

# Academic Perspectives on Leadership

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## What is leadership?

-To an extent leadership is like beauty; it's hard to define, but you know it when you see it' (Bennis, 1989)



# What is leadership? How does it differ from management?





#### Leadership

- Instigate change
- Sets direction/vision
- Strategically align people
- Motivate people

#### Management

- Deal with complexity
- Organize staffing
- Control the day to day organization
- Solve problems

Adapted from (Kotter 1990)

#### EXHIBIT 1.3 Comparing Management and Leadership





Sources; Based on John P. Kotter, A Force for Change: How Leadership Differs from Management (New York: The Free Press, 1990) and ideas in Kevin Cashman, "Lead with Energy," Leadership Excellence (December 2010), p. 7; Henry Mintzberg, Managing (San Francisco: Berrett-Koehler, 2009); and Mike Maddock, "The One Talent That Makes Good Leaders Great," Forbes (September 26, 2012). www.forbes.com/sites/mikemaddock/2012/09/26/the-one-talent-that-makes-good-leaders-great/ (accessed March 7, 2013).

## Academic views on leadership....



- 1900's 'Great Man' natural 'heroes' born, not made...
- 1920's Trait theories 'leadership characteristics/traits'
- 1930's Style behaviour approach 'its not who a leader is but what they do and how they do it'
- 1960's Contingency Theories 'its not what a leader does but how they respond to the situation/context..
- 1980's onwards: New leadership theories leadership as a process affecting individuals and organisations (e.g. transformational)
- 1980's Influence Theories 'charismatic, visionary leader'
- 1990's Relational Approach 'quality of the relationship between the leader and person'



## Academic views on leadership

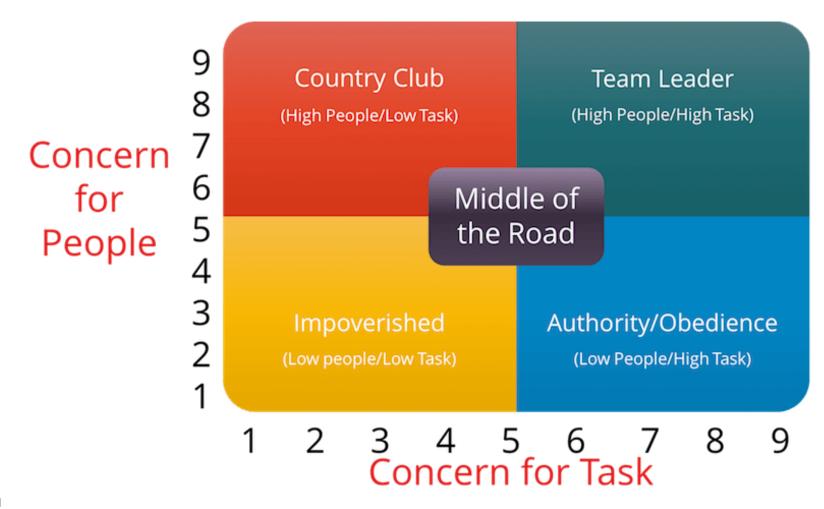
## 21st Centrury - Emerging Leadership approaches

- Authentic Leadership 'authenticity and passion'
- Ethical Leadership 'core values, vision with service'
- Servant Leadership 'Servant first vs leader first'
- Spiritual leadership 'values and calling'

## Style - behavioural approach



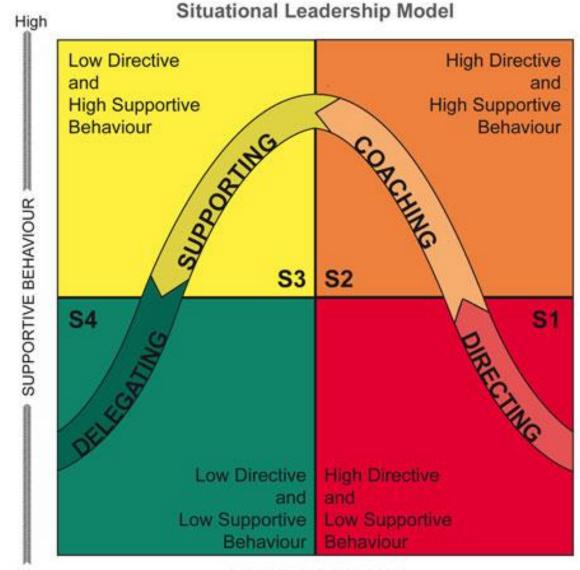
 How managers use task and relationship behaviours in the organisational setting (Blake and Moulton, 1964)



## Situational Approach (1960's - ..)



Contingency theory focuses on the match between the leader's style and specific situational factors



Hershey & Blanchard, 1969

## **New Leadership in 21st Century**



- Appeared in mid-1980's 'new leadership approaches' (Bryman, 1992)
- Describing 'leadership as a process that changes people and organisations'
- Growing recognition of the role of informal leadership at all levels
- Leadership studies focusing on 'Visionary or Charismatic' leadership theory
- Transactional vs Transformational leadership (Burns, 1978, Bass & Avolio, 1994-2004)

## **Transformational Leadership**



- Able to inspire and motivate people to do more than they would normally do, despite obstacles and personal sacrifices
- Have an inspiring vision of an imagined future that people identify with
- Ability to empathise and understand, empower and trust people to accomplish results
- Special ability to bring about innovation and change by recognising people's needs and concerns, bring meaning,
- Challenging people to look at old problems in new ways, and act as role models for new values and behaviours
- Typically, emotionally stable and positively engaged with the world

## Authentic Leadership (George, 2003)



- Leaders who know and understand themselves
- Who espouse and act consistent with higher order ethical values
- Who empower and inspire others with their openness and authenticity.
- Key characteristics of authentic leaders
  - Pursue their purpose with passion
  - Practice solid values
  - Lead with their heart as well as their hearts
  - Establish connected relationships
  - Demonstrate self-discipline

#### The Top 10 Leadership Competencies, Grouped Into Five Themes

When 195 global leaders were asked to rate 74 qualities, these rose to the top.



#### PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS

· Indiana di Misi di Diliti		
Strong ethics & safety		67% Has high ethical and moral standards
Self-organizing		59 Provides goals and objectives with loose guidelines/direction
		56 Clearly communicates expectations
Efficient learning		52 Has the flexibility to change opinions
<b>Nurtures growth</b>		43 Is committed to my ongoing training
Connection & belonging		42 Communicates often and openly
		39 Is open to new ideas and approaches
		38 Creates a feeling of succeeding and failing together
		38 Helps me grow into a next-generation leader
		37 Provides safety for trial and error

Competencies of Leadership?

SOURCE SUNNIE GILES © HBR.ORG

Harvard Business 2016 Review of 195 global leaders in 15 countries over 30 global organisations. https://hbr.org/2014/12/research-10-traits-of-innovative-leaders

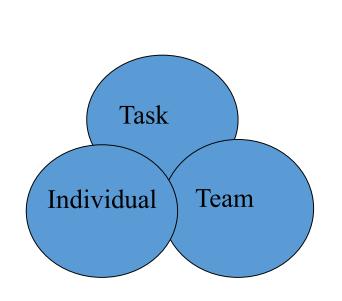


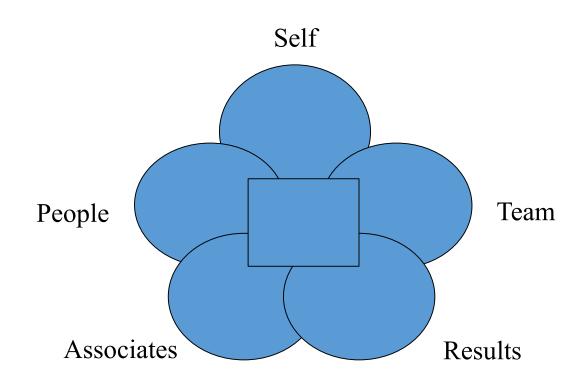
## Leadership revisited?

- -Role
- -Focus
- -Capability
- -Profile
- -Team



## Action Centred Leadership and STRAP





## Leadership as problem solving



- Leaders are problem solvers; strategy problems, commercial problems, structural problems, cultural problems, growth problems, maintenance problems, survival problems, succession problems etc. etc.
- Cognitive problems
- Coordination problems
- Cooperative problems

'The wisdom of crowds' James Surowiecki

## **Profiling 1**



Seeks to identify the knowledge and skills needed to be a capable leader

## **Profiling 2**



## Knowledge

- The organisation
- The network
- The regulatory environment
- Specialism/technical
- Leadership concepts and technics

### Skills

- Self
- Team
- Results
- Associates
- People



## Exercise

Working in groups construct a leadership profile for a young leaders participant.