Hi, I'm Karan!

(Pronounced like Karen, but with two A’s; crazy unusual, right?)

BIO:
Karan is a CHRO and organizational effectiveness strategist who is obsessed with up-leveling the capability of companies to optimize their workforces to do their best work. After 18+ years of witnessing the chaos and trauma caused by under-resourced HR teams and bad leadership actions within organizations, she ditched her comfy job as a corporate HR exec at Microsoft to found Shockingly Different Leadership, a global human capital professional services firm that companies trust when needing to supplement their in-house HR teams with contract experts to help execute business-critical People, Learning, Culture and Organizational Effectiveness initiatives.

Karan and the team of over 350 SDL consultants have worked with executive teams at companies such as Coca-Cola, Microsoft, British Petroleum, Meta, EY, Raymond James, Major League Baseball and the NFL.

Listen in as Karan gives us an insider’s look into how the world’s most progressive companies manage blended workforces, scale their talent capabilities, source the perfect external consultants, lead organizational change initiatives, flex their business functions on-demand, reduce costs and better manage their human capital project spend.

ADDITIONAL OPTIONAL INFO:
Karan is also the author of Lead at the Top of Your Game, creator of the Leadership Tactics Diagnostic assessment and is a frequent contributor on leadership strategies to Forbes.com

When not traveling the globe, Karan resides in Atlanta, where she enjoys serving on numerous non-profit boards, planning intimate dinners with family & friends, watching professional sports, and dreaming of one day becoming a movie critic and sommelier.

Why Me & Topics I Can Discuss:
Let’s start off by answering what you likely REALLY want to know:

I've cut my teeth in the human capital consulting world by:
- helping high-achieving organizations better understand best practices on how to increase the capability and capacity of their HR and talent teams
- being a thought leader on the HR gig economy and up-leveling the professional standards of HR consultants
- supplying high-caliber, proven consultants for all types of HR functions and People initiatives
- implementing interventions to help reduce development gaps and increase the readiness of individuals for roles of larger scope and responsibility
- helping orgs strategize how to best lead work initiatives and get the work done
- increasing the self-confidence of managers/leaders to conquer the challenges of workplace & business dynamics

I can speak on:

• The HR consulting industry and the HR Gig economy
• Current Megatrends in the World of Work
• The Missing Element of Most Leadership Development Programs

10 Interview Question Ideas You Might Ask Me:
1. What are blended workforces & why is it a workforce structure for which leaders need to prepare themselves?
2. What are the implications of HR teams who are facing their own talent & resource challenges? And how are they overcoming it?
3. What is the difference between HR consultants and HR advisors, and which is better?
4. What are some of the legal risks to avoid when considering using external vendors to supplement internal staff?
5. Can you share a few best practices that companies should consider when engaging with strategic consultants?
6. What are Managed Service Providers (MSPs) and Employers of Record (EORs)? And why are more companies using these services?
7. What are some of the hottest megatrends in the world of work today?
8. What are some critical success factors of the world’s most successful leaders?
I am a goal-setting, high-energy, "glass half-full" kind of gal.

I live in Atlanta but consider myself a "citizen of the world", having traveled to over 40 countries.

I have a wonderful hubby (Victor), adorable daughter (Alexis), and fur babies (Pappi & Bones)

I am an American football fanatic, wannabe movie critic, wine connoisseur, and lover of jazz.

Little known facts: I’m ambidextrous, played on a traveling softball team, graduated college in 2 years, and am two IQ points from officially being at "genius-level."

(Hmmm, feels like I should have solved world hunger by now, right? Gotta work on that, lol!)

I HOW I’LL PROMOTE OUR PODCAST EPISODE

- A monthly newsletter/Blog posts to 15000+
- Social media (Linkedin 10000+, IG, FB, Twitter)
- Website post
- My own podcast: Lead at the Top of Your Game: The Podcast

SOCIAL PROFILES

Website: https://www.shockinglydifferent.com/
Website #2: http://LeadYourGamePodcast.com
LinkedIn: https://www.linkedin.com/in/karanrhodes/
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/ShockinglyDifferent
Twitter: https://twitter.com/KaranRhodes
YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/user/ShockinglyDifferent
Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/shockinglydifferent/

A Tad About Me Professionally

- Bachelors in Industrial/Organizational Psychology
- MBA with a triple concentration in Organizational Development, Human Resources & Marketing
- Certified Executive Leadership Coach
- Certified Action Learning Coach, World Institute of Action Learning (WIAL)
- Certified Senior Professional in Human Resources
- Certified in numerous assessment tools and development curriculum
- Past Corporate Executive Experience: Microsoft, AT&T, Comcast, and Blue Cross Blue Shield
- Member Leader on Leadership for Forbes.com

A Tad About Me Personally

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A SAMPLE OF PREVIOUS PODCAST APPEARANCES

- Transformational Truths podcast
- Career View Mirror podcast
- The Resiliency Theory podcast
- Starts With a Vision podcast
- The Leadership Expose podcast
- PeopleStar podcast by Trakstar
- Work From Your Happy Place podcast
- Bring Out the Talent podcast
- SoundBalmimg podcast
- The Optimal Life podcast

EQUIPMENT THAT I USE

Microphone: Blue Yeti
Headset: Yes
Video: Yes, if pre-arranged