

“It is hard to lead a cavalry charge if you think you look funny on a horse”

Adlai Stevenson

DIAMONDBACK CONSULTING INC



A Service Disabled Veteran Owned Small Business

What are you doing with your time? Part Two

In part one, we discovered that a person has 3,928 hours a year not dedicated to anything. We called this discretionary time. This time is not dedicated to work, sleep, vacation or holidays. In a 40 year period (age 25 to 65) there are 157,120 hours of discretionary time to decide what to do with. We ended with the fact that a persons life is based on what they decide to do with their time. What you do with your time it what you do with your life. You are in control.

A person’s discontent with their life can be represented as the distance between what they have and what they want. Americans are interesting because as soon as we achieve a goal, we want more; I call this drive “American Discontent”. It is this drive that has helped our county achieve the standard of living we enjoy, because as a nation we know we can achieve more than what we’ve accomplished so far. Our economy is not driven by some over caffeinated suit on Wall street sweating over some arbitrary numbers on a board that changes every time someone hiccups.

The American drive to achieve more than what we have and to become more than what we are has driven our nation since the Colonial period. American Discontent is what drove our doctrine of Manifest Destiny, and this was long before the stock market supposedly meant anything.

Americans are not now and never have been lazy, and our American Discontent is the real economic driver of our nation. It will drive our future.

I suggest the following formula to address the issue of your American Discontent. First, look objectively at where you find yourself. Do not sugar coat this self assessment, take a hard, clear eyed look. As Socrates said “An unexamined life is not worth living”. Second, look at where you want to be in let’s say one, five and ten years from now. Third, formulate a plan to close the gap to achieve your goals, take small steps. As we use to say in the Marine Corps “Anyone can march 25 miles if you take one step at a

time”. Now, the last and most important step of the process, dedicate the time to achieve your goal. In other words, TAKE ACTION. The best plan in the world is worthless without action.

This very simple approach puts thinking and creative activity into your living. It puts you in charge of your life and more importantly, your time. It also ensures that your goals are achieved by your individual effort since you are the only one in control of your time. In actuality, what you do with your time decides what you do with your life.

You determine your life—not the government, not the lottery, not your family or friends, and certainly not some overly nervous, highly caffeinated suit on Wall Street. Please, do not hiccup.

At the end of your time on earth, only you are responsible for what you have achieved based on what you did with your time.

I know that one day I will be out of time, and then it seems I will have a lot of time to think about what I did with my time.

Since the clock is ticking I’ll leave you with this one question...

What are you doing with your time?

Get moving, it’s your time and your life.

The answer from the question from the last newsletter is YES. To see what the question was visit our website and read part one to this article. WWW.DBACKINC.COM

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