

**Air University eGPME Webinar Series:** Friday, 20 September 2019, 1330 CDT/1830Z

**Title:** Applicable Perspectives on French and Raven's Bases of Power

**Presenter:** Maj Travis Neal, Doctor of Strategic Leadership  
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**Link:** <https://eSchool.AdobeConnect.com/webinar>

**Background/Information:**

Power can be dangerous, but leaders cannot operate without it. If we do not take the time to understand how power works, then we are much more likely to fall into some of the ethical traps that it presents. This webinar will provide a glimpse of how to understand power, especially as seen through the lens of John R. P. French and Bertram Raven's bases of power.

Research from David McClelland has shown a positive correlation between effective management and a desire for power. At the same time, we hear that "absolute power corrupts absolutely." How do we manage a balance of power in a way that we can be effective managers and leaders without being corrupted? First, we have to define what we mean by power. To do this, we will look at French and Raven's bases of power, as well as other factors that have been presented by other theorists. We will also address some of the shortfalls of the French and Raven model. Most importantly, we will take the time to look at how these factors affect subordinate behavior in the real world through an understanding of Geert Hofstede's cultural dimension of power distance. By the end of the webinar, it is my goal that you will not fear or reject power, but actively seek it in an effort to improve the lives of those around you, all while understanding the potential traps of accumulating such power.