

Assessment #3

Melissa Welz

EDTC 808: Summer Institute in Educational Technology Leadership II

Dr. Tracy Amerman

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As I continued taking this specific class through Summer Institute this week, our main focus was understanding leadership styles and how each cohort member fits into a specific style. Dr. Amermann gave us a set of twenty five statements. We were to read each statement and give a numerical rating for each statement thinking about ourselves and how we fit that given statement.

In conclusion of this activity, I was fit into the blue leader section. The blue leader dreams and inspires. They are the idea makers. They like to approach problems in new ways and tackle tasks differently than others. Blues are constantly thinking, brainstorming, and are often seen as the, “big picture” thinkers.

I fit perfectly in this blue leadership style. When I was driving home that afternoon, I kept thinking of who I admire and who also falls into the blue leadership style category. As I was thinking, a song from Lady Gaga started playing. And there you go! Lady Gaga is one of my favorite performers as of today.

The reason why I look up to Lady Gaga is because I can relate to her. I was bullied physically and mentally at a young age. I know that Lady Gaga was also bullied throughout her childhood. In various interviews, Gaga speaks about how when being bullied at such a young age, one does not have the awareness or the courage to recognize the severity of the given situation. One will simply believe this is how one is supposed to get treated, that this is how one

*deserves* to get treated, and so one will cower in place and just bear it in the hopes that it will cease one day.

As a young child, I didn't understand why I was being bullied. Was it something that I did wrong? Was it how I looked? Therefore, as Lady Gaga mentioned previously, I believed that this was how I was supposed to be treated. I then never told my family because I was embarrassed. Therefore, I would come home after school and stay in my room. I turned to music to drown out what had happened that day. I also turned to my piano and started practicing more. And Gaga turned to music just like I did mentioned in her books, documentaries, and song lyrics.

Through her love of music and theater, Gaga overcame her insecurities of the past. Gaga has mentioned in interviews that her insecurities are gone. She has overcome her insecurities. And this is why she is a leader in my eyes. She reaches her highest potential and keeps setting goals. Lady Gaga was the first woman to receive the RIAA's Digital Diamond Award, has won six Grammy Awards, 13 MTV Video Music Awards, been named one of "The World's 100 Most Powerful Women" by Forbes four years in a row, been featured as Billboard's "Artist of the Year" multiple times, and has been named one of the world's most influential people by Time.

Although she has many achievements, Gaga suffers from fibromyalgia and major heartbreaks from past relationships. These obstacles can drain you mentally and physically. As a leader, Gaga couldn't figure out how to set boundaries with her career. Due to this circumstance, she physically and mentally gets sick. She also has a hard time maintaining relationships due to her career. One of her goals is to get married and have children.

As for Gaga's future, I do believe that she is going to find someone to settle down with and have children. Like myself, would it truly be a Lady Gaga story if she didn't have to fight

for it? I hope she doesn't have to fight for someone to love and have children. Because that is another battle of its own.

Some people say we can't have it all. I disagree. I think we can. Hard work and patience are the key.