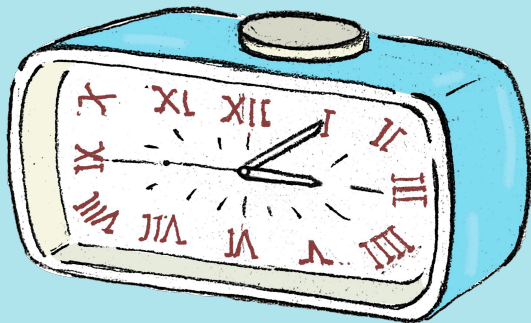


COMMUNION

MAVEN LEADERSHIP COLLECTIVE 2025 IMPACT REPORT



CHAPTER 1. ESSAY 1

The Hard R. The Death of Rigor

Corey Davis (he|they)

Founder & Creative Director

Maven Leadership Collective

maven.
Maven Leadership Collective

The Hard R: The Death of Rigor
Corey Davis
COMMUNION 2025 Maven Impact Report
Chapter 1 | Essay 1

Corey Davis ([00:00](#)):

I think shade is a perfect way to bring back rigor. I think that we should normalize saying to people, "How do you know that? What is your evidence? How did you prepare for this? " Rigor is our way of knowing what we know. It answers the question, how did we know that? It is the evidence of the conclusions we reach. It is the standard for our expertise. It is our way of being able to assure accountability. There has been a death of rigor because we have sacrificed convenience over substance. We have seen our relationships, our interpersonal relationships, our workplace relationships, atrophy. And that has had a chilling effect on our ability to come together as a community and to have greater social impact. There is a level of expectation that people should be able to have of us, that we are able to keep our word, that the work that we are doing is rooted in some kind of evidence or support that we are coming fully engaged and willing to do the work of being together and building just communities.

Corey Davis ([01:19](#)):

And I do think that we can set boundaries by saying, "I'm only willing to engage in things of substance. I am only willing to be part of things that are worth time and effort. And if things are too cringe or we don't want to be seen as trying, then really that's not anything that I want to participate in. We are building ecosystems of support and that means and requires that everybody, every institution, every element of that ecosystem has a part to play and that requires effort if we are to be able to bring about the world we really want to see. We see it in the validation that researchers at University of Miami provided for our leadership development program or the medical professionals that vetted our wellbeing initiatives early on in our existence and operation. And now we see it in the ways that we help social impact organizations across the country, out in the field.

Corey Davis ([02:27](#)):

And we take what we're learning out in the field and bring it back into our immersive learning experiences so that the approach is always refreshed and that the needs of community are what we focus on in the decisions we make about how

we mobilize resources, how we offer enrichment programs, and how it is that we go about collaborating with people in our ecosystem.