Leadership Primer

Vocabulary List

Leader: Someone who influences other people.

Leadership styles: Ways in which people express their leadership.

Authoritarian leader: A leader who leads by giving orders.

Democratic leader: An individual who leads by trying to reach a consensus.

Expressive leader: An individual who increases harmony and minimizes conflict in a group; also known

as a socioemotional leader.

Instrumental leader: An individual who tries to keep the group moving toward its goals; also known as a

task-oriented leader.

Laissez-faire leader: An individual who leads by being highly permissive.

Group dynamics are affected by group size, types of leaders, and leadership styles. As small groups become larger, they become more stable and less intimate. Group leaders can be instrumental (task oriented) or expressive (socioemotional). Leadership styles include authoritarian (leaders who give orders), democratic (leaders who work toward and/or forge a consensus), and laissez-faire (leaders who are highly permissive).

Groups have a significant degree of influence over people's attitudes and actions.

Source: Sociology: A Down to Earth Approach, 8th Edition

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ISBN 10: 0536386234 / 0-536-38623-4

ISBN 13: **9780536386236**

Publisher: Pearson Custom Publishing

Publication Date: **2007** Lexile Level: **1120L**