

## Discussion questions for *King Richard*

**Some of the major characters to watch for:** Richard Williams, Oracene “Brandy” Price (the mom), Venus and Serena Williams, Ms. Strickland, Paul Cohen, Rick Macci

1. What were the characteristics that made Richard Williams an effective leader of his family and of the girls’ athletic careers? Be specific in connecting the leadership characteristics to their practical manifestations and ultimate results. Also, what might have been improvable in Richard’s leadership methods?
2. Would you characterize Richard as a “Level 5 Leader,” as that profile is described by Jim Collins? What is the basis for your conclusion?
3. What do you think of Richard’s stubborn insistence on the girls being trained outside of the traditional pathways to professional tennis? Is this pride or genius or both or something else? What lessons are there for us as leaders and emerging leaders?
4. This story focuses quite a bit on the father, Richard Williams—his vision, his plan, his immovable insistence on proceeding his and only his way. And in the end, there is a movie about him because he was proven right by the success of his daughters. But now comment on the leadership of the (step)mother in this movie, Oracene (“Brandy”) Price. What is her approach to leading the girls and how is she too an effective, transformational leader in this film?