Personality Traits in Leadership

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The understanding of personality type helps in identifying the kind of a leader and leadership style and individual develops. Leadership is a process through which an individual influences others to accomplish some set tasks or objectives as well as directing an organization in a way that makes it cohesive and coherent. It is important to note that leadership style is a personal thing and everyone has a natural style correlating to their personality type (Houpt, Gilkey, & Ehringhaus, 2015). It, therefore, makes it essential for one to know their strengths and weakness to be successful leaders.

Some of my personality and self-concepts that comprise as strengths in my future leadership role include self-awareness, extraversion, openness to experience, and conscientiousness. Self-awareness has been crucial to most of the endeavors I engage myself in because it allows for the realization of some of the strengths and weaknesses within myself. The awareness of such developmental needs provides confidence and the realization of some of the crucial skills. Extraversion entails having the energy and propensity to seek interaction with people and the outside world. Interaction with people is ideal for one to be a successful leader since most leadership positions may require one to meet people in different settings and diversity as well different sets of interests and priorities (Houpt, Gilkey, & Ehringhaus, 2015). Openness to experience and ideas is a necessity in leadership as it allows the leader to buy into some of the precepts and intellectual expertise residing in the lower levels of the organization as well as allowing for the confirmation of its legitimacy.

However, some areas that would need to be addressed include empathy and sense of humor. The failure to grasp the problems and needs of some of the people around me has been a problem and may affect my leadership aspirations. Leaders should be able to develop empathy with their followers that would allow for the development of a closer connection. There is also the need to establish a sense of humor that may be necessary when the going gets tough, and people may need some humor to keep them motivated. My continued aspiration for achieving results resulted in the negligence of the part of humor thus requiring the need to address it.

Reference

Houpt, J. L., Gilkey, R. W., & Ehringhaus, S. H. (2015). Personality Traits and Leadership. *Learning to Lead in the Academic Medical Center*, 35-44.