



Educational Leadership and Moral Literacy: The Dispositional Aims of Moral Leaders

From R&L Education



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What makes a moral person moral? Who decides what morality means? What makes leadership practice moral? In today's schools, what stands as moral leadership? These are questions that reflect the complexity integral to the calculus of human morality, especially in a world that is defined daily by its variant meanings of morality, its acts of immorality.

The school as an educational setting is or should be a decidedly moral center of the society; it is the natural intersect between the family and the multi-dimensional nature of public life. *Educational Leadership and Moral Literacy* addresses these questions, situating the reader in a conversation that examines the meaning and nature of moral leadership through the lens of moral literacy and the dispositional aims of moral leadership in educational settings. The contributing authors extend an argument that the work of leader educators and practitioners alike must continuously be re-articulated around the dispositional aims aligned with a moral, democratic education. Educators must be concerned with developing the moral, intellectual, and aesthetic dimensions of the educational leader as a "moral person."

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Editorial Review

Review

This substantive work on the contemporary topic of educational leadership and moral literacy engages leaders in the significant task of developing beyond competent leaders into moral architects. This lens advances the field of educational leadership where the role of leaders as moral agents for today's schools has gradually come to the fore. Those who prepare educational leaders will also benefit from how the contributors to this volume peel back the onion on the topic of morality, exposing it in relation to such crucial areas as dispositions, literacy, climate/culture, and selfhood. (Carol A. Mullen, professor of educational leadership, director of the School of Education, and associate dean for professional education of the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences, Virginia Tech University)

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Patrick M. Jenlink in his new book, *Educational Leadership and Moral Literacy: The Dispositional Aims of Moral Leaders*, explains moral consciousness, obligation, judgment, understanding, and socialization in terms that leaders can understand and employ in their lived realities. He encourages educational leaders' metacognition and moral-cognition in order to actualize moral leadership. (Beverly J. Irby, chair, PK-12 Educational Administration, Texas A & M University)

About the Author

Patrick M. Jenlink is Professor of doctoral studies in the Department of Secondary Education and Educational Leadership and is Director of the Educational Research Center at Stephen F. Austin State University. His scholarly interests are focused on moral literacy and leadership.

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