TED TALK

WHY WE HAVE TOO FEW WOMEN LEADERS

BY SHERYL SANDBERG

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION
INSTRUCTIONS
Individually or as a group, watch the TED Talk “Why We Have Too Few Women Leaders” by Sheryl Sandberg (available at leanin.org/women-leaders). Use the questions below for a group discussion on the themes and ideas presented in the video.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION
• This video was recorded in 2010. Today, we continue to live in a world in which women are not making it to the top of any industry or government in the world in equal numbers to men. Why do you think that is?

• Do you believe that women are judged more harshly than men? How likeable are the women you know who are in positions of power? How important is it for you to be liked by your peers?

• Where do you usually sit in a classroom or conference room—in the middle of the action? On the sidelines? Are you nervous about drawing attention to yourself?

• Have you passed up opportunities because you felt unsure or insecure? Have you seen others pass up opportunities they should have seized?

• Share a time when you challenged yourself. Did you succeed or fail? Did it make you more likely to challenge yourself in the future?

• Do you expect your partner to split household tasks fifty-fifty? What about child care? Why or why not?

• Have you pulled back from seeking new challenges in anticipation of making room for a family? After hearing Sheryl’s advice, “don’t leave before you leave,” do you plan to keep your foot on the gas pedal in your career? How?

• Would you be happy if you had a son who became a stay-at-home dad? A daughter who wanted to have a high-level job?

• What can men do to help create more equal workplaces and families? What can women do to help create more equal workplaces and families?

• What’s one key takeaway from the video that you’d like to share with someone else? With whom would you share it?