

Kayla Allen

Boston 2018 Leadership Tour

23 March 2018

Reflection: Examining My Leadership Philosophy within the Boston Setting

Personality types have always fascinated me for their shockingly accurate depiction of one's unique way of approaching everyday life. Inspired by Jung's Theory of Personality Preference, a mother-daughter team constructed the infamous Myers-Briggs Type Indicator. Katharine Briggs and her gifted daughter, Isabel Briggs Myers, cultivated a passion for observing differences in living styles and developing new ways to measure these differences (46). This personality classification is based on the differences between four characteristics: extravert or introvert, sensing or intuitive, thinking or feeling, judging or perceiving. MBTI is not used to confine individuals to a box, but rather "to establish individual preferences and then to promote a more constructive use of the differences between people" (46). By approaching personality types in this manner, I am able to better understand *why* I am the way that I am without thoughts of comparison or worries of being flawed. According to the MBTI, I am an ISTJ which means I am introverted, sensing, thinking, judging. Although I relate to each and every point described of this personality type, I am careful to not put my complete identity in it. I understand that I am more than just four letters. Be that as it may, it is especially valuable to analyze how I interpret information, interact with my surroundings, or express myself in everyday life.

By exploring the differences between these characteristics, I can then pair my personality type with who I am as a leader. Boston was such an amazing experience, and I was able to

examine leadership with a new perspective. I noticed leadership qualities in not only myself, but also in others; these characteristics surfaced on their own regardless of being on a leadership trip. Having been with the same group of people for about four and half days straight, twenty four hours a day, there was no hiding true personalities. The possible masks fell off after the first, long travel day. Each member of the group became unique leaders in their own way, and it was a fascinating thing to observe.

Before this trip, I thought I would be a bit stressed or over-stimulated traveling around the city. This could not be further from the truth. I was rather in my element and quite enjoyed soaking everything in. Being in the center of the downtown Boston city life was surprisingly comfortable. It's not every day I get to gaze up at brownstone apartments, walk several blocks through the hustle and bustle, or catch a subway going roundtrip. My introverted self was in heaven as I absorbed each and every nuance of the city and found peace in quietly leading the group down the street (for the sole reason of being the fastest walker). I noticed as the Boston journey progressed, my confidence strengthened as I began to know my way around the city and skillfully strode on and off the the trusty Orange Line Train.



While most would see citylife as active and spontaneous, I noticed the ordered and structured side of citylife, which drew me to Boston even more. This would be my “judging”

quality coming out as I thrive on order and live for seeing plans through to completion (51).

Being in the heart of Boston, there were many decisions to be made and allowed me to use more logic and less emotion. As a “thinker,” I am able to stay cool, calm, and objective (50). Without being cold-hearted or careless, I can still remove emotions from a situation when necessary as I focus on the logic in order to finish what needs to be done. Furthermore, as a “sensor,” I would rather be *doing* something than thinking about it (49). I prefer to focus on the task at hand because completion becomes my priority. This rings true in Boston when we finished one thing, I was enthusiastic to go on to the next. Let’s go!

By analyzing the intricacies of what it means to be an ISTJ, I know who I am and why. I can accept the fact that I am not always outgoing, and that is perfectly fine. In the address “Thinking about Leadership,” Thomas Cronin says, “leaders are people who know who they are and know where they are going” (29). A leader does not fit just one mold. There are various leadership types needed in the world that complement an individual’s personality type. Everyone is a leader in some sort of capacity and being unique is a beautiful thing. Soaking up the Boston citylife was an experience I will never forget, and I feel so fortunate to have shared it with this amazing group of remarkable leaders.

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Angel Bui

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Cornerstone Leadership Studies

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Boston Leadership Tour Reflection: Realizing Change

The enormous city of Boston is rich in American history. For instance, Boston plays a central role in the American Revolution. Boston is not only known for its history but it is also the political, commercial, financial, religious, and educational center of the New England region. In fact, Harvard College was the first college to ever be built in America, which was one of the sites I very much enjoyed. The Freedom Trail and the Salem Witch Trials Museum demonstrations were one of the most interesting historical sites I've encountered. One demonstrated remarkable leadership by realizing and implementing change that was essential for the development of America while the other portrayed poor leadership by implementing change that was ethically wrong.

During my experience at Boston, the Freedom Trail was the best experience out of the whole trip for learning how leaders realized change and were able to successfully implement positive change. One of the most emphasized leaders during the tour was American Patriot Samuel Adams. Samuel Adams failed as a brewer and newspaper publisher before becoming one of the founding fathers and before participating in the American Revolution as a significant leader in igniting and organizing a revolution. His action for change cannot be understated. His persistent resentment towards Parliament's authority was instrumental, especially, for convincing the people to join the Sons of Liberty. The purpose of this organization was to protect the rights of the colonists and to fight against taxation by the British government. As a British citizen, he

often referenced the Magna Carta of 1215, which effectively stopped arbitrary taxation of barons in England. But once again, in the eighteenth century, the struggles against Parliament's Acts of taxation seemed all too familiar with the people of Boston. In my opinion, this period of the colonists' fight for independence against the Parliament is one that will continue to exist in history through repetition if change was not realized and initiated. Thus, I believe that Samuel Adams's initiative for change makes him an effective leader. One of his realizations for change was emphasized in his coordination of Boston's resistance to the Tea Act during the American Revolution, which resulted in the emergence of the Boston Tea Party and a political protest on December 16, 1773 in the Boston Harbor. Although the actions taken for change did not result in direct, immediate positive results, but instead resulted in dire consequences, it further stirred the Boston people toward revolution for independence. One of the factors that come along with implementing change is the resistance to the change. In this case, those resisting the revolution are the British Parliament, which includes the British community, and the Loyalists. According to John P. Kotter and Leonard A. Schlesinger in "Choosing Strategies for Change", the diagnosis for resistance in this situation could mainly be parochial self-interest (Phi Theta Kappa 375). In more detail, the British Parliament is resisting the revolution due to the fact that they will lose governmental control over the New World. Losing control over the thirteen colonies will result in the loss of economic opportunities, the loss of their influence over the colonists and the loss of power amongst other imperialist nations. Kotter and Schlesinger mentioned several methods that Adams used to deal with resistance: participation and involvement, facilitation and support, and negotiation and agreement (Phi Theta Kappa 375). He encourages participation amongst the community during the dumping of tea imports in the Boston Harbor and encourages involvement in the Sons of Liberty. With more people participating in the political war against England, there

is more support and facilitation from the people for independence and freedom. Finally, negotiations are achieved by the U.S. and Great Britain through the signing of the Treaty of Paris of 1783. Although, Samuel Adams was not a member of the commission, his second cousin, John Adams was named one of the members to negotiate a treaty, including Thomas Jefferson, John Jay, Benjamin Franklin, and Henry Laurens. The ultimate goal that most colonists were determined to achieve was a success. Samuel Adams contributed many efforts in the success of this fight for independence. His achievement can be traced back to his effective leadership, which I learned that taking charge to initiate change is very difficult due to multiple resistors. One must find the appropriate and ethical solution to fit the needs of the people and their future.

The following photo showcases the statue of Samuel Adams. The engraving says, “Samuel Adams, 1722 – 1803, A patriot, He organized the revolution and signed the Declaration of Independence”.



(Photo taken by Angel Bui, 2018)

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Gabriel Carbaugh

March 23, 2018

Boston Leadership Tour

Boston: Home of the Rebellion

Behind every rebellion and revolution, there are leaders that ignite the feelings of a repressed people. The American revolution brought the birth of great leaders that carried us through the revolt. "At the heart of every Great Group is a shared dream" (Byrd 204) for the revolution to have any real impact the colonist had to have enough supporters that believed that they were on a "Mission from God" (Byrd 204). But it all starts with one person to take the risk of throwing that first flame. Each person has a chance to lead in some aspects of their life. The question is on rather or not you will act upon that chance and persevere. This leadership trip taught me that leadership is taking advantage of the moment and doing things with a purpose.

During the Cornerstone quest for knowledge on leadership, we were able to take a trip to Boston. Our plane was set for Tuesday March the 13th but due to the severe winter storm our flight was canceled. Professor BC worked diligently with the District Organizer to reschedule our flight. Unfortunately we weren't able to fly directly to Boston, so we flew into New York City and took a shuttle to Boston. It is important for leaders not to be discouraged by events that are out of your control but instead find away to adapt to the situation at hand. This was my first time seeing New York and was definitely an experience flying into JFK.

Photo Taken by Gabriel Carbaugh

Thursday we really got to dive into the rich history that Boston had to offer. A tour guide took us through the Freedom trail and explain some the historical events that heppened. Old North church was a sanctuary for the rebellious Americans. This is one of the sites where they would hide gun powder and ammunition. Americans were able to organize and rally against the redcoats. We passed were Paul Revere and Samual Adams were barred.

Samuel Adams played a key role in leading a group of people to the boston harbour in what is now known as the Boston Tea Party. The Boston Tea party brought like minded people together and act agains't what they believed to be unfair tax laws. Sam Adams described the event ¹as "This destruction of the tea is so bold, so daring, so intrepid and so inflexible, and it must have so important consequences and so lasting that I can't but consider it an epoch in history." (Old meeting house) and so it was the starting point of a revolution.

The revolutionary war was a fight against the unjustices of the British Government and the currpt justice system that was forced into the colonies. When building the constitution it was clear that they wanted to prevent the Government from being able to empead our rights a citizens and fair representation. The statue of Samuel Adams outside of Furneil Hall describes perfectly on who we want as a leader "A Statesman, Incurreptable and fearless"

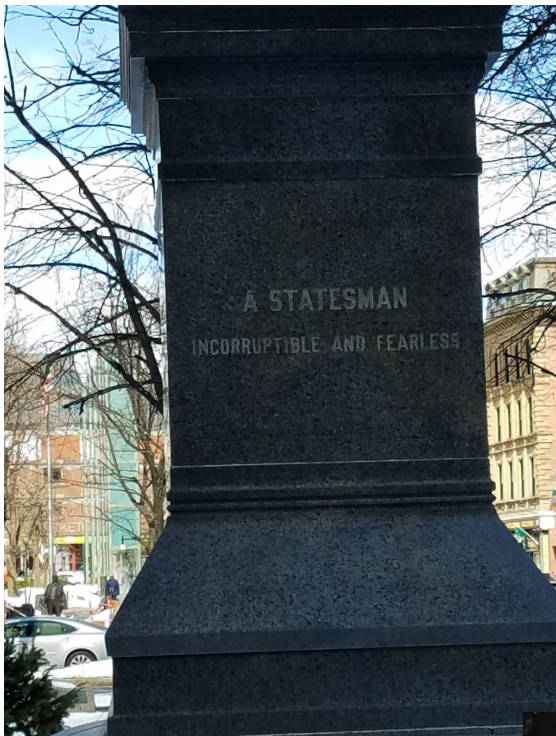


Photo Taken by Gabriel Carbaugh



Photo Taken by Gabriel Carbaugh



Photo Taken by Gabriel Carbaugh

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Image 1: Carbaugh, Gabriel "A Statesman incurreptable and fearless"

Image 2: Carbaugh, Gabriel. "Samuel Adams"

Image 3: Carbaugh, Gabriel. "The Group"

Sisi Kang

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Boston 2018 Leadership Tour Reflection

“When individual exercise leadership, their actions affect the ethical environment” (Edwards and Byrd 114).

I have been to Boston last year around the same time during Spring Break, this year, I have seen Boston from a totally different perspective and angle. With an amazing, carefully designed leadership program, I have learned more about different cornerstone students personally and learned about their leadership styles during the study trip. Most importantly, I learned the deeper meaning of leadership while having a great time. Indeed, Francis Bacon said, travel, in the younger sort, is a part of education; in the elder, a part of the experience (A Quote by Francis Bacon).

We went on a trip to the freedom trail around Boston Common Area and Salem Witch Museum in the Salem Village. I truly enjoyed it especially the Salem Witch Museum. The reason why Salem Witch Trials happened is that the beliefs in witchcraft was brought from England. This conflict accumulated during the 17th Century within such a small community in Salem. What ignited the Salem Witch Trials was because of two little girls named Betty Paris and Abigail Williams, who was niece and daughter of the minister of Salem, got awfully sick. The unknown disease at the time brought fear to people, and the doctor Williams Griggs claimed the girls were bewitched. The horror started from there; neighbors started to turn to each other that they looked for scapegoats who was doing the witchcraft “affiliated with Satan.” (What Led to Salem)

Consequently, twenty-innocent people were put to death during the Witch Hysteria of 1692. Finally, after the Governor Sr. Williams Phips listened to Thomas Brattle, who believed in true justice and those who were sentenced were innocent, the trial has slowly moved to an end. (Salem Witch Museum).

According to Barns (91), ethical leadership entails creating ethical command climates that set the conditions for positive outcomes and ethically appropriate behavior and provide negative consequences for inappropriate behavior. Fear and religious fervor played a significant role in the Salem Witch Trials leadership, which highlighted the dark side of human nature (The Salem Witch Trials)

There were many things we could not explain from history that people worshiped nature and practiced different religions. What is important is that we have ethical leaders to direct us the right track on the journey from survival to self-actualization (Saul, Maslow Hierarchy) during our short lifespans. As of today, there are more than 7.5 billion people in the world. (Worldometers) With the rocket speed of birthrate in more than 195 countries, the diversity remains under different leadership. Our culture and society keep changing at a rapid speed. From ancient 'Telos' when monarchy, aristocracy, and censorship is believed to be the right value for society by Socrates, to where the value of a modern democratic society has much more tolerance for many goals and individuality.

Internet was just invented in the 1990s; it has been going on an explosive rate, expanding towards more advanced technologies, such as augmented reality and virtual reality. Therefore, the ethical leaders hold critical roles in our world-leading us forward; the melting pot culture assists

in pushing our progress to the better. For leaders, understanding and respecting different cultures and values are critical to making decisions on what is right and wrong.

The moral beliefs of the leaders as an individual will usually sprinkle down to the organization or even society. Ethical decision making holds a very important stance. We could have different values, priorities, and perspectives. These aspects make up the elements when it comes to decision making. It is somewhat essential for leaders to be a “Satyagraha,” meaning loyal to the truth, to exercise leadership through a positive ethical position from the “public opinion.” Each of the individual, especially when the leader has the power to affect the ethical environment and organization culture (Edwards and Byrd). Therefore, we need to hold up moral values by evaluating our priorities, so the horror of Salem Witch Trials does not continue.



(Kang, Salem Witch Museum Cornerstone Group Photo)

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Brandon Kelley

3/23/2018

Leadership

Professor Blanco-Cerda. Professor Thompson

Boston 2018 Leadership Tour

Samuel Adams and Realizing Change

Leadership is a combination of different tools for different situations. However, there are numerous aspects of leadership that become a focal point during a specific situation. Boston Massachusetts, is one of the most historical sites pertaining to Revolutionary War United States history. Upon analysis and observation of history and reverence, it becomes obvious there were countless aspects of leadership involved: articulating a vision, making decisions, leading with goals, guiding through conflict, and building a team. However, there is one niche of leadership that I believe served as the catalyst for the other concepts: realizing change.

During the initial application for the Boston Leadership Studies, in my essay of expectations for Boston and what I will learn, I wrote:

However, [the Founding Fathers] ... worked to change the perspective and thought process of the pre-American people. The leaders inspired a new conceptual reality where there is the potential for something more than what is currently present, that there is greatness waiting to be seized (Kelley 2017).

When contemplating the beginning leadership step of the Founding Fathers of the American Revolution it would be quick to jump towards articulating a vision. Usually when one thinks of changing the status quo, the vision must be articulated first. Based on the excerpt above, perhaps

subconsciously, I knew before conscious realization, that a need for realizing change is what leads to the actual vision articulation. One has to realize what they *don't* want, in order to begin to contemplate and visualize what they *do* want.

Although a certain mythology of the Founding Fathers have been crafted and told, one hidden truth is that the Founding Fathers despised the taxation brought unto them, by a government essentially in another world, without reaping the benefits of protection, among other things. In addition, the people of pre-America simply did not approve of the European's narrative of the progression of life; thus the reason people initially risked their own life to travel to a world where material prosperity and (ideally) religious freedoms were a possibility.

Due to the desire of a new way, a new narrative, the founding fathers recognized change. The Fathers had not yet articulated a new vision, but they recognized the *need* of a new vision. Information during the Freedom Trail Tour of Boston was new to me, regarding a particular Founding Father: Samuel Adams. The information suggested Samuel Adams was almost a modern-day troll, rousing emotions that would stir up controversies and conflicting viewpoints, then disappear until the group worked towards progress of the issue presented. Due to the short description of Samuel Adams, I like to think of him as an anti-leader. Adams did not necessarily lead, but he did craft an environment wherein true leaders had to step up and shine.

In the excerpt of Phi Theta Kappa's "Choosing Strategies for Change" it mentions that reorganization is often feared or resisted because not only is it a "disturbance of the status quo" but it is also an "upset to the established ways of doing things" (PTK 374). The time of the American Revolution was the first recorded time where a group of 'civilized' Europeans went off and *created* an entirely new governmental system. Further, the excerpt continues to say that

“acceleration in the rate of change will result in an increasing need for reorganization” (PTK 374). The actions that Samuel Adam inspired and propelled certainly created an acceleration in the relationship deterioration between the British and the Americans, serving as a catalyst for reorganization to a new form of government.

In order to deal with the resistance of the American people in upsetting the status quo, Samuel Adams enacted several listed methods for dealing with resistance to change. Samuel Adams was involved in education and communication, communicating his “logic of a change” (PTK 377). Samuel Adams’ publicly defended harvard thesis paper entitled “Lawful to Resist the Supreme Magistrate, if the Commonwealth Cannot be Otherwise Preserved” certainly explained the logic on resisting the British (History.com 2009). Another way to deal with resistance to change includes invoking participation and involvement. According to the Freedom Trail tour, Samuel Adams was notorious to presenting an issue to the people, and then nearly disappearing to let them figure it out. Samuel Adam’s method of of ‘dropping the ‘bombshell’ essentially instigated participation.



Photography by Brandon Kelley (2018).

Samuel Adams bordered between being a leader and anti-leader, from forming the Sons of Liberty, to facilitating the Boston Tea Party. Samuel Adams exhibited certain traits of a leader such as realizing the need for change, having a vision, among others. Samuel Adams' anti-leader traits becomes recognized upon the information that he stirred up emotions and let others come up with solutions. I view Samuel Adams as a leader-facilitator, because one philosophy of leadership is the act of creating an environment for people to act to their best ability. The methodology attributed to Samuel Adams suggested that the turbulent environment that he created, and the act of taking many steps back, allowed for other leaders to step up, either out of necessity or voluntarily, and lead to the best of their abilities. Regardless of Samuel Adams' true history, on his monument erected in 1880, Samuel Adams is credited with organizing the revolution, with the inscription: "Patriot . . . Incorruptible and Fearless. . . A True Leader of the People" (Statue 1880).

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Gabrielle Saleh

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Boston 2018 Leadership Tour

Boston 2018 Leadership Tour Reflection- Group Leadership in Building a Team

Throughout this amazing Boston Leadership Trip, I discovered many aspects of leadership in the various places we visited. Boston sparked the beginning of our American history; therefore, the landmarks and cities were full of rich history. Indeed, each monument dedicated to the founding leaders showed the amount of leadership required to lead a nation. However, I was most inspired by the leadership reflected by our group of Cornerstoners in the Boston trip. From the first day of our trip, our group displayed team-building skills, such as cooperation and communication skills. With these skills, we were able to be a united team, which was necessary to successfully engage in this leadership trip. Indeed, we were also able to have a group identity while we embarked on each of our excursions. I particularly noticed this specific leadership aspect of group leadership and building a team in our team, when we went on the Freedom Trail in the Boston Commons area to explore the history of America.

Although our tour guide spoke of various men and women in history that led our country, I was most inspired by our tour guide's comment on uniting as a people today to be kind to one another. The tour guide played a character in the time period of our country's origin, as she explained our history. This made the tour exciting and interactive. Consequently, when our tour guide stepped out of her character and spoke of the necessity of caring for one another in this time period, her words resonated with our group. She highlighted that we all have a connection with each other no matter our backgrounds and where we come from. During this time, we were at the graveyard, where all the famous Americans in history were buried. Consequently, she

addressed that whoever we are, we all end up in a graveyard. Therefore, we are not more important than others, but we are simply on our own path in life. I believe this put a different perspective on our group, which impacted us through the rest of our trip.

This experience influenced our leadership as a group throughout the trip. During the remainder of the day around the Freedom Trail and the Boston Commons location, we began to exercise this leadership. I began to compare our actions to the part in the Leadership textbook entitled “Twelve Ways to Better Team Building,” by Ellen J. Belzer. We followed the step of encouraging networking by setting up communication platforms through the use of slack and text messaging. Consequently, we “establish[ed] exactly how the team [would] stay in touch and how often” (Byrd and Edwards 199). While we explored the area in pairs and small groups to learn leadership, we maintained communication with our advisors and each other. Additionally, when we were together, we had to navigate our way through Boston. Leaders within the group stepped up to find the train and bus schedules and discovered the route to walk there. Essentially, our team captains headed our team mission for us to discover the transportation system. With the guidance of our advisors, we were able to communicate as a group and locate the proper navigation systems. Although we had this particular goal, we practiced another step in the twelve steps of building a team, which is having the “flexibility to allow the goals to change,” when we discovered other modes of transportation (Byrd and Edwards 198).

Consequently, I was inspired by how we applied several teamwork steps in our textbook to real life situations. I am grateful that this trip allowed me to work well with a group to achieve goals, while also learning about other aspects of leadership. Moreover, I am no longer intimidated by working with groups, since this experience showed me how to both lead in groups

and be a servant leader in groups. This aspect of group leadership will help me in both my future academic goals and my future career as well.



Taken by Gabrielle Saleh



Taken by Gabrielle Saleh

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Ashlyn Walker

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Boston 2018 Leadership Tour

The city of Boston is full of rich history and stories about the origin of America. All around the city, monuments, statues, and buildings can be seen as a reminder of the great trials and obstacles the framers of this nation faced. Events like The Boston Massacre, Evacuation Day, and the famous ride of Paul Revere all exemplify moments in time that illustrated strong elements of leadership. The city of Boston is filled with an abundance of examples that show different characteristics of effective leadership. One location that stood out to me was the statue of George Washington within Boston Public Gardens. George Washington plays an integral role within the history of Boston, leading the victory of the Siege of Boston from Great Britain. George Washington is often named as one of the greatest leaders of American History. His ability to guide and empower others illustrates the effective qualities a leader needs to have to be successful.

Washington's history with the city of Boston is filled with conquest and the taste of victory. At the end of the eighteenth century, the United States' tension with Great Britain had reached a boiling point as British troops invaded and took hold of several important U.S. cities. George Washington, the Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army, was pressed to challenge and defeat the British army in order to reclaim American soil. One of the major U.S. cities under British control was Boston. Successfully planning and leading a troop of U.S. soldiers, on March 17, 1776, the Continental Army sent 11,000 redcoats running as they pushed

them out of the city. After this successful siege on Boston, this day was named Evaluation Day, and is remembered as an important triumph for Americans as they reclaimed their freedom and liberty. George Washington showed incredible authority and direction when he led the Continental Army to victory. His ability to lead and empower his troops helped lead the way to victory.

One of the most important elements a leader can possess is the ability to support and enable their people. The act of empowering others creates an atmosphere of encouragement. When others feel useful and important to the purpose of the group, they are more likely to perform at a higher level and take bigger strides to reach the goal. According to the book Leadership Development Studies by Phi Theta Kappa, “Empowering does not mean assigning specific tasks...it means encouraging followers to be creative instead of reactive.” (Phi Theta Kappa, 406). In the Siege of Boston, George Washington exemplifies strong elements of empowerment to his troops. According to an article written by Richard C. Stazesky, Washington was a visionary leader that was “able to instill in others the ideas, beliefs and values of the vision so that they become empowered to move beyond the leader’s and their own expectations” (Stazesky, p.9). In several examples, Washington was able to gather people to fight from all backgrounds of life. Military and civilians alike followed Washington to victory because they trusted, respected, and admired him as a leader.

Standing tall and proud, the statue at Boston Public Gardens represents the triumphant story of a great leader, his followers, and the victory that liberated a city. George Washington, the first great leader of this nation, exemplified many elements of effective leadership. His ability to gain followers and empower others helped enabled him to achieve success. The city of Boston

proudly displays Washington, and reminds others about the connection this great leader has with the city's history. From oppression to freedom, Boston has much to appreciate thanks to George Washington.



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Dylan Winkler

Leadership reflection (Boston)

Prof. Blanco-Cerda & Prof. Thompson

03/23/2018

“Reflecting and understanding the lessons the history of leadership provides us”

Though I picked the history of leadership as connection to our trip to Boston, Massachusetts for several reasons, the most glaring one was the fact that Boston has not only a wealth of monuments and information focusing on historical figures but is in a lot of regards the origin of leadership in the United States. Learning the success and more importantly the failures of past leaders is a must if one wishes to avoid the pitfalls and cycles of history. The main reflection I did the entire time was soak in what every detail of the graves, buildings, monuments and old document had to offer in the tedious and never-ending process of developing yourself as a leader. So I felt the best way to organize these reflections was to take several examples around Massachusetts that we saw and breakdown their historical value and what they mean to any modern day leader.

As soon as we drove into the heart of the city you could feel the significance behind many buildings without even really knowing why they were important. Then we met up with a rambunctious yet charismatic tour guide Gene. One of the first buildings she mentions was the Massachusetts state building setting on top of the hill overlooking Boston commons.

It was explained to us that the red brick building was built by Charles Bulfinch, an architect that was self-taught in an amazingly short period of time over in England. He came back and proved to all his doubters that he, a non-professional, could build magnificent architecture on par if not greater than the so-called

experts of the era. His resilience showcases a core value all good leaders should possess, which is unwavering confidence in your ability to get something done through focus and hard work. Never let doubt or fallbacks destroy your ambitions. Simply put the lesson on leadership I came to understand from this story is if you bend but don't break eventually you will rise to the top of whatever ladder you find yourself on.

Successful instances of leaderships are obviously the easiest to soak in but grasp of the lessons of success mean nothing if you can't avoid failures and learn how to deal with it when they occur. A perfect and shocking example we had the luck of going to see the town Salem where the infamous 1692 to 1693 witch trials took place, taking the lives of nineteen innocent men, women and children. Beginning from a fear of a taboo slave women into a full-blown pandemic where neighbors could trust neighbors. This pointless and evil event expresses a total breakdown of rational leadership. Instead of looking at concrete evidence exposing these murderous accusers the courts seemed to get caught up the hysteria simply to appease what was effectively mob rule. This truly helped drill that thought in my head. The leaders must be able to make the correct decisions even if those same decisions make a majority or powerful minority upset. He or She who has taken up a mantle of oversight of a group, no matter how small or big, must be able learn from those of the past horrors humanity has inflicted upon itself and allow rational thought to rise through the many voices of hate and violence to lead their group to a state of prosperity.

My favorite example is the experience I had seeing the streets and monuments around Fenway park home of the Boston Red Sox. One in particular invoked a thought of how roles of leadership bring more to the table than just direct orders and organization, but also an influence that can go far beyond the actual leader. This statue is called "the teammates", featuring Ted Williams, Bobby Doerr, Dom DiMaggio and Johnny Pesky. These four made up the core of the solid but not quite champions 30's

teams. What they lacked in world series rings they made up for in the way they stayed competitive and kept a city like Boston's spirit up while all the while the city is rife with poverty due to the Great Depression. These men had plenty of chances to go to other more successful teams, but they stuck together because they loved the city of Boston. Plain and simple, they got the bigger picture. Keeping a dying city alive makes them legends, appropriately rewarded with a awe inspiring bronze statue. I wish to learn this lesson and always keep an eye on the big picture, which is influence that affects others is more important than individual accomplishments.

Overall, I genuinely enjoyed my experience of being able to relax away from the stress of home and learn through these landmarks that represent so much historical leadership, good and bad, that one can't help but come back having a better understanding of what it is like to have responsibility. I can only hope that I am able to project these understandings outward and start pushing my way up the ladder, and not just keep it in my head and thinking of it alone. So that the main take away from this trip, is the inspiration of past leadership of this country to act not wait.



The Massachusetts State House; built 1798



Roger Conant (Founder of Salem; 1626)



"the teammates" Statue.