Authentic Leadership

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Focus - to determine if leadership is genuine and real

Definitions

- Intrapersonal the true side of the leader and what they believe in
- Interpersonal leaders and followers collaborating
- Developmental can be adapted by a leader especially through their life experiences

Characteristics

- Know why they are leaders
- Strong values in knowing what is right
- Create relationships based upon trust with people
- Self-disciplined and follow their values
- Show passion about what they are doing

Components

- Self-awareness being reflective and trusting what your actions
- Internalized moral perspective self-control to do what you believe is right
- Balanced processing ability to see all sides and gather information before rendering judgment
- Relational transparency being open and true

Strengths/Potential

- Trait-like showing inherent strengths
- State-like what can be learned by training
- Measured Potential ability to track leadership potential

Criticisms

- Still a young field so many questions exist
- Ideas may not be developed and proven
- Moral component is not completely clear
- Positive psychological capacities still needs more clarification
- Positive organizational outcomes still needs more clarification

Authentic Leadership Self-Assessment Questionnaire

- Comprised of 16 questions which are answered on a Likert Scale
- Questions are broken into four question sets for each of the components

Sources

Northouse, P. G. (2013). Leadership Theory and Practice. Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE Publications, Inc.