

Chapter 10

Education

Mentally Developed Knowledge

Education is the process of developing knowledge to one's full mental capacity implemented by way of facts, instructions, and guidance. Education is *knowledge*; knowledge is *power*, however this power is merely harnessed, the *choices* we make with such knowledge will actually declare the overall eminence. Knowledge alone cannot replace *wisdom*. Wisdom is the accumulation of every facet of education; a “been there done that” type of thing. All the knowledge in the world doesn’t amount to *experience*. Some of life’s best lessons can’t be taught, they can only be learned. One needs more than “book smarts”, we also need “street smarts” and “common sense” in order to ignite empowering decisions. This illuminates why oftentimes in addition to their text book studies college students are required to complete a series of hours in the field as an intern to meet the criteria for select courses.

“We have to *learn* before we can *teach*”. A knowledgeable person might not know all the answers but will know how and where to find them, while in the process deeming a further distention of their own education. Education intricately transitions into *maturity* and it [education] also gives us the innate ability to go after what we want in life. We can’t purchase a home without first *learning* where there is one for sale. Education is more than harboring facts, it is surging the aptitude to *solve* any debatable uncertainty or equation. We don’t need to instinctively know *the answer*, we need to be educated enough to do *the research*. Even a genius asks questions.

It is unlikely for one single person to know *everything* about *everything*. Education is dispersed in two primitive tiers:

- (1) *Generalized* education- underlying fundamentals.
“knowing just enough about a lot of stuff”
- (2) *Specialized* education- advanced intelligence.
“knowing detailed insight on a subject”.

A sports analyst has an abundance of generalized knowledge in a sundry of sports but is specially educated in the specific sport or sports in which they analyze. As an analyst one must be *educated* if they intend on *educating*. There is no boundary for how much specialized knowledge one can annex; it is up to **us** the sum of knowledge we choose to develop through education.

The sweepingly intelligent way to inquire knowledge is *empirically*. I learned a lot along the course of my young life. Pass or fail, every one of life's test I came up against was fused with a *lesson*, and each lesson compensated me with a tandem of *wisdom* and *maturity*. I learned that to fail is **not** to be defeated; *failure* is a pathway to attainment. The things I "failed" at never defeated me they were only "minor setbacks" which taught me not that it **can't** be done, but that it has to be done **differently**.

The most elusive problem our youth and at risk young adults from underprivileged communities stumble upon is the unforeseen education in anything *different*. School teachers educate us with book knowledge, but what about the "in the field" experience? In that sense it seems as if "the teacher of life is life itself". Beginning from an early age many including myself have been educated by the unprecedented upside of negative and unhealthy behaviors while undermining the prolific downside of the consequences these behaviors may cause. Sadly while in the field of life it is more practical that we will be taught to sell drugs, rob, and gamble before we are taught to make an honest living. This is where our pestilent beliefs and thoughts inaugurate. Perhaps if we **knew** better we'd **do** better.

Freshly roaming uncharted territories with a lackluster surplus of wisdom almost always sanctions as a debacle waiting to happen, per contra, sometimes we have to fall to get up. We may enter a field with minimum *general* knowledge and through educational trial and errors garner *specialized* knowledge in the category in which before we had the slightest of education. The cohesion of empirical data like education and experience distends into *wisdom* and *maturity*. Wisdom and maturity gives us the prudence we need to banish obstinate impressions and become enlightened to the reality of knowing that "everything that glitters isn't gold".

As I mature through nonsuccess and hardship my *common sense* tells me the more I “bump my head” the less appetizing it is to do. Hearing people glorify activities that brandish poor results indicates to me that they more than likely have never actually did what it is they are extolling. If they did do it they haven’t done it enough to want to stop, or they just have no desires to do better. Why take instructions from a novice? You don’t hear people who struggle to survive while living off of Ramen noodles and bologna sandwiches boast about how *delightful* hard times are; Nu-uh! 99.99 percent of the time the people who have been impeded under those circumstances have poignantly vied for a passage **out** of the situation. Even the poorest of the poor can have visions of *empowerment*, it starts with **education**. We have to educate our self to be a prudent *pioneer*, leave the nonsense where it lays, and not to *settle* for anything less than **great**.

Education is to be passed forward from neighbor to neighbor, generation to generation. Be attentive to the words, decisions, and actions of those around you, for *everyone* has a lesson to share. Observe those from a distance who rambunctiously praise the “fast life” time and time again, the lesson they teach is the epitome of what **not** to do. I been there, done that, and each lesson I took in was learned the “hard-way”; yours doesn’t have to be. Let the mishaps of others like those of mine guide you in the right direction. I present you this knowledge to mentally empower you to ornate your educated decision making skills. The world needs more **positive leaders** and *role models*. We **all** have the *power*; and with *education* added to the formula we become impervious in the face of failure and defeat. “**Education** is the itinerary to yours dreams”.