

## **Introduction**

A room full of Sorors  
Like jewels in a crown.  
Vanilla, Cinnamon and Chocolate Brown!

Good Morning!

**I am refreshing you today about the characteristics of a leader.**

**During the past few years, we have heard the slogan... AKA's Lead. I agree. The "L-E-A-D stands for Learn-Empower-Advocate and Decide"**

**There are plenty of Leadership skill books out there that can take you where you want to go, namely " So You Want To Run For Office." That can be purchased from our international office.**

**But for your listening pleasure today, let's turn our attention to Characteristics. I have developed my own acronym for my points.**

**Write down these letters: I. K. C. T. S. R**

**You have 45 seconds to unscramble those letters to match mine.**

**Go!**

**My acronym is TRICKS: not the devious kind ,but the artful way of getting results.**

**T Transparency**

**R Responsibleness**

**I Integrity**

**C Communicator**

**K Knowledgeability**

**S Self Control**



## **TRANSPARENCY**

**This characteristic insures that each of your followers is equally important.**

**Each person gets the feeling of inclusion**

**It Creates an honest atmosphere among all that are involved.**

**Failures are shared as well as successes.**

**A transparent leader has a better chance of receiving support from peers or followers.**

**Lead by example: NOT do as I say and not as I do!**

**So... how does the leader demonstrate transparency?**

**Be honest, open, keep everybody in the loop, accessible , and involve everybody in the decision making.**

**What we do ought to match up with who we are.**

**When you get home,  
Read: Colossians 3:14**

**RESPONSIBLENESS**

**A good leader takes on responsibility not only for herself, but for those that follow .**

**The buck stops here so make sure that stop is positive!**

**Have the capacity to lead. This entails good stewardship.**

**Most of us remember that the famous Johnny Cochran said “If it don’t fit, you must acquit!”**

**Our own Soror Michele coined a phrase that can apply to anybody in any organization. She says: “If it don’t fit, don’t sit !”.**

**Every leadership position is not for you. Know your own weaknesses! (You will NEVER find me trying to be Tech Chairperson!!!)**

**You know what you are available to do or can not do because of other commitments, time, health, ability, energy, family**

**responsibilities etc. These are not to be used as excuses but sensible decision factors! If you KNOW you can't do it or won't do it.....just say so.**

**So.... Do what you do, not for status but for service. There is always somebody watching you!**

## **INTEGRITY**

**When a person lacks integrity she avoids transparency. Integrity and transparency are joined at the hip!**

**Integrity births many offsprings : honesty, humility, inspirational fellowship, passion, continuous improvement, trust, courage in decision making and impartiality.**

**Integrity leads to being proactive, not reactive...working for one purpose.....in our case, the Sisterhood!**

**Integrity makes people WANT to be led by you because they trust you.**

**“People aspire because they admire!”**

**A person who has integrity possesses the ability to empower.**

**As an issue of character AND integrity , Look at Colossians 3:23-24.  
Also, We all know Luke 6:31, “Do unto others as you would have  
them do unto you..... New International Version.  
“Treat folks like you want to be treated” .....Big Mama Nem!**

## **COMMUNICATOR**

**Know what to say and how to say it.**

**Convey confidence in your speech.....Speak like you know what you are doing.**

**This attracts trust and builds rapport. Additionally, it commands undivided attention.**

**Please do not be condescending!**

**Speak at a level that makes everybody comfortable.**

**For instance: a drop box means one thing to a lot of you but to me, it is a box with a drawer where you deposit mail or a Salvation Army donation.**

**Current vernacular may throw some of us off a little.**

**For instance: you are excited about planning an activity and you yell out, “That will be dope”!! And with a stare, my old school self**

**might say, “ naw girl, we can’t do that; dope is illegal! We will get suspended!!!!!!**

**These examples may be extreme, but you get the point.**

**Be clear**

**Be Confident**

**Be coherent**

**Proverbs 15:1 says “a soft answer turneth away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger” KJV**

**Our International hymn says.....And with a smile.**

## **KNOWLEDGEABILITY**

**Tomorrow's success depends on today's preparation.**

**A back-in-the-day Sunday school teacher of mine and my children's kindergarten teacher taught me this saying:**

**“You can't teach what you don't know and you can't lead where you don't go”.**

**II Timothy 2:15 (“ study to show thyself approved”...) is helpful to always remember. We need to be prepared ahead of time about our ideas on which way to lead the committee, group or followers.**

**“Where there is no vision, the people perish”: Proverbs 29:18. KJV That is self explanatory.**

**There is one thing for sure about knowledge... no one knows everything. Not even the leader. If you don't know the answer to a policy or procedure, admit that you don't know and commit to finding an answer.**

## **SELF CONTROL**

**This is the exertion of control over self by self!**

**We have heard so many times that there is no “I” in TEAM.**

**Self control propels character and actually encompasses the other leadership characteristics by having the leader possess temperance. The leader resists impulses to do what self wants to do, and maintains focus to see the task to completion. Therefore, the leader harmonizes with the committee and maintains a positive relationship.**

**Again I say..... “,And with a smile,  
We help each other  
For we know there’s no other  
Like our Sisterhood!**

**These are my tricks to help one possess characteristics of leadership:**

**Transparency**

**Responsibleness**

**Integrity**

**Communicator**

**Knowledgeability**

**Self Control**

**PLEASE ALLOW ME TO SHARE ONE PERSONAL SUCCESS STORY THAT I THINK IS A FAIR SUMMARY:**

**For 10 years , before covid, I led a Relay for Life team called Team Hope. This was a fundraiser effort for the American Cancer Society. I volunteered to start the team (RESPONSIBLENESS). The team trusted me (INTEGRITY) and would freely give me money anytime they felt like it, to report. One lady in particular, would stop me in church and give me a wad of cash and say, “ here, add this to the**

**team”, never asking for a receipt. Every time she did, I felt honored that she trusted me so completely. There was one lady who had HEARD about our team, got my phone number from one of the members and called me to say, she wanted to join Team Hope and would I meet her to get some money. We met at the Y, she gave me a hundred dollar bill to report and that was the first time we ever laid eyes on each other.(INTEGRITY, RESPONSIBLENESS)**

**Whenever any member wanted to know how much money she had raised, the question was asked and I had each dollar documented on a form with the date given to me.**

**(TRANSPARENCY) Ideas were put in place to foster a friendly competition among the members of the team**

**(KNOWLEDGEABILITY) (RESPONSIBLENESS) and over those 10 years, this team led the county in donations!**

**The team’s goal was to help somebody and the mission was accomplished. Now, this story was not to crown my head because remember, there is no “I” in team! (SELF CONTROL) This story is to convey that “Team Work Does Make The Dream Work” THANKS!**