



Two Kinds of People

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Daniel Pink is a wonderful writer who manages to synthesize academic research on important topics and interpret the results for a popular audience. He wrote [Drive: The Surprising Truth About What Motivates Us](#), and his most recent book is [A Whole New Mind: Why Right-Brainers Will Rule the Future](#). He writes in a highly engaging style. Pink also is a terrific speaker. His presentation about motivation at last year's Emerging Issues Forum was one of the best I've ever heard.

It is common for people to make resolutions at this time of the year—motivated at least partly by a desire for self-improvement. [A recent list by Pink](#) about “two kinds of people in the world” made me think about resolutions because I found myself resolving to be more on the left side of his list in 2011.

Those who make your life easier — and those who make it harder.

Those whose presence helps you perform better — and those whose presence makes you do worse.



Those concerned about doing the work — and those concerned about getting the credit.

Those who leave you feeling up — and those who leave you feeling down.

Those who simplify — and those who complicate.

Those who listen when others are talking — and those who wait when others are talking.

Those who give — and those who take.

Those who last — and those who fade.

*Which are **you***

I'm reflecting on Pink's question and I encourage you to read the list, even if you have resolved never to make another resolution.

Of course there are more than two kinds of people, and Pink left out one of the more important comparisons—people who love pie and those who love cake. Pie clearly belongs on the left side of the list, especially rhubarb pie. Happy New Year!



Rhubarb Pie