



DreamCreators Consulting

Yenesis: The DreamCreator

“Lighting The Path To Success!”

“Dream Leaders: Are They Born or Made?”

By Yenesis Alfonso, The DreamCreator

We all know of leaders whom we admire in our lifetime. A personal example of one person who I admire, is Eleanor Roosevelt for her endurance and strength. As an independent woman of character, she displayed all of the attributes of an empowered woman. Obviously, given my work, this is an important quality to admire and, ideally, to emulate.

I searched the word “leadership” at various online search engines, and was impressed with how many people are trying to learn to become leaders. A great number of the population truly believe that leaders can be taught and are, as a result, trying to get the “secret” of how to do it through books or online research.

Through my research, I learned that there are different paths to becoming a leader; one is to use the inherent qualities you have from birth, and the other is to be taught to become a leader. However, there is a very fine line over what can and cannot be taught – there lies the difference between *Talent* and *Skills*.

- *Talent* is what we do well naturally. Talents are inborn, can be discovered and developed, but cannot be taught.
- *Skills* are simply how to do something. They can be taught, learned and transferable.

It’s crucial to understand this difference especially when we attend seminars and trainings to become leaders. Without awareness of this distinction, we could set ourselves up for disappointment because we could expect that cultivating leadership skills is enough to be a leader. But talent is required for leadership excellence.



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In the numerous seminars, workshops and books I’ve read on the subject, it is apparent that there is one key leadership trait that sets leaders apart; and, that is the ability to create a vision and a strategy. Those who have a natural talent for this level of creation find themselves constantly in the visioning process, while others, for whom it is not natural, do not – it just doesn’t occur to them. In this circumstance, both candidates can learn skills to help them do it better.

In my coaching and organizational consulting practice, I have found that assessments frequently are able to help identify areas of improvement, weaknesses, strengths and to tap into the innate traits of each individual. Through these assessments, as just one example, clients discover the level of satisfaction they have with their lives as expressed through their careers. Just one assessment can have a life-changing impact.

For example, I worked with a client who completed one assessment only to discover that her calling was to be a teacher. Which is a wonderful revelation, but at that time, she was working as a company sales representative. Was there a disparity between her career and her talent? Of course - and that was leading to frustration and much unhappiness for her overall.

These assessments can also tell someone if what they “think” they want to do is actually what they are “meant” to pursue. A different client who took this assessment was of the mindset that her “calling” was to simply help others; yet, she uncovered that her true calling was to be more analytical and project-based. She still wants to pursue helping others, but, now has a full understanding that she can do this in ways that are tapping into her already existing capabilities.



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To jumpstart your thinking around leadership and your career ideals, consider the following questions.

- Does your career fulfill you?
- Do you want to make a career transition?
- Are you frustrated more often than not at work?
- Do you look forward to Monday morning with enthusiasm?
- Do you have your eye set on a managerial or leadership position?
- Do you want to achieve more in your life?
- Are you ready to explore your leadership potential?

If considering these questions causes you to experience a sudden feeling of “paralysis” or “fear”, it’s time to take charge of your life. By taking an assessment, you too can experience a greater understanding of your talents and skills. It is by being in alignment with your natural talent, and then learning and applying skills, that you can truly live from your own leadership potential.

To Living Your Dreams,

Yenesis



Yenesis Alfonso believes in the power of dreams to create a better life. Offering a variety of assessments, tele-classes, workshops, 1:1 coaching and consulting sessions, she helps clients identify their keys to living a fuller and happier life. Please visit her website at: DreamCreatorsConsulting.com for more information.