

COMPARE/CONTRAST ESSAY



The Gettysburg battle inspires various lessons on leadership. The role-played by General Lee and Colonel Chamberlain in their leadership styles impacts various modern day leaders. This is a comparative essay on General Lee and Colonel Chamberlains' leadership styles during the war.

Gettysburg is not only a battlefield but also a hub for leadership lessons exhibited by the two generals. Moreover, historians argue that it was a major turning point in American history. Furthermore, the occurrences at the park have revolutionized leadership not only in America but also round the world. However, history aside, two military men General Lee and Colonel Chamberlain exhibit different yet important leadership styles that in one way or another influenced the outcome of the battle at Gettysburg. Indeed, both men have quite distinct leadership frameworks that we all find easy to argue out in a logic and comprehensive manner.

General Lee is seen to deploy a rather offensive tactics against quite large unions of soldiers. This success encourages the quite successful general to renew his campaign as the leader of Northern Virginia's Army. General Lee's leadership involved empathy compassion, honest and respect for others. From his interactions with others, one can clearly outline empathy and compassion. For instance, in one of his conversations with General James Longstreet, General Lee displayed maximum support and comfort while consoling the general for the loss of her daughter. As a leader, Lee had genuine interests in other's well-being. He was opened to his commanders ideas and very much acknowledged whatever input they brought.

Furthermore, he investigated and gathered all information needed before ordering commands. Often he requested input from his commanders in orders to come to the right decision.

However, Colonel Chamberlains' leadership styles were a bit rigid. Lacking no training on leadership or war, He managed to serve as a colonel in the 20th Maine Regime. However, Chamberlain was a great decision maker as opposed to Lee. He had the decisions to his head without consulting his juniors. Furthermore, his critical decisions were quite a savior even when the troop suffered hit. As the Jeff Bridges movie, Gettysburg depicts him, He was faced with the biggest decision of his life when he had to either shoot fellow soldiers from the second regime or shoot them dead. Realizing he needed more men and his camp was on the ambush, he recruits the soldiers to help him fight.

Clearly, the two soldier's leadership styles greatly influenced the results of the battle at Gettysburg. From the movie, it is clear that the two had compassion for their soldiers and deep down within them had no intent for loss of lives. The movie outlines how Chamberlain recruits former soldiers of a banned regime to fight for him instead of shooting them.