

University of Nebraska - Lincoln

DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln

---

Journal of Women in Educational Leadership

Educational Administration, Department of

---

7-2006

## Friends are like Diamonds

Marilyn L. Grady

University of Nebraska-Lincoln, mgrady1@unl.edu

Follow this and additional works at: <http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/jwel>



Part of the [Educational Administration and Supervision Commons](#), and the [Women's Studies Commons](#)

---

Grady, Marilyn L., "Friends are like Diamonds" (2006). *Journal of Women in Educational Leadership*. 195.  
<http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/jwel/195>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Educational Administration, Department of at DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln. It has been accepted for inclusion in Journal of Women in Educational Leadership by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln.

# Friends are like Diamonds

---

Marilyn L. Grady

There is constant reference to the “Old Boys Network” in the literature about access to administrative roles for women. Two books by Bob Greene capture a “Boys Network” both young and old. Perhaps you have read them? The first is *Be True To Your School: A Diary of 1964*. It is Bob Greene’s journal of his high school years presented as a book. It chronicles his experiences as a teenager growing up with his friends in Bexley, Ohio.

I have used *Be True To Your School* as a required reading in classes. It provokes quite a discussion among students. The book reflects high school life in the mid-1960s and precipitates an opportunity to compare high school life then and now. Many embrace the book with enthusiasm and pass it on . . . others are somewhat offended by the frankness of the journal reflections.

In 2006, Bob Greene’s *And You Know You Should Be Glad: A True Story of Lifelong Friendship* appeared. This book is the story of the same five fellows. It is a revealing portrait of the friendships that have endured in their lives. Families, careers, distance and years have not weakened the bonds of friendship for these five friends. Their commitment to each other in a time of great challenge is memorable and worthy of attention. They remind us how we have lived our friendships.

When I think of the “Old Boys Network,” I think of enduring friendships and what they signify. Greene describes friendship and his network with great clarity. He provides a mirror for each of us as we examine our lives.

We work in a profession that is deep in human interactions and interpersonal relationships. We are blessed by the friendships that have emerged from these associations. We should write the stories of our lives as the stories of our friendships.

## References

- Greene, B. (1987). *Be true to your school: A diary of 1964*. New York: Ballantine Books.  
Greene, B. (2006). *And you know you should be glad: A true story of lifelong friendship*. New York: William Morrow.

Registrations for the *20th Annual Women in Educational Leadership Conference* are being accepted! The conference will be October 8-9, 2006, in Lincoln, Nebraska. For information about the conference contact Marilyn Grady at [mgradyl@unl.edu](mailto:mgradyl@unl.edu)