Antonio Amabile

5/9/11

Substitute paper for exam

Article

**A reflection on service learning and personal leadership**

The United States and the world are facing many challenges and changes. Some of those issues are in the areas of social, technical, demographic, environmental, and economic. One way to develop this leadership is through the use of experiential learning projects and internships. Service learning plays a major role in the development of two things: the individual and the community. Research that suggests that service learning has a positive impact on personal, attitudinal, moral, social, and cognitive outcomes. They also believe that emphasizing service has the potential to enrich learning and renew communities, but will also give new dignity to the scholarship of service. This study attempts to further connect the idea of leadership development through experiential learning.

They found that participants in the service learning project were able to gain experience in areas they never would have otherwise. But an even more interesting finding was that they developed a drive to take risks and broaden their range of friends to include people from a diverse group. They also walked away from the study ready to take on more experiences and learned the importance of self-reflection and exploration.

Today, leadership development encompasses more than just developing leaders who are believed to have certain desirable skills. Leadership is approached as a social process that engages everyone. In this way of thinking, everyone is considered a leader. Thus the goal of leadership development is to turn a group of individuals in a particular organization or work environment into a team. In order to truly make a difference in an organization or business, both the individual leader and collective leadership.