# You Have The Power-Our Next President Is Up To You!

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[](http://uniquepathways.websitehabitat.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/21/2012/04/1334250874-todayvote.jpg)  We have been in the midst of being bombarded with new points of view from the political debates.  We have watched or listened to each prospective nominee distance himself/herself from past inadequacies.  We have heard rhetoric on religious beliefs, secular core values, past accomplishments and the distrust for the present administration.  We observed body language from which we try to see past the remarks of the day. Who are we really going to vote for to lead our country as the most powerful nation globally?  Whose vision do we want to embrace?  Who will we personally get behind to make a new economically sound, educated, peaceful nation respected by the entire world’s people? **We have the privilege of choosing a leader**.  What qualities should we really be looking at?  In the past we have elected people whose leadership qualities propelled us into being a nation of great results or elected officials whose leadership lacked leadership qualities and thus created situations where new leadership was needed. I suggest we do more than simply listen to the orations of these political hopefuls: compare their views, behaviors, and vision to past great leaders whose leadership qualities helped guide our country, with the assistance of their “team”, toward reaching their vision for a better nation. Abraham Lincoln is respected as one of the greatest presidents our nation has ever had.  His leadership qualities as suggested by Doris Kerns Goodwin in her book Team of Rivals   are:

* His willingness to listen to differing opinions and create a non fearful climate for opposing      discussion.
* His ability to learn on the job and correct mistakes
* His willingness to share credit for his success.  He considered others and praised their input.
* His willingness to shoulder the blame for the failure of his subordinates.
* He possessed the awareness of his own weaknesses and compensated for them.
* He was able to control his emotions.

During this election year, let us become leaders in our own right by being willing to listen to opposing opinions, learn from past errors in judgment and action, share accolades with those who have given us the inspiration to do what we do, accept blame when necessary to move things forward-(“The Buck Stops Here”-President Harry Truman), admit your weakness, improve on what is lacking, and be present so you act in a focused manner, rather than react and regret it. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ja3iNHVPfoE&feature=related>   Email: [isabel@uniquepathways.com](mailto:isabel@uniquepathways.com)