

*Leader***Ethics**
WISCONSIN

Promoting Integrity in American Democracy

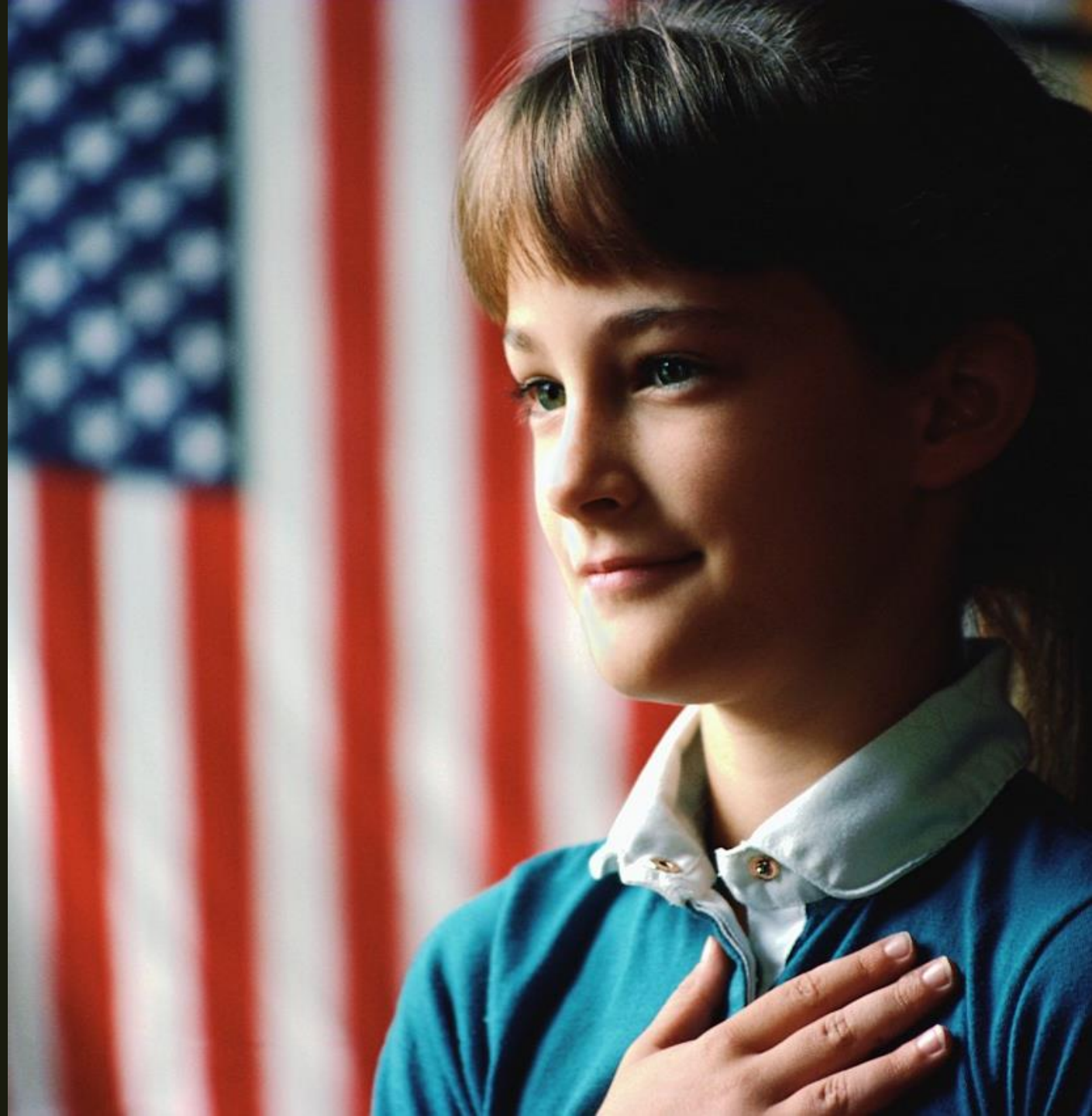
Rotary Club of La Crosse

May 17, 2018

Some background

- ...my personal journey

We Love
Our
Country



We Do Not
Trust Our
Government



National Studies on Honesty and Ethics*

Office Held	Highest Rating – Last 25 Years	Rating in 2016
U.S Congress Member	25%	8%
U.S. Senators	25%	12%
State Governors	31%	18%
State Officeholders**	24%	14%

*Gallup Honesty/Ethics Surveys

**2013 Ratings

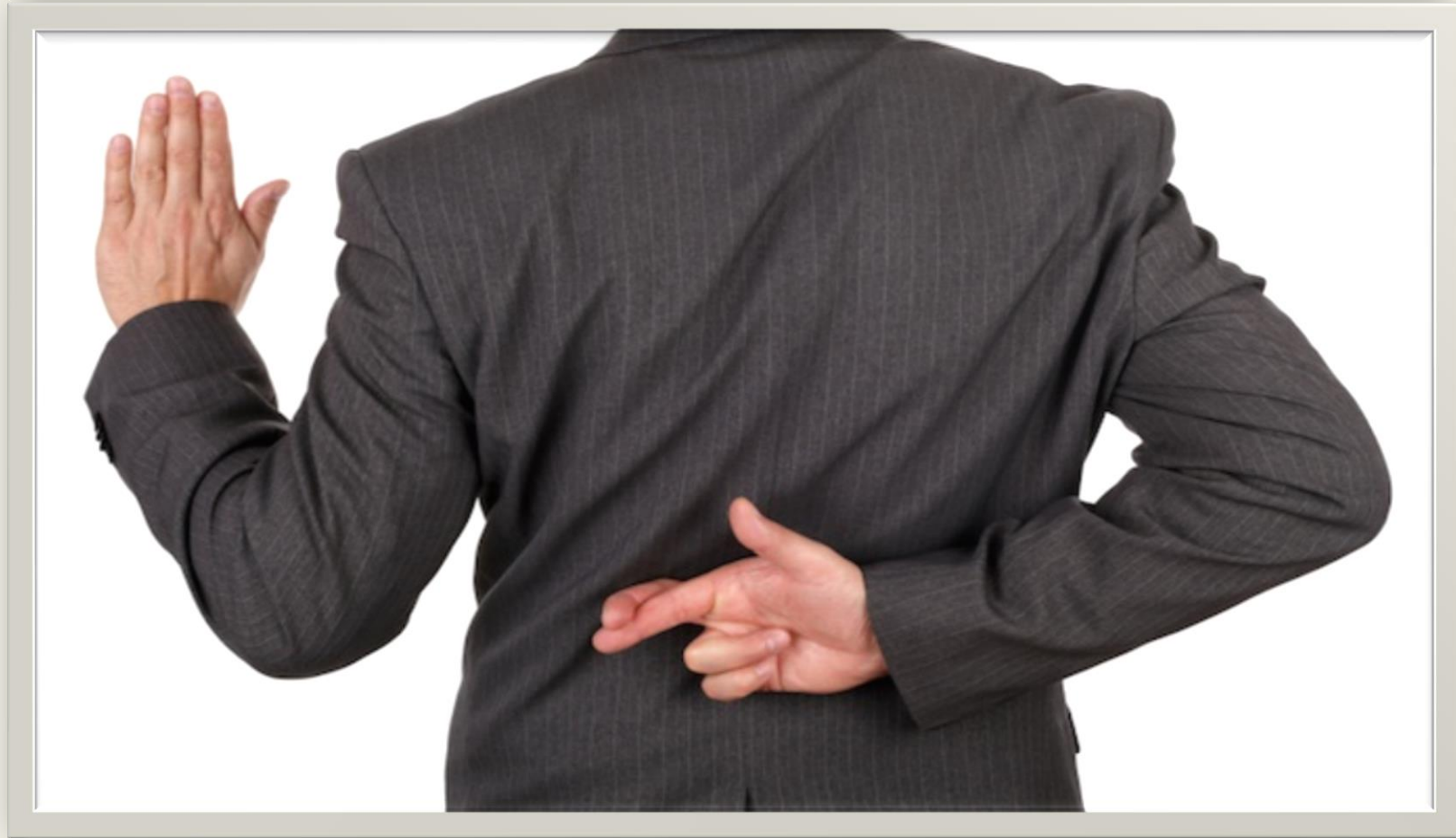
A Nation
Divided...
...by design



The challenge of
technology

Real and Fake
News... and
beyond.





As trust in Government erodes, our expectations for leadership performance erode as well.

What WE can do:

- Expect ethical leadership performance!
- Recognize that ethical leadership is not tied to any political party.
- Recognize that ethical leadership performance differs from legislative policy.

Ethical Leaders Are:

- Honest and truthful.
- Transparent with public information.
- Unifiers rather than dividers, and
- Willing to represent the collective interests of their constituency.



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What Is LeaderEthics-Wisconsin?

“LeaderEthics-Wisconsin is a membership-based, non-partisan/non-profit organization dedicated to promoting ethical leadership practices among elected officials.”

LeaderEthics-Wisconsin

- A 501c6 organization, not a political Action Committee (PAC).
- Membership fees support our work
- There will be no outside funders to ensure neutrality

How Does It Work? It Works On Two Levels...First, Statewide.

- Member will receive a monthly newsletter citing examples of ethical leadership performance among elected leaders
- Annually , members will receive a survey and be asked to assign a grade on ethical leadership performance,
- Grades will be shared with elected officials and the media.
- The newsletter will be reviewed by a Panel of Judges prior to distribution to members.



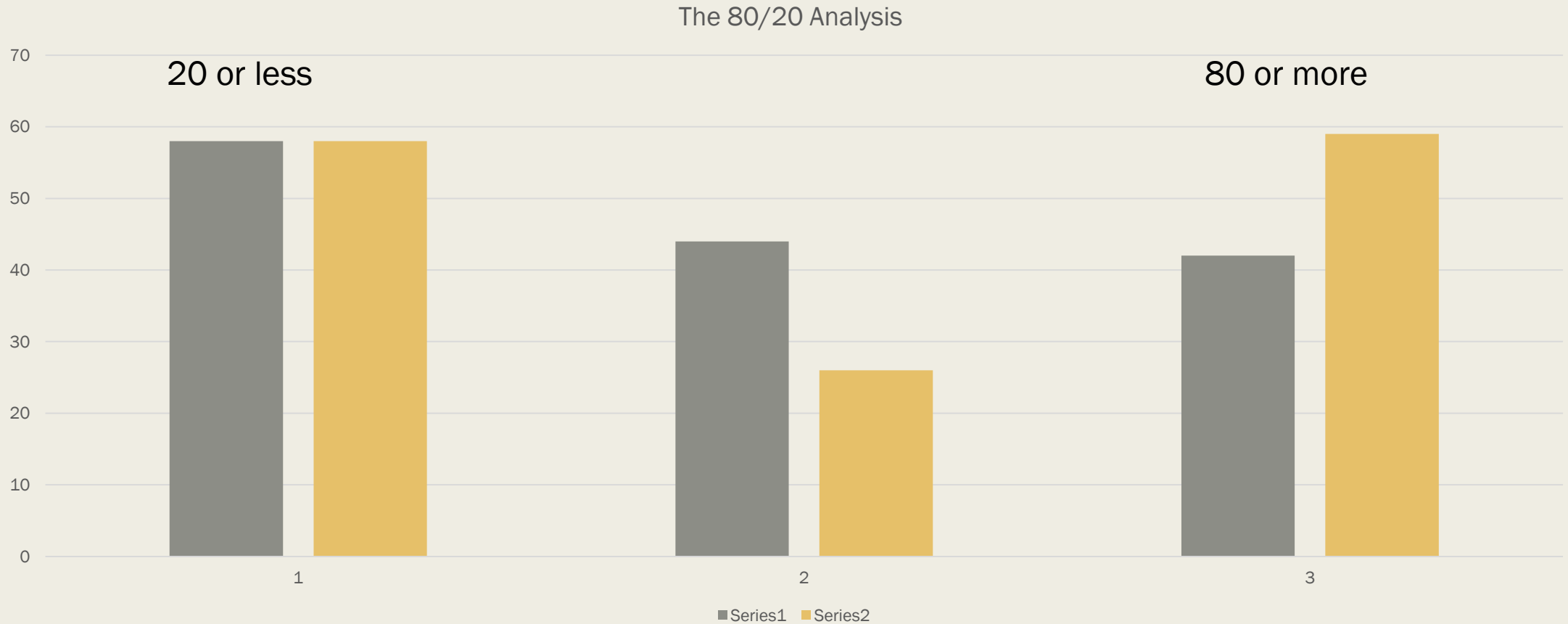
How Can You Determine “Kudos” and “Uh Ohs”?

- **Fact Check.org**
- **Politifact**
- **Washington Post Fact Checker**
- **Voting Records**
- **Anecdotal information**



80/20 Analysis – Ratings by Special Interest Groups, 2016 to 2018

(source: Vote Smart)



Congressman A (grey) – 154 ratings

Congressman B (yellow) - 143 ratings

Join a Local Chapter



- Speakers will present on topics related to ethical leadership, and engage in dialogue.
- Local Chapters can work to build a culture of ethical leadership in the community.
- Local Chapters will develop strategies to encourage and support next generation candidates committed to ethical leadership.



Small Staff:

- Executive Director**
- Two intern positions**

Excellent leaders on the Board...

- Rick Kyte – Board President



- Brandon Harris – Vice President



- Tom Fitzpatrick – Treasurer



- Jill Grennan – Secretary



Excellent Leaders on the Board...

- Joe Heim – Member



- Catherine Kolkmeier



- Brent Smith - Member



- Ge Vang - Member



...and on the Panel of Judges!

- Dale Pasell – La Crosse County, Wisconsin



- Tom Lister – Jackson County, Wisconsin



- David Peterson – Redwood County, Minnesota



You might ask...what should I do?

- First and foremost...know your information sources and avoid passing on information that hasn't been verified!
- You can become a member. As a member...your voice will be heard!
- You can become an active local leader. You can help to develop next generation of political leaders as ethical leaders...a lasting legacy for us all!



THANK YOU!

Lee Rasch, Executive Director
LeaderEthics-Wisconsin

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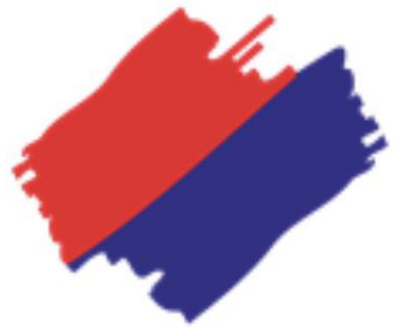


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JOIN US!

Member Benefits

- Members receive a monthly newsletter regarding ethical leadership in practice, with information is not readily available from any other source.
- Through chapter involvement, members can play an active role in promoting ethical leadership within the community, and
- Through the Grading Survey, members have a voice in promoting ethical leadership!

American Democracy Has Endured Challenges in the Past “The Pendulum Swings”

