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Leadership Assignment for INTD100: Coffee and Black Holes

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Being a leader is something that is important to experience in your life. For the longest time I never really thought of joining any clubs or becoming involved with groups as I was always too shy to and thought I wouldn't make a good leader. However, over time I eventually tried it out and joined a couple of groups which required me to become a leader. I myself have 2 leadership experiences that specifically stick out to me. I was never really interested in joining clubs or taking on a leadership role, however in 6th grade I signed up to run for student council treasurer. I didn't expect to win, but shockingly I did, and was able to participate in the student council for that year. With this role, I was able to manage the money collected from student council activities and sales. I was still young and couldn't do that much with the money, but regardless this experience gave me some experience in working with others and having responsibilities, as it was the first time that I actually opened up and tried to take on a leadership role. This experience allowed me to see how it feels to be a leader, and taught me some of the important skills of being one, such as being responsible, managing your time well, and being a little more open with your peers and teachers. I followed this same path again in high school, when in my senior year I decided to join a few clubs, one being a business club. I signed up to be on the board as their treasurer, and after an interview I actually got the position. This job was tougher than in elementary school, since I had lots more tasks to work on, such as creating spreadsheets to see how much money we'd need to spend on certain items and see exactly how many items we needed for our events. It was extremely fun to participate and attend said events to see if people enjoyed our hard work. It all paid off in the end and I got to learn a bit more about myself and my peers. I was able to see what it's like being in charge of something important. Every decision I made alongside my peers was important in deciding how we would go out with every event we planned, and we all had to make sure the decisions we made were beneficial to both ourselves and the members of the club itself. I am very thankful to have been able to experience this because without these experiences I would not have learned all the skills that I was able to work on such as attending meetings and being able to speak up in front of a group of people.

My experiences are similar to how the article we read explains what leadership is. The article made me realize that even though I usually am shy and don't like taking on roles as a leader, I myself can still have the qualities of a leader. For example, I usually like to work alone and solve problems by myself rather than in a group setting. The article explains how the idea of solitude can also help you develop your own skills as a leader as well. Being able to work on your issues alone and keeping away from any distractions you may face is an important part of being a leader. Overall doing this can also help you discover what path you want to take in your life yourself and what kind of person you want to be, which helps you develop your leadership skills.

