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Jack and Ralph's Leadership Roles

William Golding makes Jack and Ralph both controversial strong leaders in *The Lord of the Flies*. Ralph and Jack are extremely different from each other in the ways they think, lead and fight. Throughout the book, the brotherly relationship between Ralph and Jack slowly develops into a relationship of betrayal and violence. Ralph thinks on a mature level by learning from past mistakes, while Jack focuses on the fun in life. This leads to many bloody conflicts between the two omnipotent leaders and their groups.

Ralph possess a very specific way of leading and solving problems. Ralph throughout the book acts like the older brother because he is older and wiser. The majority of the boys vote for Ralph to be the leader instead of Jack. Ralph becomes a leader not because he is very qualified but simply because of his charismatic energy interests people. Throughout the novel *Lord of The Flies*, Ralph tries to create a society based on survival. He is reassuring when he speaks and many of his followers find it calming. He is what his littluns aspire to be when they are older.

Ralph's personality leads him to always want to do the right thing but often is not able to. An example of Ralph not doing the right thing would be when he first gathers the boys together and tries to save his newly found friend from the torments of the crowd "He's not fatty", cried Ralph, "His real name is Piggy!" Although this seems to have been the most decent thing to do, it wasn't very thought out. Piggy confided in Ralph that "I don't care what they call me, so long

as it's not what they called me at school. They used to call me 'Piggy' ". Ralph had completely forgotten that fact and decided to tell all the boys Piggy's "secret" without any permission. Ralph, later on, regrets his decision " Ralph, looking with more understanding at piggy, saw that he was hurt and crushed. He couldn't decide between the two courses of apology or further insult. Ralph, later on, does not directly apologize to Piggy but does regret his behavior.

Jack represents a unique persona that consists of aggression and fear of the unknown. Jack is also extremely arrogant but intelligent at the same time. He and his followers change their lifestyles completely based on fulfilling their need for violence. Living a life of prioritizing hunting and specializing in violent skills, instead of focusing on health and wellness. Jack also throughout the book develops many fears. He always finds something to be afraid of. First Jack was afraid of The beast, then finally he becomes afraid of the people among him and the possibilities of the unknown danger. Jack also has a subconscious fear that his prized followers, the littluns are going to betray him by leaving him. Although his followers would be smart to leave Jack's tribe because Jack clearly founders creating savages out of once-civilized boys by supporting a violent way of living that can not safely be sustained.

Power is often a source of aggression in Lord of The Flies. The desire for power breaks down the boundaries set by rules and order causes the boys to rebel and embrace chaos. Once power is received from either Jack or Ralph, it is used to gather followers and become the real leader. This concept lead the once innocent lilins to pick a side and become like either Jack and Ralph. Now that the lilins have pick a side, they start to look up to their leader as a role model. Jack and Ralph have a huge impact on how these boys will act growing up. Are they gonna choose Ralphs group and life a healthier, safer life, or are they going to pick Jack's tribe and life

a life of violence, destruction? By the end of the book you realize the lillies have the most power because they get to choose the leader and Jack and Ralph are very dependent on their votes.

From the above arguments, the fact that Ralph's society is better as a whole over Jack's was proven. Ralph's society although not efficient but safe and organized. Jack's tribe ended up bringing death to others, as they killed and destroyed things, putting no thought into what they did. Although Ralph's lenient society didn't work out, he still kept them together, having no problems to deal with. When the boys changed leaders, going to Jack's group, chaos occurred. This proves that Ralph's democratic society prevails as a more stable life that can be sustained safely.