

## CONNECT

## Follow The Leader

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*Is leadership, simply having followers? Or is there more to it?*

1 The test for any leadership is - do the people who follow the leader grow as persons, become healthier, wiser, freer, more autonomous, more likely themselves to serve?  
The last word of this sentence is not a mistake.

2 Real leaders *serve* – they are Servant Leaders.  
Servant Leadership is a quite different concept of leadership from the one that most people are aware of.  
So – what does being a Servant Leader mean?  
How does it differ from merely being a leader?

3 Wikipedia's definition of [servant leadership](#) begins by describing it as:

*“a leadership philosophy in which the goal of the leader is to serve. This is different from traditional leadership where the leader's main focus is the thriving of their company or organisation. A servant leader shares power, puts the needs of the employees first and helps people develop and perform as highly as possible. Instead of the people working to serve the leader, the leader exists to serve the people.”*

The idea was made popular by Robert K Greenleaf in 1970. He said that a servant leader should be focused on my question at the beginning:

*“Do those served grow as persons? Do they, while being served, become healthier, wiser, freer, more autonomous, more likely themselves to become servants?”*

A 2002 study found that servant leadership was being practised in some top-ranking companies - and that such companies were highly ranked *because of* their leadership style. Further research confirmed that servant leaders lead others to go beyond the call of duty.

The Wikipedia article continues:

*“When leaders shift their mindset and serve first, they benefit as well as their employees in that their employees acquire personal growth, while the organisation grows as well due to the employees' growing commitment and engagement.”*

The word “employees” can be substituted by “people” or “followers” and the word “organisation” by a group - or society - or a country. Any situation in which there are leaders.

4 A pack of wolves shows us Servant Leadership in operation.



Take a look at the three wolves at the front of the pack. The one at the front is the pack's leader, right?

Wrong. The front three wolves are the oldest and most infirm – the slowest movers in the pack. They set the pace at which the pack moves.

Behind them, the next five wolves are the strongest and youngest. They protect the wolves in front of them and the ones behind them.

Next are the majority of the wolves.

Behind them is another group of five wolves, again with the role of protecting the rest of the pack from the rear.

The wolf right at the back of the pack?

*That's the leader.*

The wolf leader – at the back - has discussed with the pack before the journey, the destination and route, so that the whole pack knows where it is going – and why.

The leader – at the back - makes sure that no wolves are left behind.

Doesn't this describe leadership really well?

It is certainly a great way to see *Servant Leadership*.

5 How highly, I wonder, would Tony Blair and George W Bush rate on the Servant Leadership scale?

I always associate these two. It's not just because they are close buddies – a friendship that inspired [two hilarious books by Dr Parsons](#) – "Tony and Me" and "This is War, by Georg Bush" – the misspelling of Bush's first name is not mine, by the way - and I believe that Dr Parsons, the books' author, may have published under a pen name.

Blair was the Prime Minister of Great Britain and Northern Ireland from 1997 to 2007. Bush was the 43rd president of the United States from 2001 to 2009.

Tony and George [or Georg] feature in "Two Leaders – Two Criminals" on our [Opinion Pieces](#) page. This links to an analysis by an American writer about how these two men are not well placed to comment on current conflict situations – because of their own histories.

Blair is still a leader – he is the Executive Chairman of the [Tony Blair Institute for Global Change](#). "Equipping leaders to respond to the crisis" is the strapline of this organisation, which states on its website:

*"Leadership has never been more necessary or more difficult. We have always existed to support governments and will work with those around the world who have asked for our help."*

So, the Tony Blair Institute for Global Change is all about leadership.

As for George W Bush, his [Wikipedia article](#) says that he has kept a relatively low profile since no longer being President. Given his popularity rating, this is probably a wise move. There's also the little matter that – [as many people believe](#) – his own father, George H W Bush, was part of the conspiracy to murder his own President, John F Kennedy. How embarrassing.

It appears that any leader who puts God first might score highly on the Servant Leadership scale. The Bible appears to talk about Servant Leadership in 2 Samuel, verse 23:3-4 [New International Version] the words of which are said to form part of the last recorded words of King David:

*"...When one rules over people in righteousness, when he rules in the fear of God, he is like the light of morning at sunrise on a cloudless morning, like the brightness after rain that brings the grass from the earth."*

King David appears to be saying that someone who lives in such a way seeks to put God first, hates hypocrisy and wishes to bring, one might say, a blessing upon the world around them.

6 How well have Tony Blair and George W Bush enabled people to grow as persons, become healthier, wiser, freer, more autonomous, and more likely themselves to serve?

I haven't seen evidence for *any* of this.

I could have picked Emmanuel Macron, France's Prime Minister. Or Angela Merkel – Germany's leader. The rating would be the same – *nil points*.

Then there's Klaus Schwab, a *leader* who gets a lot of attention on CONNECT. This is a man whose sole purpose, surely, is to enable us all to wake up to what's really going on.

In terms of enabling people to grow as persons, become healthier, wiser, freer, more autonomous, and more likely themselves to serve, how does

Schwab, whose vision is described clearly in "[Who is Klaus Schwab?](#)"

- 7 Klaus Schwab believes that members of a self-appointed elite – like him – as the “leader” of the [World Economic Forum](#) – should decide how ordinary people live. Where they live. With whom. What they should eat. What they own – nothing, he has decreed. He even thinks how people should feel should be decided for them – and that is, happy, as he has instructed us to be - in the knowledge that he and his ilk own everything because they have plundered it from us.

Does Schwab's “leadership” enable people to:

Grow as persons?

Hardly.

*No choice, no agency, no power.*

Healthier?

Unlikely.

*More medicated, almost without a doubt.*

Wiser?

Definitely not.

*What people know – what they understand – even, what they believe – will be given to them.*

Freer?

No chance.

*Unless the definition of freedom is changed, which it probably would be.*

More autonomous?

Well... Schwab *might* allow people to choose which clothes they wear.

*I wouldn't bank on it, though.*

*He's already started telling people how often to wash their clothes.*

More likely, themselves, to serve?

Doubtful.

*In Schwab's unwell version of a vision for how the world should be, there cannot be any service.*

*Service arises from the heart and the soul – not from fear and coercion.*

- 8 To be a Servant Leader, one must have certain objectives in mind - being, *other people's development.*

Not *one's own benefit.*

One's own benefit follows. It does not lead.

Any politician who seeks power cannot be a Servant Leader.

Any person who seeks to implement an agenda cannot be a Servant Leader.

Any person who is prepared to lie or deceive – especially to lie to and

deceive their own people – or to break the law cannot be a Servant Leader.

A "leader" who persuades people to follow him or her – or coerces them, or uses their power to gain a following – cannot be a Servant Leader, any more than a bully in the playground – surrounded by "followers" - is a Servant Leader.

Blair and Bush both say that they believe in God.  
If so, this belief appears not to have translated into their idea of leadership.

[Mahatma Gandhi](#), the Indian leader, on the other hand, appears to have been a Servant Leader. His objectives appear to have been to enable people to grow as persons, become healthier, wiser, freer, more autonomous, and more likely themselves to serve.

These appear to have also been the objectives of President Kennedy, on whom there is abundant evidence to indicate that he was opposed to corruption and control by the criminal-government complex [CGC].

It would appear that both Kennedy and Gandhi set out to be Servant Leaders. *Interestingly, both leaders were assassinated.*

9 Personally, I think one of the major challenges facing us in the near future involves leadership.

In particular, the questions are:

Will people, once they have become aware of the truth about so-called "leaders," be prepared to ever trust *any* leader again?

Should society even have leaders?

It might be argued that relying on leaders is the problem, rather than having leaders.

It does seem to me that Servant Leadership would not foster the reliance on leaders that has been society's downfall.

As usual, I don't know the answers – but I *will* keep asking the questions.

### **CONNECT'S Maxim and Oath**

Connect is only interested in finding and sharing the TRUTH.  
In search of that TRUTH, we only pose questions – we have no answers.

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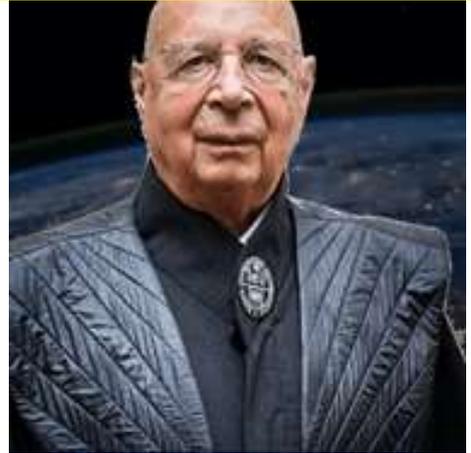
3 [LINK](#): Wikipedia: Servant leadership

5 [LINK](#): Amazon: Dr Parsons' author page: "Tony and Me" and "This is War, by George Bush"

5 [LINK](#): CONNECT: Opinion Pieces - Two Leaders – Two Criminals

- 5     [LINK:](#) Tony Blair Institute for Global Change
- 5     [LINK:](#) Wikipedia: George W Bush
- 5     [LINK:](#) Video: F Conolly: "From JFK To 911 Everything Is A Rich Man's Trick"
- 6     [LINK:](#) World Tribune: Who is Klaus Schwab?
- 7     [LINK:](#) World Economic Forum
- 8     [LINK:](#) Wikipedia: Mahatma Gandhi

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