

# Authoritarianism to Togetherness

Authoritarianism is a harmful and ineffective way to lead.

Authoritarianism is a hierarchical power structure that causes separation.

## Authoritarian leaders:

boss, take full control, micromanage, take no input from others, expect obedience, respond with rewards and punishments, has a *me vs. them* mindset and does not meet people's needs, so it perpetuates negative behaviors.



"Do this!"

It doesn't work because we have lost trust in our leaders.

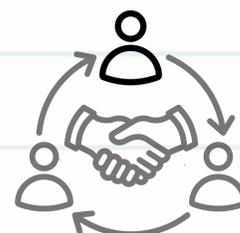
- We have discovered leaders do not have our best interests at heart.
- Obeying is no longer beneficial or safe and can cause harm
- Because of this, we no longer view the people at the top as better.
- We are more educated about bullying and can clearly identify it and fight back by standing together.

Our fear of permissiveness (also a hierarchy) has kept us from allowing new, balanced leadership styles.

The way forward is with **TOGETHERNESS** as the priority.

## What I call Balanced Leadership

- A circular structure with a leader who views everyone as equally valuable, is trustworthy, confident, in charge.
- Creates an *us vs. the problem* mindset
- Provides a balance of needs:
  - **Belonging**- #1 need. promotes togetherness, and teamwork so everyone feels connected, respected, and encouraged.
  - **Boundaries**- protects the health and safety of the group while maintaining everyone's rights and freedoms. Boundaries are clearly established and kindly enforced but also respectfully reciprocated.
  - Finding the right balance may be difficult after centuries of imbalance.



"Let's do this!"

## HOMEWORK!

How can you bring more balanced leadership and togetherness into your home or classroom? "Let's do this!"

1. Promote Belonging through a team mindset (us vs. the problem), valuing children's opinions, and ensuring they feel connected, respected, and encouraged.
2. Provide Boundaries that maintain everyone's health and safety while respecting their rights and freedoms and are clearly established, enforced, and reciprocated.