Leader Development: Transforming Self-Concept:  LDR 807-12

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**Introduction**

The course "Leader Development: Transforming Self-Concept" has really been a vital part of my graduate studies. It dives deep into the psychological and spiritual sides of leadership—pretty essential stuff if you ask me. We cover topics like self-concept, spirituality, and moral development, all of which are key to effective leadership. By placing this course early in the sequence, it lays a solid groundwork for everything that comes next, pushing us to be more self-aware, make ethical decisions, and really commit to our personal growth. These aspects are crucial for anyone looking to lead—especially in tricky areas like immigration and health care.

**Personal Growth**
 Honestly, I’ve seen some real personal growth during this course. At first, I struggled a bit with understanding self-concept and how it plays into being an effective leader. But as we moved along, I started to realize just how much self-awareness influences my interactions and the choices I make. Engaging with the readings and doing reflective exercises really stretched my understanding and showed me parts of my self-concept that I needed to work on. For example, Bandura’s (1997) ideas about self-efficacy really opened my eyes. It was all about believing in myself, which is key to tackling challenges and hitting those goals. That was a game-changer for me—I began to develop a more resilient and proactive attitude.
 Plus, I had some great discussions on spirituality and moral development, especially through the works of Fry (2003) and Kohlberg (1981). Those conversations really enriched my view on ethical leadership. They highlighted how aligning my personal values with my professional actions can create a sense of purpose and integrity in how I lead.

**Reflective Entry**
 Bringing what I’ve learned in this course into my work in immigration and health care has been really eye-opening. One major takeaway? Self-efficacy is super important when dealing with the complexities of immigration policies and health systems. I’ve realized that believing in my ability to advocate effectively for immigrants and to provide compassionate care is absolutely crucial, especially in such high-stakes environments.
 And you know what? Integrating spirituality into my work has really reinforced my commitment to making ethical decisions. When I understand and respect the various spiritual and cultural backgrounds of those I work with, it really boosts my ability to provide holistic care and support. This course has also got me thinking about how we can better weave moral development into leadership training programs in health care. It’s essential that future leaders are ready to tackle ethical dilemmas with integrity.

**Conclusion**
 In short, this course has been a game-changer for my professional, spiritual, and educational journey. It managed to connect theoretical ideas with real-world applications, allowing me to grasp self-concept, spirituality, and moral development on a deeper level. These insights haven’t just made me a better leader; they’ve also reinforced my commitment to ethical practices in immigration and health care.
 Bringing these elements into my work has been particularly impactful, giving me a strong base for ongoing growth and development. The focus on self-awareness, ethical reasoning, and spiritual intelligence has really geared me up to handle the challenges in my field with confidence and integrity.

 Overall, "Leader Development: Transforming Self-Concept" has been a key part of my graduate experience. It’s given me some valuable tools and perspectives that will definitely shape my future endeavors. I feel like I’m developing a more compassionate and ethical approach to leadership that aligns with my desire to make a real difference in immigration and health care.

WORKS CITED

Bandura, A. (1997). Self-efficacy: The exercise of control. W.H. Freeman.

Fry, L. W. (2003). Toward a Theory of Spiritual Leadership. Emerald Publishing.

Kohlberg, L. (1981). Essays on Moral Development, Vol. I: The Philosophy of Moral Development. Harper & Row.