Why Women Can Be Great Leaders

The debate on which gender is better is a debate as old as time. While the jury is still out, several studies have shown that when it comes to leadership women are more effective leaders. In fact, according to a <u>study</u> published in Journal of Applied Psychology women are seen by peers to be more effective than their male counterparts.

However, this doesn't mean that leadership is a skill exclusive only to one gender. It's gender neutral and can be learned by anyone. There are even <u>leadership courses</u> available to those who want to learn from the experts themselves.

Still, we cannot deny the fact that women, by natural inclination, can be better leaders. Here's why:

Women are great communicators

Women are known to be more expressive than men. This innate tendency makes it easier for women to communicate and relate to the people around them. Discussing issues with peers is never a difficulty, and so they can quickly come up with the most effective solutions.

However, being a good communicator means more than just the ability to express one's thoughts and feelings. It also requires great listening skills and empathy. Women just happen to excel in both departments. In fact, a <u>study</u> published in Forbes shows that "good listening skills" and "effective display of empathy" are two of the women's strongest suits.

Women are good collaborators

Women are also great at collaborating with others. This is because when women communicate, their goal is to convey information and <u>build connections</u>. They enjoy sharing their ideas and listening to others' as well. As a result, they are able to build a more meaningful relationship with the people around them.

Equality is also very important for women. So, they feel like it's their job to make everyone in their team feel respected and heard. During meetings and discussions, women leaders are more likely to invite her members to speak up and share their ideas.

Women are nurturers

As nurturers, women value the importance of personal growth not only for themselves but also for the people around them. This may be due, in part, to their motherly instinct to care for their young. In the professional world, this translates to their desire to motivate and see others reach their full potential.

A research reported on Business Insider, which examined about 45,000 leaders from different industries worldwide, backs this up. The <u>data</u> shows that when it comes to nurturing competencies (such as developing, inspiring, and motivating others) women scored higher than their male counterparts. Given the large sample size for the said research, it's hard to dismiss women's nurturing capacities as purely stereotypical.

Women are achievers

Despite all efforts against gender discrimination (*He For She* and *Women's March* to name a few), it remains to be prevalent, especially in the professional world. Most women still find themselves having to work twice as hard in order to prove half their worth. While this is an unfortunate situation for women, some seem to somehow thrive on it. Because they need to work a lot harder than men, women tend to excel more in their chosen profession and become successful in life.

These are just a few of the many things that make women great leaders. But many women have yet to realize the potential that they have in their hands. Until then, we'll be unable change the organizational landscape in the business world and make it more accommodating to women leaders.