achieve success. But in order to obtain true success you must combine this first principle - visualizing success and finding the right energy flow - with the second principle: Location, location, location.

### **Principle Two: Location, Location, Location**

Similar to what you were likely taught in your college foundational course Business 101, Thinking Big involves surrounding yourself with the right people, resources, and opportunities that will ensure your success. Being in the right location is critical – it puts you in the centre of the right people, resources, and opportunities that will allow you to set the right

energy in motion to achieve your goals.

The right location for the goals of an actress is going to be very different from the right location for an archaeologist. Where you need to be is going to depend on the industry in which you desire success. For many this will require relocating to a new city, state, or even country.

While relocating can be scary, it is often necessary for success. It is a known fact that relocating is considered to be one of life's biggest stressors. New friends, new daily acquaintances, and a new home – all of these require some adjustment. But the relocation itself is small in comparison to the payoff.

Consider these following celebrities and other public figures that would have likely never succeeded in their fields if they had stayed in their hometowns and continued to 'dream' of making it big.

*Jennifer Lawrence: She convinced her family that moving to Los Angeles from Kentucky when she was only 14 was necessary. Imagine what she would be doing if she had kept quiet and not followed her dream?*

*Taylor Swift: Although already writing songs and doing theatre in Pennsylvania, her family relocated to Tennessee to allow Taylor the opportunity to fulfil her dreams.*

*The Hemsworth brothers: Chris, Luke, and Liam Hemsworth were living in Australia when the family decided to move to the U.S. to follow their dreams of acting. It paid off for all three brothers.*

*Jerry Yang: He moved from Taipei, Taiwan, to attend Stanford, where he graduated in 1990. In 1995 he started Yahoo. His net worth when he stepped down was over \$1.15 billion.*

*Vinod Dham: He moved from Pune, India to the U.S. in 1975 where he arrived with only \$8 to his name. He graduated from university and worked for Intel, eventually inventing the company's first flash memory stick. He was CEO of Silicon Spice when it sold for \$1.2 billion.*

*Elie Wiesel: He wrote with very minimal success about the Holocaust after surviving Auschwitz-Birkenau during World War II. He moved to*

*New York City – a major publishing capital - in 1956 and went on to publish more than 40 books about the Holocaust. He went on to win the Nobel Peace Prize.*

What all of these successful people discovered was that their location connected them to the right energy base. Having the social contacts and networks of those with a similar wavelength is necessary – what attracts people is energy. Max Weber, a famous sociologist, once said: “Men are social animals.”

*We are all directly or subtly influenced by the people around us.*

One of the top Chinese billionaires once told me: “If you hang out with 10 successful people you are likely to be the 11th.” Mingling yourself into the right social network is therefore more about the support of energy rather than the opportunities. But with this support of energy also comes opportunities...

Successful people tend to have more big thoughts and are less skeptical of achieving the ‘impossible’: their energies are what can influence you. Success does not come easily – you have to be willing to step out of your comfort zone – this is something that all successful people share in common.

Nine-to-five folks on the other hand saturate their minds with questions of: “What if?” They don’t see their life integrated with their work, while successful individuals see their work as their passion – and it is the passion that is integrated into their work and their lives. Settling on an average location negatively influences your attitude and your life because you are surrounded by those who cannot look beyond their nine-to-five existence.

The energy of many successful, positive-minded people can be felt in the air as you stroll down Sheikh Zayed Boulevard in Dubai or Century Avenue in Pudong, China. Even sitting down and having a cocktail inside Hotel du Paris in Monte Carlo, or sipping a cup of afternoon tea at Claridge’s in London, you are touched by the positive attitude of the people around you. Often this will also lead into an engaging and mind-blowing conversation....

*In essence, one can't be a true hero without a world class stage.*

Location, location, location applies to much more than real estate. It is a mindset in the right location, surrounded by others with the right mindset and flow of energy. Being in the right location is what links you with the right people, resources, and opportunities that would otherwise not exist if you stayed in the wrong location.

This is the Feng Shui of Thinking Big. It is what sets the dreamers apart from the achievers. And these two principles are key to success.

If I had remained in Shanghai, I would not have built the career I have today working as a public relations strategist for some of the most successful and famous people in the world. It is my job to link my clients with the right contacts and decision makers in their fields, and it always amazes me to watch how these contacts and connections grow, often exceeding even my own expectations for success. It is a privilege to help people explore their dreams and set them on the path to help their dreams become their reality.