

Leadership Traits Questionnaire

Shontave L. Jackson

Beulah Heights University

Have you ever heard the popular saying, “You can find out who the leader is on the school yard playground because it is the kid who bosses everyone else around?” This view of leadership was popular a decade or so ago especially in my inner circle and professional network. Leadership was mostly thought of as a top-down approach – giving orders, delegating work, being demanding to get results, and such like. In this week’s reading assignment “Recognizing your Traits”, Northouse applies research results to exhibit six traits that successful leaders should possess. According to research, six key traits are required for successful leaders: intelligence, confidence, charisma, determination, sociability, and integrity (Northouse, 2018).

After reading examples of several successful leaders in Chapter 2, one can effectively argue that most successful leaders are remarkably determined, motivating, and have an incredible hunger to help others to name a few. This is the reason assessments like the Leadership Traits Questionnaire enhance the leadership journey; because vital opportunities for leadership development are revealed. Similarly, the results from my assessment revealed key opportunities for leadership development in sensitivity, conscientiousness, persistence and being self-assured.

While the overall results from my assessment were favorable the scores were thought-provoking. These opportunities for growth did not come as a surprise though; they serve as a notable reminder that progress has been made in some areas but work remains to be done. This week’s reading assignment reinforced that leadership is multifaceted. In essence, there are no perfect leaders or special formulas to becoming a successful leader; successful leaders evolve over time. Be that as it may, anyone who operates in a leadership role has the fundamental responsibility to themselves to be knowledgeable and committed; knowledgeable of his strengths and weaknesses and committed to his individual leadership development.

References

Northouse, P.G. (Ed.). (2018). *Introduction to leadership: Concepts and practice* (4th ed.)
Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE (pp 22)