

TRANSFORMATIONAL LEADER: LESLIE KNOPE

By: Eryn Harvey

Who is Leslie Knope?

- ▣ Knope is the main character in *Parks and Recreation* on NBC
- ▣ She was the Deputy Director of the Parks and Recreation Department in the city of Pawnee, Indiana
- ▣ City Councilor
- ▣ She is currently Regional Director of the National Park Service, Midwest Region



What Knope is Known For

- ▣ Improving parks/city of Pawnee
- ▣ Preserving national parks
- ▣ Diabetes Telethon
- ▣ Filling in the pit (lot 48)
- ▣ Garbage truck to fight sexism
- ▣ Harvest Festival
- ▣ Soda tax
- ▣ The gala
- ▣ Unity concert



Ethos

- ▣ “She is firmly committed to the belief that government should provide a service for its people, and regularly goes above and beyond for the benefits of Pawnee's residents”
- ▣ “Knope is intelligent, well-read, and has good intentions, but is not always successful in executing her goals. She repeatedly tries to put a positive spin on failure”
- ▣ <http://college.usatoday.com/2013/12/30/7-reasons-why-leslie-knope-is-a-perfect-role-model/>

Daily Communication

- ▣ Has to communicate with public daily
- ▣ Attends public forums
- ▣ Leads meetings
- ▣ Helped public with problems when she was on City Council
- ▣ <http://youtu.be/Ng-HgRfGBY>



Leadership Communication Abilities

- ▣ Does not get discouraged by angry residents
- ▣ Listens to the concerns/problems of the public, and helps them resolve problems
- ▣ She communicates well with employees, and the public
- ▣ Knope worked her way up from Deputy Director of Parks Department, then City Councilwoman, and now Regional Director of the National Park Service
- ▣ Without communication Knope would not be the leader she is today

Video

- ❑ Knope is a fantastic public speaker
- ❑ City Council Debate Speech:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-JhqMsxH9-g>



What I learned

- ▣ By profiling Knope I learned that leadership comes in all sizes
- ▣ An employee in City Hall is just as responsible for leading and communicating with the public as a member of Congress or a celebrity is
- ▣ Knope is a good example of leadership communication because of her work ethic, dedication to her job, professionalism, and her love for the people/city/parks of Pawnee

How I Define Leadership Communication

- ▣ Leadership Communication: The ability to express your opinion and ideas to the public while listening to their ideas, in order to effectively lead

