

## J. Michael Locke Musings

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### Guest Musing #3: Twenty Characteristics of a Good Leader June 8, 2020

The following was shared with a group of HiPOs at one of our companies by Jim Phillips who is the very successful Athletic Director of Northwestern University. The twenty characteristics of a good leader:

1. Always sets a good example
2. Genuinely cares about his or her staff
3. Challenges people to do their best
4. Does not seek the limelight
5. Will not let you give up
6. Is firm but fair
7. Listens well – ALWAYS
8. Works harder than anyone else
9. Maintains an open door policy
10. Inspires loyalty
11. Is enthusiastic – ALWAYS
12. Has terrific communication skills
13. Truly wants staff to be successful
14. Operates well under pressure
15. Can be tough and tender
16. Has a strong sense of urgency
17. Corrects matters in private
18. Is always straightforward
19. Celebrates successes together
20. Does not hide from bad news

Back to work!

Jml

### *Second Thoughts*

In a sad sign of our times, one of the most popular apps right now is Citizen. It is a safety app for major cities. *Citizen listens to thousands of police, fire, and energy service radio calls and, using your smartphone's GPS location, alerts you to emergencies nearby. With Citizen, you can see ongoing emergencies on a map, receive live updates on the situation, upload videos of the event, and post comments. During the last week of protests, residents have used the app to avoid violence, protestors to stay updated on police activity, and the media—and spectators—to track and follow the action. Full article:*

[how-safety-startup-citizen-surpassed-twitter-to-become-apples-top-news-app-amid-the-george-floyd-protests](#)

From the Chicago Tribune coverage of the looting. *The Rev. Marshall Hatch said the looting was a result of “vast income inequality ... This is what people do when they’re at the bottom. They don’t see authority as legitimate. They’ve been screwed, and they’re quite clear on that,” he said. “They’re at the bottom of the empire. It’s almost predictable that you’ve got all of this pent-up anxiety, anger, desire.”* I wanted to point you again to a piece by famed investor Ray Dalio on this topic from last year on how the growing economic disparity could create social cohesion issues. Give it a read. [dalio-says-capitalism-s-income-inequality-is-national-emergency](#)