

## WHAT CAN MEN LEARN FROM WOMEN LEADERS ?

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Having met and interviewed 19 women presidents and prime ministers, I have observed that the best have the most ample and varied skill sets. This enables them to respond to whatever kind of situation that may call for their leadership.

At times, leadership requires collaboration and at other times command control. Historically, out-of-power groups often develop skill sets that include greater observation, knowledge, and awareness of those in power, which frequently equates to higher emotional intelligence about others.

Women have learned the effectiveness of collaboration and ensuring that all are listened to and included. Their speaking styles may also reflect a more relational approach to others. Men have historically learned a more transactional approach, which might include a more hierarchical command-and-control style. The best women leaders I have met know which approach works best, given the challenges they are facing. They understand the balance between “male” and “female” styles of leadership.