

Leadership Trait Questionnaire Reaction Paper

For this assignment, I got assistance from five of my relatives and friends in filling out the questionnaire to assess my personality traits. When comparing answers, there were a few obvious differences that stood out, but overall we seemed to have similar views. The similarity in scores makes me feel that I have a fairly accurate view of myself and my leadership traits.

The first trait that was addressed in the questionnaire was that of being articulate. The average score for this was a 4. I think that being articulate, clear and well-spoken is an important leadership trait, so this is something that I can see as an area of possible improvement. The second trait was that of being perceptive. In this area, I was pleasantly surprised to learn that others saw me as being more perceptive than I see myself. The third trait was that of self-confidence. In this area I saw myself as being more confident than others did. Confidence is an important skill in a leader, so this has taught me that I need to do better at portraying an air of confidence in my dealings with others.

The next trait is one that is related to self-confidence, and that is self-assurance. Interestingly enough the score I gave myself was lower for this one, as both myself and my associates see me at times as having unnecessary doubts. The next two traits, persistence and determination are areas that I see as being very closely related. I scored pretty high across the board in these two areas with an average score of 4.5. I was happy about this, because I think that determination and perseverance are key in getting ahead not just as a leader but in most other areas of life as well.

The next two traits also were related to each other I think. These are the traits of trustworthiness and dependability. It turns out that I scored myself higher in these two areas than did my relatives and friends. When we discussed these scores (which averaged to a 4) it seems that the lower ratings on this from others also tied back in to the scores I received on self-assurance and self-confidence. I think that this indicates that when you appear more confident in yourself, others tend to see you as also being someone they can trust and someone that they can depend on. These in my opinion are key traits of a good leader.

I was happy to see that both my own scores and the scores of my friends and family were high in the traits of being both friendly and outgoing. I have always considered myself a people person and I really like being sociable and getting out and talking to just about anyone, so it wasn't surprising to get 5's on these two areas. I do believe that being friendly, and approachable are very important qualities in a good leader because I think that people will work hard for you if they feel that you care about them and are interested in them.

The final three traits of conscientiousness, sensitivity and empathy are also ones that relate to each other in my opinion because they reflect how you as a person perceive and treat those around you. I scored higher in conscientiousness and empathy than I did in sensitivity, so that is another area where I feel I could use some improvement. I think that an effective leader needs to be able to really relate well to others, so these three traits are ones that I consider very important.

This questionnaire is something that was really eye-opening for me. It showed me some areas where how I saw myself was not exactly the way that others viewed me, and I think that is an important thing to realize. I feel that I can use this questionnaire as a tool to focus on the areas that I want to improve in and the areas that I maybe have a higher view of myself than what

others do. If I can focus in on these areas and make significant improvements in them, then I think that this can be a very good tool to use in the future to help me become a better and more effective leader.

Reference:

Northouse, P. G. (2013). *Leadership: Theory and practice* (6th ed.)