

Gender and Leadership

“Wherever you find a great man, you will find a great mother or a great wife standing behind him - or so they used to say. It would be interesting to know how many great women have had great fathers and husbands behind them.”

- Dorothy L. Sayers

Introduction

This module highlights problems that our society encounters on a day-to-day basis, including gender stereotyping and inequality. Facilitators will enable students to examine the conception and perpetuation of gender barriers in today’s society. By studying gender roles, LEAD students acknowledge a major problem in leadership settings and work to deconstruct existing prejudices in a meaningful way, thereby paving the road for future improvement. It is ideal not to disclose the topic of this module until after this first activity.

Objectives

1. Students will explore the ramifications of masculinity and femininity on leadership.
2. Students will understand cross-cultural implications of gender roles and how those stereotypes are rooted in historical/political contexts.
3. Students will confront their own biases concerning gender and determine how to work towards attaining gender equity in leadership settings.

Agenda

1. Feminine Leadership vs. Masculine Leadership
2. Gender Theory
3. Cross-Culture
4. Video Activities
5. How to Talk to Boys