LEADERSHIP IS AN ATTITUDE

BY

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for

Women in Science Program
Leadership

- How many consider themselves a leader?
Leadership Defined

We know it when we see it (leadership), so if you would define leadership for me!

Leadership is . . .
Leadership

- How did you acquire your leadership skills?

- Are there people that just don’t get it and cannot demonstrate leadership?
Leadership

- Were you born with this “natural ability?”
- Or did you learn this skill from someone?
- Are there traits you feel leaders might have that non-leaders do not?
Leadership

The evidence suggests that traits do matter.

Six traits have been identified that it seems all leaders have.

Let’s see what they are. . . As we go through these, ask yourself, “how much of each one of these do I demonstrate?”
Leadership

Drive – energy, enthusiasm, excitement, ambition, initiative, achievement, tenacity. . .
Leadership

- Drive
- **Desire to lead** – leadership motivation, personalized power, wants to be out in front, willing to take risks
Leadership

- Drive
- Desire to lead
- Honesty and Integrity

Would you follow someone you don’t trust?
Create an environment on trust and integrity
Leadership

- Drive
- Desire to lead
- Honesty and Integrity
- Self confidence – they project self assurance, emotional stability and determination
Leadership

- Drive
- Desire to lead
- Honesty and Integrity
- Self confidence
- **Cognitive ability/Intelligence** – above average in intelligence
Leadership

- Drive
- Desire to lead
- Honesty and Integrity
- Self confidence
- Cognitive ability/Intelligence
- Knowledge of the job
Leadership

I believe we need to add one more, and that is:

- An attitude – An attitude for Leadership.
ATTITUDES to weighty ethical issues such as abortion and the death penalty are partly determined by genes, say researchers.

It used to be thought that beliefs were wholly learned from parents, friends, teachers and the cultural environment in which a person lives.

But scientists changed their minds after studying 360 pairs of identical and non-identical twins.

They were asked for their views on 30 issues – and 26 of them appeared to be under some inherited influence.

Genes appeared to have the most power in three broad areas. One included views on abortion, voluntary euthanasia, the death penalty and organized religion.

Another covered attitudes towards making racial discrimination illegal, open-door immigration policies and ‘getting on well’ with others.

The third area covered beliefs on different aspects of ‘athleticism’ such as organized sport and exercise.

Intellectual pursuits such as reading, doing crossword puzzles and playing chess involved the smallest influence, and four subjects – separate roles for men and women, playing bingo, easy access to birth control and being assertive – appeared to have no link.

The researchers, led by Dr. James Olson from the University of Western Ontario, wrote: ‘A person with inherited physical abilities, such as good co-ordination and strength, might be more successful at sports than less athletically inclined individuals, resulting in the more athletic person developing favorable attitudes towards sports.’

However, the scientists pointed out that the most powerful influences on twins came from the unique individual experiences.
What are attitudes?

What are attitudes and how might this impact leadership and followership?

How might you describe an attitude?
What are attitudes?

Attitudes are feelings and beliefs that largely determine how people will perceive their environment and it is one’s attitude that will eventually lead to a behavior and action.
Attitudes and Leadership

As leaders, it is our actions, feelings and moods that determine the actions, feelings and moods of others!

Would you agree?
How many in here have an ATTITUDE?
Attitude

Who controls your attitude?
Attitude

Who should control your attitude?

As leaders, who controls your attitude?
Leadership and Attitude

Can we agree that it is our attitude, as the leader, that often determines the success and effectiveness of our groups and successful completion of tasks?
Leadership and Attitude

If so, then we need to explore attitude as a point of leadership.

Let’s begin. . . .
Leadership and Attitude

- Attitude is a mental set that affects how a person will view something – a belief.

- Attitude is the way we often choose to communicate our moods to others.
Attitude Adjustments

Share six attitude adjustments you may want to consider that can impact your career and your personal life.
Attitude Adjustment - #1

Employ the flipside techniques – Use Humor

The more you learn to develop your sense of humor, the more positive you will become.
Attitude Adjustment - #2

Play your WINNERS –
Don’t go broke trying to promote the losers. Think and talk about your winners. Reward yourself by enjoying winners.
**Attitude Adjustment - #3**

- **SIMPLIFY! SIMPLIFY!!**
  - Unused and unappreciated possessions – get rid of them.
  - **Too many involvements** – you are generous with your time but sometimes one over commits and your efforts become counter-productive.
Attitude Adjustment - #3 con’t

- Some misguided individuals devote too much time and energy to their careers; they leave their home life in shambles. **Gain balance.**

- “Throw out” **the negatives** that enter your lives. Don’t procrastinate and keep these distractions around.
Attitude Adjustment - #3 con’t

Friends who are negative need to be eliminated from our daily lives as a means to protect our attitude.
Give your Positive Attitude to Others. Be positive around others. More often than not, when working with others they will give to you your level of expectation; therefore, you must think, act, talk and conduct your business as the person you want to become.
Attitude Giveaway

Select three (3) from your list and complete within the next 48 hours.
Attitude Challenge – Commit to 3

- Going out of my way to visit friends who may be having trouble with their attitude.
- Being positive around those whom I have daily contact.
- Transmitting my positive attitude to others whenever I use the telephone.
Attitude Challenge – Commit to 3

- Sharing my positive attitude by sending or taking items such as cards or flowers to those I care about.
- Sharing my sense of humor through more teasing, telling jokes or using the flipside technique.
- Being sensitive as a listener so others can regain their positive focus.
Attitude Challenge – Commit to 3

- Laughing more so my attitude will be infectious and others will pick it up.
- Communicating my attitude through upbeat conversations, paying compliments to others, etc.
- Giving my attitude to others by setting a better example as a positive leader.
Attitude Adjustment - #5

Look better to Yourself: Self-improvement of any kind should be applauded. The connection between a good self-image and a positive attitude cannot be ignored.

You have a list of suggestions.
Clarify your Mission: An individual with a purpose is more apt to have a positive attitude than someone without direction. A mission in life provides direction.

Take charge of your own destiny. If you don’t; someone else will.
“To every man (person) there comes in his lifetime that special moment when he is figuratively tapped on the shoulder and offered the chance to do a very special thing, unique to him and fitted to his talent; what a tragedy if that moment finds him unprepared or unqualified for the work which would be his finest hour.”

Winston Churchill

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Leadership is an Attitude

“The longer I live, the more I realize the impact of attitude on life. Attitude, to me, is more important than facts. It is more important than the past, than education, than money, than circumstances, than failures, than successes, than what other people think or say or do. It is more important than appearance, giftedness, or skill. It will make or break a company…a church…a home. The remarkable thing is we have a choice every day regarding the attitude we will embrace for that day. We cannot change the inevitable. We cannot change our past. We cannot change the fact that people will act in a certain way. The only thing we can do is play on the one string we have and that is our attitude. I am convinced that life is 10 percent what happens to me and 90 percent how I react to it. And so it is with you, we are in charge of our ATTITUDES.”

Charles Swindoll
Attitudes are Magic
Attitudes are Magic

FIRST: It is your attitude at the beginning of a difficult task that, more than anything else, will bring about its successful outcome.
Attitudes are Magic

SECOND: Your attitude toward others determines their attitude toward you. Simple cause and effect. We are all interdependent. So it is with life. We simply get back what we put out. The success we achieve in life will depend largely on how we relate to others; thus, it could be said that it is our attitude toward life that determines life’s attitude toward us.
THIRD: Worth repeating – Before you can achieve the kind of life you want, you must think, act, talk, and conduct yourself in all your affairs as would the person you will become. Keep a mental picture of that person before you as often as you can during the day.
Attitudes are Magic

FOURTH: Remember that the higher you go in any organization of value, the better the attitudes you will find. And that a great attitude is not the result of success; rather success is the result of a great attitude.
Leadership is an Attitude

As you implement your choices, remind yourself that the more you give your positive away; the more positive it will remain.
Remember Jerry!
Leadership is an attitude! and it is your choice how you will lead!
Thank you