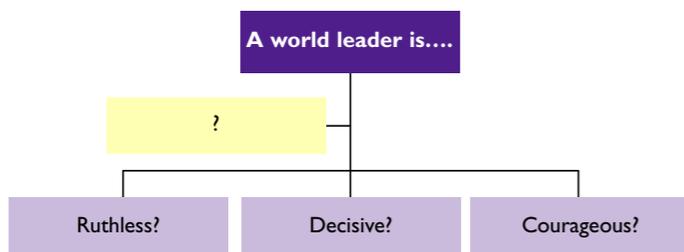




Dialogue Mat: It's good to talk Session 1

In groups, critically consider the questions – write your group responses on the dialogue mat

Leadership – what characteristics, qualities and dispositions do you have to have to be a world leader? Brainstorm below. Add more boxes....



“A leader is a dealer in hope.”
Napoleon Bonaparte

2 Consider the following in the light of your discussion above – Is a leader born or made? Give reasons for your answer....

3 Elizabeth I and Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher declare their leadership. Reflect on the images of leadership they present and what they say. What do the pictures show? Why have they chosen these words? Describe the kind of leadership style they present. Give reasons for your views.



“I know I have the body but of a weak and feeble woman; but I have the heart and stomach of a king, and of a king of England too.”

Elizabeth I – 1588, when sending the fleet from Tilbury Dock to meet the Spanish Armada



“You turn if you want to – the lady's not for turning.”

Prime Minister Thatcher, 1980, on rumours of a 'U-turn' over policy on the economy.

4 Research in the past has divided behaviours into gender-specific categories. Reflect on the list below. Do you agree that these behaviours are typically 'masculine' or 'feminine'?

This research extract is taken from Coleman 2002: 100, quoting the Bem Sex-Role Inventory 1974, p.157

Masculine Behaviours	Feminine Behaviours
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> aggressive ambitious analytical assertive athletic competitive defends own beliefs dominant forceful has leadership abilities independent individualistic makes decisions easily self-sufficient self-reliant strong personality willing to take a stand willing to take risks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> affectionate cheerful childlike compassionate does not use harsh language eager to soothe hurt feelings feminine flattering gentle gullible loves children loyal sensitive to the needs of others shy soft spoken sympathetic tender understanding warm yielding

Is leadership behaviour gender-specific? To be a successful leader, does one have to emphasise more masculine behaviours? Why / why not? Give examples of successful leaders which illustrate your views.



“Decision-making is hard. Everyone always says: 'Listen to the people.' The trouble is they don't always agree... In time, you realise it means doing what you genuinely believe to be right. Your duty is to act according to your conviction.”
Tony Blair, 2007

“A nation is not conquered until the hearts of its women are on the ground. Then its finished, no matter how brave its warriors or how strong their weapons.”
Cheyenne Tsistsistas

5 Consider what you have heard from our panellists this morning. Make a list of the leadership activities which they have undertaken. In what ways have our panellists demonstrated leadership qualities?



Christian Democratic Union (CDU) leader Angela Merkel has become Germany's first woman chancellor, despite only scraping a victory in the 18 September election. Her campaign team had worked hard to banish the "dowdy" image which was said to have made her less charismatic than her rival Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder. She spruced up her appearance, wearing bright colours and sporting a new hairstyle, while the Rolling Stones hit "Angie" was played at her rallies.
1st paragraph of BBC News report 22/11/05

“A leader is best when people barely know he exists, not so good when people obey and acclaim him, worse when they despise him. But of a good leader who talks little when his work is done, his aim fulfilled, they will say: We did it ourselves.”
Lao-Tzu

List:

STUDENT RESPONSE REQUIRED: Consider all you have discussed. What is the recipe for a good leader?

Ingredients: (e.g.)
1 kg courage
2 bags of compassion
1 litre of hope
7 sprigs of discretion
A large bunch of integrity Etc..

Method: Sift the compassion into the courage. Mix in the hope and beat vigorously until smooth with peaks when lifted with a spoon.

Etc.....



Dialogue Mat: My Voice – Making it Count

..... Session 2

In groups, critically consider the questions – write your group responses on the dialogue mat

Unifem is the UN Development Fund for Women which raises awareness of key issues affecting women around the world. Nicole Kidman is a goodwill ambassador for Unifem. Why is this role important?



Nicole Kidman and Noleen Heyzer

“Women constitute half of the world’s population, perform nearly two thirds of its work hours, receive one-tenth of the world’s income and own less than one-hundredth of the world’s property.”

United Nations Report

Areas of action by Unifem:

- Governance, peace and security
- AIDS and HIV
- Violence against women
- Women, poverty and economics
- Human rights



“Goal 3 of the United Nations’ MDGs to be achieved by 2015 challenges discrimination against women, and seeks to ensure that girls as well as boys have the chance to go to school. Indicators linked to this goal aim to measure progress towards ensuring that more women become literate, have more voice and representation in public policy and decision-making and have improved job prospects.”

UN / OECD / Multilateral Development Bank website, September 2007.

Unifem lists 5 areas of action. Name women whom you have learned about today and give examples of what they have done to effect social change in each of these areas. Complete the chart below:

Area of social change	Name of woman / women	What she / they did	What was achieved
Governance, peace, security			
AIDs / HIV			
Violence against women			
Women, poverty & economics			
Human rights			

2 In Burundi and Liberia, women crossed political parties and ethnic groups to become a unified voice, paving the way for their political participation and for their voices to be heard. In both countries, in 2005 and 2006, despite previous discrimination and violence, women took on extensive political leadership as a result of success in the elections.



Web Portal: Women, War & Peace

“One coin won’t make a noise but a bunch will”

Vabah Gayflor, Liberian Minister for Gender and Development.

In Liberia, large numbers of women living in urban areas and working in the local markets could not afford to lose a day’s wages to make the journey to faraway registration centres, so women organised themselves en masse to take over market stalls for the day so their owners could register without losing a penny of sales. In 3 weeks, female voter registration shot up to 51%.

Unifem website, April 2006.

Reflect on the quotation by Vabah Gayflor. Explain what she means. Is political voice important? Why / why not? What are the implications of what she says for us?

3 On your table is a brown A4 envelope containing a number of ‘Field Stories’ from Unifem, some images of women’s leadership work across the world and some resource cards on the ‘1000 Peacemakers’ who were all nominated together for the Nobel Peace Prize in 2005. Choose 1 image, field story or resource card which attracts you. Tell your neighbour: Why you chose it; What it is about; What it prompts you to think / do.



Choose 1 story, image, card from your group that you think is most important. Write down here your reasons for selecting it.

STUDENT RESPONSE REQUIRED: Candles symbolise hope. They are lit at times of remembrance.



On birthdays, candles symbolise a wish. What are your group wishes for the future of global leadership by women?



Dialogue Mat: **On Beauty**.....

In groups, critically consider the questions – write your group responses on the dialogue mat

Discussion activity 1: Image and Control – Super-skinny me!

The power of images can be seen in the ‘Size Zero’ debate. Western society presents a particular image of beauty in the media and the fashion industry. Do we have a right to freedom from group expectations about how we should look? In groups, reflect on what has been said by our speakers about image and answer these questions:

- a) What is beauty?
- b) From where do we get our images of beauty? Are there any class, race, historical or cultural biases?
- c) How is beauty often portrayed in the fashion industry and Western society currently?
- d) Who has the power to control images of beauty and how?
- e) Uncovering and covering beauty has different kinds of power. Can this control affect our human rights in any way?
- f) What does Ms. Orbach mean when she says ‘Fat is a feminist issue?’
- g) Is this a human rights issue? Should we be allowed to express our freedom in the way we present our appearance?
- h) Is it an issue we should be concerned about?



“The Western obsession with slimness pushes women into a relentless struggle to press their bodies into smaller and smaller sizes.
The beauty and variety of the female form are judged unacceptable, and instead slimness is promoted for profit and control.”

Susie Orbach, 1982

Queen Nefertiti



Women in World War II



The Sleeping Beauty



Marilyn Monroe performs for US troops



Why is the image of ‘ideal’ beauty so powerful? Who controls these images of beauty? Should we be concerned about how the image of beauty is used?



The controversy concerning the weight of ultra slim models has taken a new turn after Brazilian model Ana Carolina Reston, 21, died of anorexia nervosa Tuesday. She deprived her body of food in the pursuit of achieving extra thin looks as a model.

“Beauty is in the eye of the beholder”
anon. 3rd Century, BCE

Delegate response required: On beauty - do we have a responsibility to change how society uses the image of beauty? Why or why not? Give your reasons.

