**remarks for**

**girls inc. women of vision**

**celebration luncheon**

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***(slide 1)* Thank you for the kind introduction.**

**so “hoo yah” started out as a motivational “shout out” for navy divers and seals… but now the entire navy uses it.**

**hoo yah! *(pause)***

**I didn’t hear you … hoo yah! *(pause)***

**Now that’s a greeting!**

**Thank you all for the great welcome. I am very excited to be here with you today. i want to thank robin rose for inviting me and thanks to everyone who had a role in putting on this great event.**

**Can I ask all members and volunteers who helped with today’s event, to please stand up and be recognized.**

***(Pause; Applaud)***

**Thank you all for a job well done.**

**I’d like to spend the next few minutes talking with you about leadership – specifically what it means to be a leader, and a few qualities that leaders possess.**

**then i’ll sprinkle in a few thoughts of my command philosophy which has steered me to becoming the leader I am today.**

**Let me ask you a question -- when you hear the word “leadership,” what comes to mind? *(Pause)***

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**---**

**---**

**Just shout it out. Come on*. (Pause)* OK, I heard (*repeat what audience say*).**

**---**

**---**

**---**

**all Great answers!**

**Peter Drucker was a famous management consultant, educator, and author. Considered the founder of modern management, Drucker spent his life studying management in various organizations, including the corporate world and government agencies.**

**One of his famous quotes …**

**“Management is doing things right… Leadership is doing the right things.” *(pause)***

**Let me repeat that. *(pause)***

**Management is doing things right*. (pause)***

**Leadership is doing the right things*. (pause, look at audience)***

**AS YOUNG PEOPLE, IT IS SO IMPORTANT TO BECOME LEADERS IN YOUR OWN LIVES.**

**WHAT I’M SAYING IS IF ANY OF US CANNOT BECOME POWERFUL LEADERS IN OUR OWN LIVES FIRST, THEN HOW CAN WE EVER THINK WE CAN LEAD OTHER PEOPLE AND ORGANIZATIONS SUCCESSFULLY?**

**BEING INVOLVED WITH GIRLS INC., YOU ALREADY HAVE A GOOD START.**

**YOU ARE PART OF A PROGRAM THAT IS FOCUSED ON HELPING GIRLS:**

* **AVOID RISKY BEHAVIORS,**
* **GRADUATE FROM HIGH SCHOOL, AND**
* **HAVE THE BEST SUCCESS OF STEPPING INTO THEIR OWN POWER TO ACHIEVE THEIR GOALS AND DREAMS.**

**I WANT YOU TAKE A MINUTE TO LOOK AT THREE MAIN QUALITIES THAT SET LEADERS APART.**

***(slide 2)***

* **Self-awareness**
* **Passion**
* **And Purpose**

**Let’s talk about self-awareness. True leaders know who they are. They know their strengths. They know their weaknesses.**

**They know the kind of person they are at this very moment, and they know the type of person they want to be.**

**They know their values and they live by them every single day.**

**When others around them are whispering in their ears or shouting at the top of their lungs what type of person they should be, leaders hold their ground and remain true to who they are.**

**I can tell you, as an admiral, knowing – and staying true – to who I am is absolutely critical.**

**Just like many of you, others can judge us based on maybe what they read about us online, how well we deliver OUR REMARKS, or even by our physical appearance.**

**That is why self-awareness is so important, particularly for women, i think.**

**Although I am completely open to what others think and recommend, at the end of the day, I know I need to stay true to who I am.**

**Self-awareness is one of the hardest characteristics to grasp or realize.**

**one doesn’t just wake up one morning and say “i want to be a leader today.”**

**in my case, it took time.**

* **it took great parents who raised my siblings and ME with discipline, respect, and integrity.**
* **during the earlier years of my naval career, it took great mentors with a lot of patience to teach me and guide me ALONG the way.**
* **and it took time and investment.**

**NEXT LET’S TALK ABOUT PASSION:**

**when i look around today and see these girls and the volunteers who are investing in THEIR TIME TO “MAKE A DIFFERENCE,” i can see the real passion EACH OF you have for this organization -- and what it stands for.**

**girls inc. is passionate about creating girls who are strong, smart and bold!**

**Who here can say they have passion? Raise those hands. *(Pause)***

**Great! I knew this was an impressive group!**

**Passion is that drive that gets leaders up in the morning and through the day. Do not confuse passion with working hard.**

**The difference between hard work and passion is that passion never ends.**

**Passion is that relentless voice in your head that tells you to keep moving forward, keep trying and keep doing your best.**

**Passion is what makes you get up when you have fallen -- And trust me, there will be times you will stumble and fall. It is passion that will get you to dust yourself off and move on.**

**When others tell you that you can’t do it, *(pause, look up)***

**passion is what gives you the courage to look at that person and say with grace and confidence … “Watch me.” *(pause)***

**You may be asking yourself – So how do I develop passion?**

**First, you need to understand that passion comes from within. Remember what I said about self-awareness.**

**It is about knowing who you are and who you want to be. If you do not have passion, then you need to admit that to yourself and work on it.**

**Next -- to develop passion, you need to figure out what motivates you, what drives you, and what your purpose IS.**

**my passion is what motivates me to be the “rough, tough, can’t get enough” leader with a purpose.**

**so -- that brings me to the THIRD quality of leadership – purpose.**

**Leaders with purpose, with a vision, know that: what they do … and what they need to do … is bigger than themselves.**

**It is thE impact they want to make on the world. It can be a big impact or a small impact.**

**Regardless of depth, purpose is never about one’s self. Purpose is always about others. my purpose is to “always make a difference.” to have a positive and lasting impact on every mission and every person i work with.**

**so, where does the foundation of self-awareness, passion, and purpose come from? for me, it was my parents.**

***(slide 3)***

**My PARENTS ARE my heroes.**

***(EXPLAIN THE PICTURES)***

**To me and my SIBLINGS, THEY weRE THE DYNAMIC DUO. MY DAD WAS PROVING HIMSELF AS a leader with A purpose, becOMING a naturalized U.S. citizen, SERVING the Navy for more than 20 years, and retirING as a chief petty officer.**

***(slide 4)***

**of course, the support of my family (or ohana is also a big part of my success. they’re my biggest cheerleaders.**

***(EXPLAIN THE PICTURES)***

**for you, that support, that foundation, may come from experiences you have HERE at girls inc.**

***(slide 5)***

**the power of a girl – PARTICULARLY FOR THOSE girls who become strong, smart and bold - comes from someone who takes the time to help plant a seed.**

**that person can be a grandparent or mentor or some other role model who takes the time and effort to make a difference.**

**that person is a leader.**

**IF YOU ARE HERE TODAY, YOU ARE PROBABLY THAT LEADER. if you DON’T THINK YOU are THAT LEADER, THEN i encourage you DIG DEEP WITHIN BECAUSE IT’S IN THERE SOMEWHERE.**

**IT IS SO IMPORTANT TO INVEST IN A GIRL’S FUTURE. WHEN ONE MAKES THAT INVESTMENT, THE REWARDS CAN GO BEYOND YOUR WILDEST EXPECTATIONS.**

**My dad had a great influence on me joining the Navy, and it has been the best decision I have made. I BECAME AN ADMIRAL!**

**Now in my position, I hope to make good on the values he AND MY MOM taught me -- and along the way… hopefully influence others to do great things.**

**Many assume that as a FEMALE, it must be difficult moving up the ranks. Let me share a secret with you – it’S CHALLENGING FOR EVERYONE… but IT can be less difficult if you have the right attitude and – in my case – the right philosophy.**

**The Navy has come a long way. Now more than ever, Sailors are expected to perform above the standards required of them.**

**It is not one’s gender, sexual orientation, religion, OR nationality that influenceS the outcome of a Sailor’s career.**

**It is merely the individual and his or her own merits that count.**

**Throughout my career, I have kept true to my command philosophy – (I MENTIONED AT THE BEGINNING I’D SHARE IT WITH YOU). to date, IT has steered me in the right direction. My command philosophy is:**

***(slide 6)***

* **Treat people right.**
* **Be honest.**
* **Teamwork and loyalty.**

**Treating people right is an absolute must regardless of a person’s position, rank, gender, nationality or religion.**

**We all know the golden rule – do unto others as you would have them do unto you.**

**If we expect people to approach us with respect, we must also be respectful.**

**I always encourage my staff and colleagues to treat EACH other right even during the busiest times.**

**Just as important, I try to set the example and treat everyone with the dignity they rightfully deserve.**

**As the leader of my command, I value honesty and I ask my staff to tell me what’s on their minds and to share their thoughts. I can admit that I am not the sole keeper of good ideas. No one is.**

**If we are able to be truthful and open to one another without judgment, we can accomplish a great deal in a short amount of time.**

**Finally, teamwork and loyalty are critical elements to my command philosophy.**

**It takes a team partnering with one another regardless of their differences in order to prevail. Without teamwork and loyalty, no one will be able to overcome hurdles.**

**My command philosophy is “tried and true” and has proven to be effective throughout my entire career.**

**Each one of you here can be a leader. You can be that leader with self-awareness, passion, and purpose. It is a choice that only you can make. AS FEMALES, WE HAVE DEFINITELY CONTRIBUTED TO MAKING THIS COUNTRY A BETTER PLACE TO BE.**

**IN FACT, THERE ARE SO MANY SONGS OUT THERE WRITTEN ABOUT GIRLS, WOMEN -- FEMALES. THOSE SONGS OFTEN MAKE THE TOP OF THE CHARTS…**

***(SLIDE 7)***

**Now, let me ask you all a question … Who runs the world?**

***(slide 8)***

***(pause; audience should say “girls”)***

**Come on! I didn’t hear you! Who runs the world?**

***(pause; audience should say “girls”)***

***(Keith urban “female” song playS)***

***(slide 9)***

**Although I enjoy singing songs on the karaoke as much as the next person …**

**the truth is that it will take all of us to care for the world.**

**Looking around the room, it is easy to spot our similarities.**

***slide 10***

**Yet, I also see differences.**

* **Different faces.**
* **Different backgrounds.**

**But that is what I find most inspiring. It is through our differences we are able to draw upon the strength to unite and break down barriers.**

**Learning from one another and listening to each other’s different perspectives will only create better ideas and better outcomes for everyone. *(pause)***

**ok – so let’s wrap it up… what are the take-aways? ….**

***(slide 11)***

* **Stay true to yourself**
* **Lead with a purpose**
* **embrace the future**
* **but most of all – make a difference!!**

**it has been an absolute honor to be here today.**

**hoo yah GIRLS, INC! --**

***(pause for their response)***

**keep chargin’!**