DQ1 – Ethics and Governance

An understanding of ethics and governance can help leaders in their roles.

The word ethics is derived from the Greek word ‘ethos’ to mean moral principles to guide an individual’s behaviour or the conduct of an activity. Governance refers to the process of making decisions which define the expectations, systems and management (Poluha & Rosendahl, 2002). For those in leadership roles, it is important to be ethical and also have good governance. For instance, one of the core values of Equity Bank is Effective Corporate Governance whereby they promote accountability, transparency and unity (Equity Group Holdings, 2019). Good governance is where there is transparency and accountability in the way the organization or country is run. A good example is with organizations (a church) that publish their earnings and expenditures as well as future projects at annual general meetings. Such a practice creates trust in the congregation and a general willingness to support the project(s). This also is a trait in ethical leaders and how being ethical creates credibility that results into gaining trust from the people that are being led (May, Chan, Hodges, & Avolio, 2003).

Good governance also follows with consistency in that without being consistent in accountability and transparency, the trust disintegrates completely and the leaders’ ethics are questioned.

References

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