

**“Good Leadership
And Getting On Top Of
Office Politics”**

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One view

Office or organizational politics involves actions by individuals, teams, or leaders to acquire, develop, and use power and other resources in order to obtain preferred outcomes (Hellriegel and Slocum, 2011: 293; Nye, 2004; Cross, Parker and Cross, 2004).

Another view of office politics?

It is all about people!

“A clever person turns great troubles into little ones and little ones into none at all.”
(Chinese proverb)

One must be
a gentleperson (*junzi*)

Stand by one's values!

Speak correct & be trustworthy!

Don't have melon-sweet lips and bitter gourd heart!

Practice "*Ti*" (Brotherhood)

Make things happen!

Be a silent achiever, (s)he does not brag, bragging or boasting attracts enemies.

Low (2010: 42) has also argued that the leader gets soft power when (s)he stands for his or her values, has moral courage and represents what a leader stands for. The gentleperson (*junzi*) stands tall, and understands what is right and ethical. (*The Analects*, IV verse 16). In another verse, *The Analects*, XII: 4 (Lau, 1979: 113):

Ssu-ma Niu asked about the gentleman (*junzi*).

The Master said, ‘The gentleman is free from worries and fears.’

‘In that case, can a man be said to be a gentleman simply because he is free from worries and fears?’

The Master said, ‘If, on examining himself, a man finds nothing to reproach himself for, what worries and fears can he have?’”

