Personal Leadership Philosophy

“Leaders aren’t born they are made. And they are made just like anything else, through hard work. And that’s the price we’ll have to pay to achieve that goal, or any goal.”
– Vince Lombardi

In today’s world, leadership is increasingly becoming a key attribute to have in any field or occupation. To succeed as a leader, one must have a strong connection between his or her core values and philosophy of leadership. A successful leader also has to have a vision for where he or she wants to be in the future. Another imperative factor is that the leader should know who he, or she, is before assuming a leadership role. The leader should also have strategies on how he, or she, is going to accomplish objectives; a plan on how to achieve a goal. There are also a myriad number of other qualities or attributes that help to make a better leader. My personal leadership philosophy takes a combination of attributes, qualities, and strategies and reinforces them upon my foundation of core values.

Core values define an individual, group, or organization by what they personally or collectively believe. Core values provide a foundation to build anything in a person’s life upon; everything stems from the core values. Identifying my core values is the first imperative step in determining my leadership philosophy. Key values that form my own foundation are family (which comprises of many values), friendship, relationships, integrity, respect, ethics, self-sacrifice, humility, evolution, honor, religion, stoicism, organization, persistence, and courage. Although some values that I have listed do directly relate to my leadership philosophy, they indirectly relate because they impact me as an individual. In my leadership philosophy, all of the values help hold together the basis for my life and leadership philosophy.

Stemming from these core values, I can create a vision where I would like to be in the near future and how I can get there. My vision is to attain a management position in a company as fast as I can, retaining my core values, as well as living a well balanced life. To get there, I have different strategies or plans to achieve that goal or vision, which is an important part of a leadership philosophy. On the path to my vision, I will have many opportunities to apply my leadership philosophy in the private sector, community, or family areas. Understanding and applying my leadership philosophy is an important to my strategies, and being who I am.

The core values that I have listed contain many key points that I will use in my own leadership philosophy. A very important idea to my philosophy is respect and integrity. The most (or one of) important values I cherish is integrity. Honesty is the first value that I will look for in any follower or colleague. Respect is another essential value because if you can not respect someone, then how can you ever follow him to a certain goal; respect also relates to other areas of my core vision such as integrity, relationships, honor, humility, etc. It is imperative that a leader gains the respect of his followers. I believe by following my core values that I can gain respect from colleagues or followers. Relationship and friendship are also important factors because a leader has to be able to connect to colleagues and followers; relationships are also strengthened by adhering to my core values. Some of the core values that I listed are humility, loyalty, honor, self-sacrifice, persistence, and courage. All of these, values that I hold, I believe can help make myself a better leader and person because they can relate and strengthen other core values, and directly affect my leadership ability. The most important aspect of my philosophy relates around my family because they are another support for my foundation my life and leadership philosophy. All of these values that I have listed can be considered an equation because each value can directly or indirectly affect another value, for better or for worse. If I maintain these values, I believe that I will have an excellent leadership philosophy, where I will be successful in life; successful meaning happiness.

Time has the ability to change personal philosophies depending upon the circumstances that occur; it is important that I bond to my core values regardless because they define who a person, in this case me. My leadership philosophy is a mirror reflection of my core values that I have stated, and will maintain. In achieving my vision, it is crucial that I stick to my guns, my personal
leadership philosophy because it determines on whether I will be a good leader or just another manager. It is essential that my core values are linked to my leadership philosophy because it is I, who indefinitely will have to lead followers towards a goal or vision.