

Reflective Essay: Personal Insight

The purpose of this essay is to reflect on the information and experiences I have gained during my time in the Basic Leaders Course. The three topics I will be covering will be counseling Soldiers, the different types of leadership and the importance of attention to detail when performing a task. The below topics will be my personal reflection on what I learned during this course.

I learned a lot about the importance of counseling and creating corrective training for your soldiers. I also learned when to counsel my Soldiers and the proper form of counseling soldier. Counseling my soldiers, the proper way is important to me because my leadership is not very good at counseling soldiers. I want to be better than that for my Soldiers and lead by example. After returning to my unit, I will be enforcing the standard in my squad and setting an example for my fellow Non-Commissioned Officers. I also learned that corrective training must relate to the topic that the soldier is lacking in. Meaning I cannot just force a soldier to do physical exercises because he or she is late. But, I do get to be creative and come up with corrective exercises that can range from showing up extra early or whatever relates to that soldiers deficiency.

While in the Basic Leaders Course, I learned that there are many different types of leadership. The type that stood out to me the most is servant leadership. The reason this hit so close to home for me is because it reminded me of my old Platoon Sergeant. He would constantly place others in front of himself and was one of the most selfless people I had ever met. I remember a time when he chose to stay and work

over a weekend so that his soldiers could spend time with their family. He was stationed at Bragg while his wife and kids were living in Washington D.C..

Attention to detail is extremely important when it comes to becoming a Non-Commissioned Officer. On top of that being able to step back and look at what you are doing to make sure you are doing the right thing is extremely important. I know that I am a hard charger and get tunnel vision. When I decide on how to do something, I normally charge forward and do not double check myself. In the future, I plan to make the conscious decision to pause, breath and make sure that what I am doing is the best that it can be.

In conclusion, I plan to use many of the lessons that I learned while in the Basic Leaders Course. But, the most important ones to me are having the ability to counsel my Soldiers properly and lead my fellow Non-Commissioned Officers by example. To focus on developing myself as a servant leader and making sure that I am constantly seeking to develop and help my soldiers. Finally, to slow down and make sure that what I am doing is to the Army standard.