

Leadership

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For this paper, I will write about three people I view to hold qualities that constitute a good leader. These individuals do more than just make money for the company or foundation they work for. They seek to impact local and global issues that we face as a society. Be it teaching us about the complex social structure of chimps and how we can use that knowledge in other areas of science. Or by showing us that even though they are billionaires, they emphasize helping all people lead healthy, productive lives. Or that through their fame, they educate us on what it means to be a kind human being. In this essay, I will introduce you to Jane Goodall, Bill Gates, and Ellen Degeneres, who hold a quality that I would like to have as a leader.



Jane Goodall is a primatologist and anthropologist and is known worldwide for her work with chimpanzees. Goodall began her work when she started working for a film company as an assistant. While working for the company, they sent her to Africa, where she met a paleontologist and anthropologist, Louis Leakey, who hired her to be his secretary. He was looking for a researcher as he was impressed with Goodall, so he sent her to study primates with two fellow scientists Osman Hill and John Napier. Later, they both created a camp in

Gombe Stream Game Reserve to observe the local chimpanzees. In 1962 she went to Cambridge University to pursue a Bachelor of arts; towards the end of her course, she enrolled in Darwin College, where she was awarded a Ph.D. in ethology. She was one of the few people that the college ever received a Ph.D. without first obtaining a Bachelor of Arts.

Goodall spent her life studying the social structure and family life of the chimpanzees. She began her study in Gombe Stream studying the Kasakela chimpanzee community. She made her most famous discovery that the chimpanzees alter twigs and leaves to stick into termite mounds to dig their food out, which shows that they possessed the intelligence to create to make their life a bit easier. Another significant discovery she made was that chimpanzees were not vegans, which was a widespread belief at the time. She also disproved that the common belief that chimps have a friendly nature in the fact what she noticed is that their behavior is similar to ours. There were several occasions where dominant females were seen hurting or killing the younger female to maintain their dominance in the group (Jane Goodall, 2021). She observed that the chimps would often hunt smaller primates. Through her research, she recognized that the rapid deforestation in Africa was causing the population of chimpanzees to decrease.

I chose to write about Jane Goodall because I grew up watching movies that starred monkeys, such as MVP: Most Valuable Primate and Planet of The Apes, that significantly impacted me as a child. So, it makes sense when I found out that Jane Goodall is one of the leading scientists that study primates and is one reason why they are portrayed as having a range of motion in movies. I also look up to her since she is very active in her conservation efforts to help repair the forest's damages in western Africa and other places worldwide. Seeing the

contributions she has made in her field and in popular media, we can see her impact as a biologist. She changes the way we as a society view conservation; we now think of it as a group effort and that we need to take a proactive approach to preserve the environment and animals that are on the brink of disappearing.



Bill Gates is known the world over for since he is the creator of Microsoft. He took his company from a garage into multi-billion-dollar cooperation that we know of today. The reason I'm choosing to write about him is not only because of how he leads his company and his charity work. The most significant charity they endorse is their own charity, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation that focuses on several world issues.

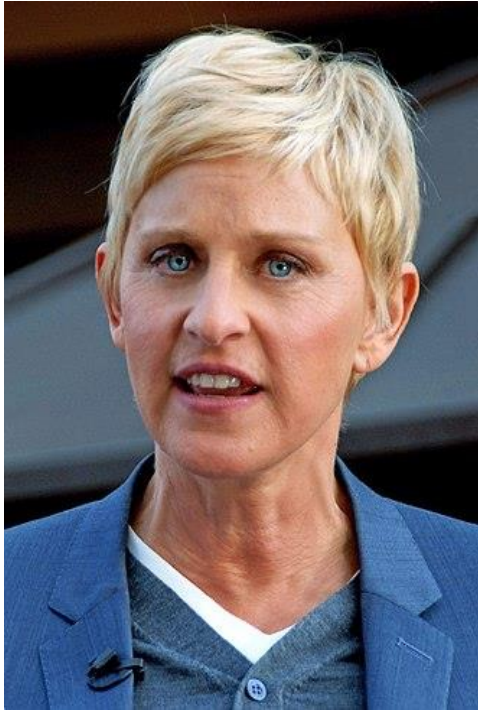
Bill Gates originally from Microsoft in 1979 with his childhood friend Paul Allen in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The company initially started out in the only space they could find available, a garage. Before the founding, Gates attended Harvard but worked with Allen on the company. He dropped out and focused on building an interpreter for the Altair 8800 microcomputer. Gates called Micro Instrumentation and Telemetry Systems, who created the Altair 8800, promised a complete BASIC interpreter before it even existed to get the deal. When it came time to demo it to the company, it would flawlessly, and MITS agreed to package the interpreter with the Altair 8800. This solidified Microsoft as a company and began its long history as one of the top operating system companies that we know today.

I want to draw attention to his work through his foundation aptly named "The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation." The foundation focuses on both local and global issues such as development, health, and climate change. The foundation established a water and hygiene program to provide services in poor countries. The foundation also tries to tackle a growing issue with vitamin A deficiency in certain countries by working with the international rice research institute to develop rice that contains vitamin A.

Bill Gates also believes that he should use his wealth to help improve the lives of others. He donated about 20\$ million to MIT for a new computer lab for the students there. He also began a challenge to reinvent the toilet challenge with the intent to bring attention to solving global sanitation problems. He even did a publicity stunt where he drank water filtered from human waste to highlight a new sewage sludge treatment called the Omni Processor. He then went on the tonight show and challenged Jimmy Fallon to drink two water samples to see if he could tell the difference between filter water from tap or water filter using the Omni Processor.

I chose Bill Gates because not only is he a big name in my industry, he also uses his wealth to better those around him. He can look past his life and see how problems affect those around him, and he wants to provide solutions for those problems. I would like to emulate that if I ever

become a manager. I want to help those around me not only with work-related items but also in their personal lives if I had ways to help them.



The last person I want to talk about is Ellen DeGeneres, a famous comedian who knows her saying be kind to one another. She began her career doing stand-up comedy in small clubs and coffee houses in New Orleans. She gained popularity in the late 1980s when she started in her first TV role Open House. Although it was short-lived, it helped her impress producers at ABC, where she was cast in her own sitcom called “Ellen.” which was extremely popular. It reached its height in 1997 when Ellen came out on an episode of “The Oprah Winfrey Show.” After that, her character came out as well. Overall the episode was well received and is considered the most famous episode of the show.

After the show ended, she signed on to be the host of a daytime talk show aptly named “The Ellen DeGeneres Show.” This extremely well-received ad was nominated for 11 daytime Emmy awards and won 25 Emmy awards. On the show, she became known for her message she gives daily “be kind to one another.” To remind her audience that being kind is easy and it can make someone’s day. Outside in her personal life, she is an advocate for animal rights and was often a focal point on her show. She often invited the CEO of The Humane Society of the United States to speak about the organization’s effort. Although recently Ellen has been receiving some criticism, her kind nature and bravery are qualities that I wish to emulate regarding being a leader in the workplace.

Looking at the qualities of the people discussed in this paper, it is easy to see compassion as a common theme I hope to carry with me when I enter the workforce. Be it from becoming an advocate for those we do not understand and combating that lack of knowledge by educating them and breaking perceived characteristics. Using my position in life to make the lives better for people I work with and those in my community and look past my life and recognize how those around me solve problems that affect my neighborhood. Or by being brave to be myself and stand up for my beliefs regardless of how others will persevere me and always be kind to people.