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Key traits of what makes a successful leader

Being a leader is much more than just having followers, it is about having qualities and responsibilities that define true leadership. This paragraph follows the topics of confidence, being loved by one’s peers, and being an active listener. Confidence is a major factor in being an effective leader. According to thoughtfulleader.com, leaders who have and show confidence are more likely to gain respect and more success as leaders. An example of a leader who showed great confidence is Martin Luther King Jr. Although the United States of America was a very segregated country, he was still able to obtain such high power due to his confidence. Even if he was not the most confident deep down, he was still able to portray his confidence which indefinitely led him to becoming one of the most well-known and loved leaders in history. Another trait a leader must obtain to become a great leader is being loved by their peers. In Niccolò Machiavelli's book The Prince, he explains in his text that a leader is more likely to be successful if one’s peers love them rather than fear them as well as, one cannot control who loves you, but you can control one who fears you. An example of a leader who possesses this trait is Mahatma Gandhi. He was one of the most prominent leaders in Africa, who led India to freedom from the British. Gandhi believed that peace could be made without violence, which the citizens of India loved him for and made him a well-respected leader. As well as having these already listed traits a great leader also must be able to be an active listener and be able to take what their follower’s concerns are into consideration. Many sources have stated that a leader who possesses the trait of being an active listener lets the peers feel more listened to and can offer a better relationship with the followers. A coach is a fitting example of a leader who must show this skill to be a great leader. If a coach can show that they can consider the players' thoughts and feelings, players' thoughts, and feelings into consideration it offers better communication. It will lead to a better understanding of the sport together. An individual who carries the traits of being confident, having love from peers, and by being an active listener are all the key elements to ensure successful leadership.

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