Abstract
Since a rather long time, leadership has been a concern of research and reflective thinking. There are many authors (Stogdill, Hommans, Likert, Fiedler, Hersey y Blanchard, House, Bolman y Deal, etc.) who in different times have made strong efforts to clarify this elusive and polisemic concept. A model of leadership, which has been used during the last decade and which has been positively mentioned in the last Educational Centres Management Meetings (Deusto, 2000) and it is actual and reliable it is Basss transformational leadership model, which has as its main idea to transform collaborative members into leaders. The main purpose of this paper is to think about leadership in the educational organizations and its relation to effectiveness school improvement from a theoretical perspective. Thus the most representative perspectives in relation to these concepts are described, then an assessment of its impact -by the use of multivariate techniques- is made. A causal model which proposes a plausible explanation of leadership effects upon school effectiveness is offered. The empirical study was done considering data from 60 school centers from Madrid, Spain.

Keywords
leadership - school effectiveness - school management - causal models