Crisis Management: A Few Notes on Coping with COVID-19 in Israel

Since its outbreak, the Israel authorities have been coping with the ongoing world-wide COVID-19 crisis. This essay aims to explain why we need to conceptualize and look at this event as a micro-crisis that differs from other crises with which Israel has thus far struggled. The essay advances a different lens by focusing on the early stage of the crisis and the variety of possibilities that the Israel authorities could have identified and adopted. In particular, it distinguishes between two modes of responsiveness – obedience and engagement – and highlights the need to manage both forms of engagement – limiting behaviors and promoting behaviors. It further elucidates how engagement of individuals and groups in the crisis event might be fostered and specifies the key needs that leadership should address: clarity, accuracy, safety, belongingness, and meaning. It also suggests that leading at the macro level is essential in order to address challenges at the micro level, and specifies the different phases that should be managed. Finally, the essay sheds light on three key mechanisms that may be conducive for realizing these efforts.

Managing the Next Pandemic Crisis: A Resource-Focused Approach

The COVID-19 crisis has exposed that managerial systems are unprepared to handle a global problem. This paper discusses the managerial aspects of the crisis in a resource-focused approach. We suggest that by using the Theory-of-Constraints (TOC) and the Pareto methodology, it will be possible to better manage future crises during another pandemic or another wave of the COVID-19. The methodologies hereby described are valid for the handling of future combinations of influenza and the COVID-19 virus. We analyze the current situation and propose actions to handle future crises.