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Servant Leadership: A Manifestation of Post Materialism

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Servant Leadership has been brewing since the 1970s and has recently emerged in public administration as a postmodern alternative to traditional and modern leadership theories. Infused with notions of morality and interdependency, service and exchange, Servant Leadership rejects dependence and independence as possibilities for the workplace and chooses interdependence instead (Cunningham, 2002). At the 2002 Southeastern Conference for Public Administration, Bob Cunningham chaired a roundtable on Servant Leadership which drew a large crowd, many of whom were acquainted with the subject and interested in locating resources to learn more. But why is Servant Leadership on the rise now?

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