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## ***Think!, Don't Blink***

### ***NEW BOOK SHOWS HOW TO SAVE OUR CULTURE AND SOCIETY ONE MIND AT A TIME***

Washington, D.C. – Outraged by the downward spiral of American intellect and culture, Michael R. LeGault's *Think: Why Crucial Decisions Can't Be Made in the Blink of an Eye* (Threshold Editions, January 2006) offers the flip side of Malcolm Gladwell's bestselling phenomenon, *Blink*, which theorized that our best decision-making is done on impulse, without factual knowledge or critical analysis.

If bestselling books are advising us not to think, LeGault argues, it comes as no surprise that sharp, incisive reasoning has become a lost art in the daily lives of Americans. Somewhere along the line, the **Age of Reason morphed into the Age of Emotion**; this systemic erosion is **costing time, money, jobs, and lives in the twenty-first century**, leading to less fulfillment and growing dysfunction.

LeGault provides a bold, controversial, and objective analysis of the causes and solutions for:

- The **erosion of growth and market share at many established American companies**, big and small, which appear to have less chance of achieving the dynamic expansion of the past
- **Permissive parenting** and low standards that have caused an academic crisis among our children—body weights rise while grades plummet
- America's growing **political polarization**, which is a result of our reluctance to think outside our comfort zone
- Faulty planning and failure to act on information at all levels that has led to preventable disasters, such as the **Hurricane Katrina meltdown**
- A culture of **image and instant gratification**, fed by reality shows and computer games, that has rendered curiosity of the mind and spirit all but obsolete
- Stress, aversion to taking risks, and **therapy** that are replacing the traditional **American "can do" mind-set**

Far from perpetuating the stereotype of the complacent American, LeGault's **no-holds-barred analysis** asks more of us than any other societal overview: **America can fulfill its greatest potential starting today**, and we need smart teachers, smart health care workers, smart sales representatives, smart students, smart mechanics and smart leaders to make it happen. Now is the time to **THINK!**—because a mind is a terrible thing to waste.

*Michael R. LeGault is a former columnist for The Washington Times and an award-winning editor and writer. He is currently an editor with The National Post in Toronto. Think is the launch release for Mary Matalin's new imprint Threshold Editions.*

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