

The Best Career Advice You Never Hear

EMMIE MARTIN JUL. 9, 2014, 10:45 AM

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There's plenty of stale career advice out there: Go the extra mile. Do what you love. Always be the first one there and the last to leave.

But a recent Quora thread, "[What are a few pieces of unique career advice that nobody ever mentions?](#)", provides something different: valuable career advice that we haven't heard a million times before.

Here are 13 of the best responses:

- 1. "In a new job, accept those first few invitations to lunch or happy hour.** If you decline them, for whatever reason, they will stop, and you may find yourself an inadvertent outsider." —[Laura Cooke](#)
- 2. "Don't look too busy.** I've seen smart and dedicated employees fail to get promoted, because they have taken on too much, working too hard, and appeared too frazzled. If you appear stressed, people will think you aren't prepared to take on more, and you'll miss opportunities for new and innovative projects." —[Mira Zaslove](#)
- 3. "Never, ever cook fish in the office microwave."** —[Ryan Harvey](#)
- 4. "As you move up, your future success depends on doing unassigned work and responsibilities.** Anyone who made it past the hiring process can do the assigned job at the company, but it takes a lot more to deliver value to the company that wasn't assigned or even thought of." —[Victor Wong](#)
- 5. "Understand when people see you check your phone at every call,** then don't answer when they call, they then know you put them on a low priority." —[Mike Leary](#)
- 6. "Help others even if there is no direct benefit to yourself.** It takes so little energy to answer questions, provide referrals, open doors, etc., for people who need your help, even if doing so offers you nothing immediate in return. Your efforts will be rewarded in the future in wholly unexpected ways." —[Scott Wainner](#)
- 7. "The network of people you know who leave your current company are often times more valuable to you than those with your company."** —[James Schek](#)
- 8. "The weaknesses that you're unaware of will hurt you the most.** This is your blind spot. You must determine your hidden weaknesses and work to overcome them, and you're going to need the help from others to do this." —[David Osborne](#)
- 9. "When you want to learn some skill, look around for someone who is already good at it.** Then just watch what they do, and copy it. Find what works for you, and modify it to your own abilities and style." —[John Caprani](#)
- 10. "Ask your boss what his biggest problem is, and make it go away."** —[Victoria Backaitis](#)
- 11. "Don't just look up** — look laterally as well, because people with diverse experience usually progress faster than people with more experience." —[Vikrant Vaidya](#)
- 12. "Entitlement is a career killer.** Focus on staying grateful and working hard rather than feeling that things are owed to you." —[Scott Miker](#)
- 13. "Try to make the next person's job down the line easier.** For example, if you are working on a project that goes through different hands, see what kinds of things you can do on your end that will make the process flow easier for the next person who performs the next step." —[Richard Gary Butler](#)

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What are a few unique pieces of career advice that nobody ever mentions?

Anonymous

1.4k upvotes by [Alex Sarafian](#), [Tom Byron](#), [Satvik Beri](#), [\(more\)](#)

- Small actions compound:** Reputation, career trajectory, and how others perceive you in the workplace can come down to a handful of things/moments that seem inconsequential/small at the time but compound. Random Thought: Redwood trees come from small seeds and time. With every action you're planting small seeds and these seeds can grow into something bigger (sometimes unimaginably bigger) over time. Don't let small basic mistakes sabotage your reputation because it only takes a few small snafus for people to lose confidence/trust in your ability to do more important tasks. Trust is a fragile thing and the sooner people can trust you the faster they'll give you more responsibility. Some Examples: Being on time (always) or early (better); spending an extra 10-15 minutes reviewing your work and catching basic mistakes before your boss does; structuring your work so it's easy for others to understand and leverage (good structure/footnotes/formatting); taking on unpleasant schleps/tasks (volunteer for them; don't complain; do it even when there's no apparent benefit to you)
- Rising tide lifts all boats:** Fact: You don't become CEO of a multi-billion dollar public company in your 30s based purely on ability/talent. Your career is a boat and it is at the mercy of tides. No matter how talented you are it's a lot harder to break out in a sluggish situation/hierarchy/economy than a go-go environment. Even if you're a superstar at Sluggish Co., your upside trajectory (more often than not) is fractional to what an average/below average employee achieves at Rocket Ship Co. There's a reason Eric Schmidt told Sheryl Sandberg to "Get on a Rocket Ship". I had colleagues accelerate their careers/income/title/responsibility simply because business demand was nose bleed high (go go economy) and they were at the right place at the right time to ride the wave. Contrast that to the 2008 bust where earnings/promotions/careers have been clamped down and people are thankful for having jobs let alone moving up. Yes talent still matters but I think people generally overweight individual talent and underweight economics when evaluating/explaining their career successes. Sheryl Sandberg Quote: *When companies are growing quickly and they are having a lot of impact, careers take care of themselves. And when companies aren't growing quickly or their missions don't matter as much, that's when stagnation and politics come in. If you're offered a seat on a rocket ship, don't ask what seat. Just get on.*
- Seek opportunities where the outcome is success or failure. Nothing in between:** You don't become a star doing your job. You become a star making things happen. I was once told early in my career that you learn the most in 1) rapidly growing organizations or 2) failing organizations. I've been in both kinds of situations and wholeheartedly agree. Repeat. Get on a rocket ship. It'll either blow up or put you in orbit. Either way you'll learn a ton in a short amount of time. Put another way, seek jobs where you can get 5-10 years of work experience in 1-2 years.
- Career Tracks & Meritocracies don't exist:** Your career is not a linear, clearly defined trajectory. It will be messy and will move more like a step function.
- You will probably have champions and detractors on day 1:** One interesting byproduct of the recruiting & hiring process of most organizations is it can create champions & detractors before you even start the job. Some folks might not like how you were brought into the organization (they might have even protested your hiring) and gun for you at every turn while others will give you the benefit of the doubt (even when you don't deserve one) because they stuck their neck out to hire you. We're all susceptible to these biases and few people truly evaluate/treat folks on a blank slate.
- You'll only be known for a few things. Make those labels count:** People rely on labels as quick filters. Keep this in mind when you pick an industry/company/job role/school because it can serve as an anchor or elevator in the future. It's unfortunate but that's the way it is. You should always be aware of what your "labels" are.
- Nurture & protect your network and your network will nurture & protect you:** Pay it forward and help people. Your network will be one of the biggest drivers of your success.

Written 2 Jan, 2013. **Related Questions**

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4 Pieces Of Career Advice You Should Never Take

ILYA POZIN, LINKEDIN MAY 27, 2014, 5:10 PM

Read more: <https://www.linkedin.com/today/post/article/20140527150858-5799319-4-pieces-of-career-advice-you-should-never-take#ixzz3DfTuQIQI>

Think of the most successful people you know and the people you aspire to be like. Did they follow conventional wisdom? Did they walk well-worn paths? Most likely, the most successful people are also the ones who blazed their own trail and threw conventions to the wind.

But we're still much too likely to listen to the same tired advice we've heard over and over again when it comes to our career. Oprah probably wasn't following this kind of advice when she rose to prominence as a talk show host and tastemaker. Mark Zuckerberg clearly wasn't following the maps left in career advice columns when he started Facebook wearing his signature hoodie.

The most successful people are those willing and able to think outside the box. So why are we still following the same career advice? Here are four pieces of advice you've probably heard over and over again, and why it might be time to hit mute:

1. "No one wants to hire a job hopper."

Have you ever heard the one about the job hopper no one wanted to hire? Conventional wisdom says employers just don't want to hire job hoppers for fear that, if they've hopped once, they'll be more likely to leapfrog away again.

Truthfully, however, job hopping is our future. [The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics](#) estimates the average tenure in a position to be 4.4 years. This number might even be trending down, with [91% of Millennials](#) expecting to be at their current jobs for three years or less. Most importantly, prior job hopping doesn't seem to have any predictive influence on future behavior or productivity. A study [by Evolv](#) found prior tenures at past organizations had little correlation with how long an employee stayed at a current position. If you're worried leaving the job you hate right now will have an impact on your future employability, it might be time to cut a new path. Life is too short to be stuck in a job when you've lost the love; a career path that actually fits your personality and goals might be right around the corner. Employers need to let go of the job hopper boogeyman, and professionals shouldn't be afraid to leave a job that isn't the right fit.

2. "Always contribute to a meeting."

You want your coworkers and boss to know how hard you've been working, and your monthly meeting might seem like the perfect opportunity. Sure, you don't actually have anything substantial to add to the conversation, but you're pretty sure you need to pipe up anyway. It's important to be heard, right?

There are [11 million meetings in the U.S. everyday](#), yet [nine out of 10 workers](#) would prefer to communicate with coworkers in just about any other way. Why? Because many meetings are grossly inefficient. If you're speaking up but not adding any value, what you are adding to is your coworkers' levels of aggravation. If possible, you should always [try to add something useful or valuable to the meetings you attend](#). However, if you don't actually have anything important to share, do your coworkers a favor and use this as an opportunity to actually listen.

3. "The paycheck is all that matters."

Let's be honest, we'd all love to wake up one day and discover we're suddenly millionaires. Unless you win the lottery, however, this is pretty unlikely. We often think the next best thing is to pick the most highly paid field possible in which to collect our paycheck. Sometimes, we pick these career trajectories even though they don't remotely align with our interests.

According to Gallup, [70% of the American workforce is disengaged](#) on the job, costing as much as \$550 billion to the economy. If the only passion you feel for your job or career is the amount of zeros on your paycheck, you might want to reconsider.

Finding your passion can allow you to truly enjoy your work hours, which is a pretty substantial chunk of your day. Plus, your passion will show through in your work, allowing you to achieve more than if your only motivation is the pay stub.

4. "Be the first one in and the last one out."

There's always been a misconception that being the first one in every morning and the last one out every night is the best way to climb the career ladder. Hard work pays off, sure, but there's a big difference between working hard and being a workaholic. Your friends and family probably miss you, and most likely, you aren't actually doing your career any favors with your obsessive work behavior.

A longitudinal study by the [University of Padova in Italy](#) followed workers for 15 years and discovered some shocking insights about the 24/7 employee: Workaholic behavior was linked to worse health, increased absenteeism, and most damning of all, decreased job performance.

As it turns out, being a workaholic is actually more likely to hold your career back. Instead, you need to strike a better work-life balance, finding time for your hobbies and spending time with loved ones. This allows you to take better care of yourself, physically and mentally, in order to give it your all on the job.

It's time to stop listening to conventional wisdom and strike out on your own path to truly be successful. After all, the biggest success stories started with a single step on an uncharted path.

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Katie Mehnert, PMP, PROSCI

Talent Development & Change

The 5 Signs of a Bad Leader

Not all leaders are created equal. There are great ones, good ones, okay ones, and downright awful ones. It's okay, we've all said it before, either aloud or in our own minds, "How exactly did he/she get that spot?"

My 17 years in Global 100 companies and non-profit service has afforded me the opportunity to experience the full spectrum from *great to awful*. The beauty of experiencing it earlier in my career and even now, as I've progressed, even gives me greater perspective on how to navigate through it.

It's not always as easy to detect if you've got a dud, so here are my top 5 signs and some strategies on how to cope.

1. It's all about them and never about anyone else.

To lead, is to serve.

Service is about putting others first, connecting and determining needs and creating a safe space for people to create, debate, innovate, deliver and improve. Good leaders know business is personal. They are acutely aware of their stakeholders: customers, partners, and investors. In my line of work, this list also includes governments, NGOs, and local communities. *Bad leaders* put themselves at the center of everything, make every decision, dictate, and create a culture of fear. They are notorious for taking the credit for successes and assigning blame when things go south.

If you have a self-centered power-driven leader, that'll fall fast. The title won't mean a thing when they've wrecked every relationship. Have some compassion... maybe they'll see the light? (But don't count on it.)

2. They lack vision.

You know that awesome U2 song, *I Still Haven't Found What I'm Looking For*? That's this leader's theme song. Often times I have seen folks get promoted because they can deliver, yet they can't think beyond their silo. In larger companies or non profits, it's not just about the divisional vision but how that fits into the bigger picture in an integrated, practical and meaningful way. Tunnel vision is for those who can only see within their frame of view. Yeah, this one kinda sounds like #1 a little bit. Leaders who don't create a vision, drive performance against that vision and create long-term value will fail.

This is the classic "blind leading the blind". If your leader has no vision... *expect chaos and confusion*.

3. ** or get off the pot.**

Leaders get things done. They perform and measure their contributions. This is one of the signs that can send different messages, though. *Bad leaders truly think activity = progress*. Nope. Activity is just a bunch of moan bit**ing about being "busy". It usually manifests into over hiring and loads of waste. This happens because there's no vision in sight or clear lines of accountability. (Yes, these things do build on each other.) Most leaders that fall into this trap are the ones who have no vision, oversubscribe themselves and their teams, micromanage everything, lack the ability to empower people, and fall short on most if not all commitments.

4. Hello My Name is KIA. Know. It. All.

Oh my favorite kind of leader is one who knows every answer. Seriously, I can learn a lot from a KIA and so can you. Exceptional leaders possess curiosity. They know what they lack and it's their role to shape a team that brings the knowledge, skills and experience into the room to deliver. *There's no debating a KIA, so don't try.* Smile and thank them for their great intelligence.

5. They talk the good talk, but are too good to walk the walk.

Does this one need any explaining? This is about principles and values and your actions being perfectly aligned to what comes out of your mouth. I think of all five this one irks the most. Don't say you are something or going to do something if you don't intend on living up to that promise. I appreciate honesty more than games.

There is good news... I promise!

Bad leaders don't last. A few things can happen.

1. **They get found out fast.** If they have any potential, and most do, companies will invest in providing development and coaching. This is the best thing that could happen. It's a win for you and the leader. Just remember, everyone's on a journey and those that CAN be saved, are worth the effort, time and money. If your leader has a coach, consider yourself lucky!
2. **Their sponsors retire or leave** the company thus rendering them powerless. Usually they will follow suit.
3. They are escorted out or one day you hear about them **"electing to leave"**.
4. **They are put in a role where they can't harm anyone or anything.** These situations used to baffle me, but it's often this happens with some when the risk is too high to do anything else.
5. **You might decide to leave.** That's perfectly within your right and an option.

Just remember though, there are plenty of duds in this world. Some people never learn, however some do learn, grow and get better. Sometimes too, the best learning is having experienced it. Some of my best assignments and growth spurts were due to how I coped with bad leadership.

Tell me, have you ever encountered these signs? Any pitfalls? How did you cope?

*This post originally appeared @ [Pace: Life is a Marathon](#). Katie is a global organizational development leader in oil and gas. She helps people and companies **connect, share, grow and perform better.***

Mark Stelzner

How to talk to a CEO

My first meeting with the CEO of a Fortune 1000 firm was a complete disaster. It was fifteen years ago and despite the cool breeze that was blowing outside, I was sweating bullets. This guy was a titan of industry so my mind jumped frantically between the thrill of the opportunity and the terror of screwing it up.

Entering his office with a huge smile, I instantly vomited verbal nonsense with, *"It must be a great honor for you to meet me sir! I can only imagine how excited you are!"* Ugh.. I couldn't believe what I had said and my smile grew increasingly awkward. Excited to meet me?? It sounded like I was being a sarcastic a-hole. With a furrowed brow, he peeled his fingers away from my death grip, sighed heavily and looked at his watch.

The meeting lasted seven minutes.

Suffice it to say that I've learned a thing or two in the decade and a half since that uncomfortable first encounter. And although there are others, the following six items are critically important to successfully maximizing your time on mahogany row:

1. **Do Your Homework** – When you're a CEO you tend to be pretty damn visible. Whether it's a board seat for a non-profit, the latest earnings call, keynote presentations, alumni groups or press releases, you should have no problem tracking down helpful personal and professional information prior to your session. And please, please, please don't fancy yourself such a master of disguise that you're going to casually drop some association with their world without looking like a stalker. Instead, simply be aware and prepare for the conversation to naturally flow toward your researched materials.
2. **Be Specific** - Nothing is more valuable to a CEO than their time. If you are granted an audience ensure that you have a very detailed plan and purpose. Need a decision to be made? Perfect. Have all the relevant pros and cons at your fingertips and the high level numbers and impact in tow. Keep handouts to a minimum. And finally, think through the questions you're likely to be asked and all possible courses of action so you don't have to reschedule after you've *"looked into that"*.
3. **Ask Questions** – Although at times it seems like you should be doing most of the talking, be certain to come prepared with very specific questions. One of the best methods I've seen is to literally ask for help. I know, I know... you're worried that you'll look weak and that they hired you to have all of the answers. But face facts –

the person in front of you ascended for a reason, so take a moment to benefit from their wisdom, guidance and experience.

4. Feed Their Ego – When someone decides that their purpose in life is to lead a multi-billion dollar firm, they just might think a little bit highly of themselves and their abilities. But let me caution you – no one likes a sycophant and CEOs can see suck ups coming from a mile away. Instead of directly complimenting her, find an indirect means to achieve the same end. For example, if the organization recently expanded into Asia you might mention, “... how well the APAC growth strategy has been perceived by the market”. You don’t just enter a new geography without the CEO leading the charge so the message, and compliment, will land.

5. Plan For Redirection – As your session comes to a close you will most certainly be directed to one of the CEO’s lieutenants for follow up and ongoing discussion. As part of your preparatory work you should think through the organizational structure and attempt to shape this outcome to your benefit. In fact, it’s perfectly appropriate to have a name or two in mind and to proactively ask, “Should I plan to run this through [name] as a next step?” They will appreciate the thoughtfulness and recognition that their participation is no longer appropriate or needed. But before you leave, be sure to ask the CEO (or the CEO’s assistant) to notify the subordinate that you’re following up on their suggestion and authority.

6. Say Thanks – This may seem painfully obvious but do take a moment to thank them for their time. I once worked with a colleague who would send hand written thank you notes after all of his C-suite meetings. Whether via the postal system or email, be certain to let the CEO know that you are grateful. One final thought (and this is absolutely critical!!) – be sure to thank the CEO’s executive assistant as well. Be effusive because assistants are both gatekeepers and trusted advisors and you will not get anywhere with the CEO without their help.

I hope this helps you avoid career limiting sessions like my own. Please share your stories, suggestions and comments below so that all can benefit from your time and experience with the top of the organizational food chain. And whatever you do, stay cool. They’re just people and some may even have a sense of humor. Good luck!

[Originally published on July 21, 2011 - Copyright [IA-HR](#)]

[Author's Note - May 28, 2014:](#)

I'm very humbled by the response (both good and bad) to this article and I'm so pleased by the hundreds of thoughtful and challenging comments. Having benefited from your collective wisdom, a few "edits" I would now make include:

- *"How to talk WITH a CEO": A nice suggested modification to change the tone and tenor toward one that recognizes the underlying human nature of all people. This supports the "be yourself" piece that may have been missing as well.*
- *Strike #4 ("Feed Their Ego") and replace it with "Know Your Audience": Feed their ego was an inappropriate suggestion and I regret making it. Instead, I appreciated the constructive criticism focused on recognizing that not all CEOs are the same, therefore understanding the context of, a) why you were granted an audience in the first place; and b) how that very purpose supports their mission/vision/values/outcome is a more appropriate use of your time. There are many more subtle (and in several cases, more valuable) ideas contained with the comments section so please consume and apply as you see fit. More than anything, I'm thrilled by the conversation and conviction surrounding this topic. Thanks very much everyone.*

All my best, Mark

Jack WelchInfluencer

Executive Chairman, Jack Welch Management Institute at Strayer University

Should You Ever Work For A Bad Boss?

By [Jack and Suzy Welch](#)

What’s better, to work for a bad boss at a good company or a good boss at a weak company?

We’ve gotten this question several times while traveling around the world, and we have been amazed at how split audiences seem on the answer. Amazed, because to us this is an absolute no-brainer. If you have to pick between these options, by all means, work for the good company!

Here’s our reasoning. If you are at a truly good company, its leaders will eventually find and dispatch the bad boss. That can take time—months, or even a year or more. In that case, you might even be rewarded with a promotion for having delivered results during your ordeal. After all, everyone has been there at some point in his or her career, toiling for some turkey who’s moody, mean, or just plain incompetent.

But even if you’re not promoted for your “hardship duty,” you will still be better off for having endured a boss from hell. You will be able to stay where you are in the good company with a new and better superior or move sideways to a fresh opportunity. Remember: Any experience you get at a good company where you’re working with smart people is

worthwhile, and a stint at a company with a sterling reputation gives you an excellent career credential down the road, if you need it.

Now think about the other scenario. Without question, having a good boss is one of life's best experiences. Good bosses can make work fun, meaningful, and all those warm, fuzzy things. Good bosses can make work feel like a home away from home. They can make your team feel like a family. In some cases, they can even make you feel like you've found a long lost friend or finally gotten "parental" approval.

But the good boss-weak company dynamic is a velvet coffin. All bosses eventually depart. They move up, out, or sideways. And someday your good boss will leave you, too. In fact, good bosses in weak companies are especially vulnerable to change because they have the extra stress of "protecting" their people from the impact of the organization's larger problems. This burden can wear them out or make them political pariahs, or both. Either way, in time they go.

In some ways, this question comes down to a choice between short- and long-term gains. In the short term, working for a bad boss, even in a good company, can be a nightmare. But in the long term, when the bad boss is gone, at least you'll have the opportunity to move on.

Working for a good boss in the short term can be thoroughly enjoyable even when the company is collapsing around you. Long-term, however, those happy vibes will come back to haunt you. When your boss makes a beeline for the exit, you'll be trapped. Getting a new job after you've worked at a company with a mediocre or poor reputation is hard. It's almost as if you're tainted. So all you'll have is a second-rate credential and nice memories. Do your career a favor and get your memories elsewhere.

Jack Welch is Executive Chairman of the Jack Welch Management Institute at Strayer University. Through its online MBA program, the Jack Welch Management Institute provides students and organizations with the proven methodologies, immediately actionable practices, and respected credentials needed to win in business.

Suzy Welch is a best-selling author, popular television commentator, and noted business journalist. Her New York Times bestselling book, 10-10-10: A Life Transforming Idea, presents a powerful decision-making strategy for success at work and in parenting, love and friendship. Together with her husband Jack Welch, Suzy is also co-author of the #1 international bestseller Winning, and its companion volume, Winning: The Answers. Since 2005, they have written business columns for several publications, including Business Week magazine, Thomson Reuters digital platforms, Fortune magazine, and the New York Times syndicate.

A version of this column originally appeared in BusinessWeek Magazine.

Photo: ArtFamily

ikant Vohra, Read,travel,learn,connect

157 upvotes by [Shashant Purohit](#), [Sumit Bhanushali](#), [Bocanu Cel Sur](#), [\(more\)](#)

1. Find a Mentor.

A lot of people believe that they can figure out everything in life on their own. You can read books, watch inspiring movies or listen to experts to figure out what is best for you in life. But all of these alone won't help you to achieve everything. You will need a mentor who can guide you at the crucial points in life. Your mentor should be someone whom you respect a lot. He/She should preferably be experienced in things in which you want to seek advice. You can have more than one mentor as well. Whenever you face a tough decision in life you can ask your mentor for advice as he might have faced the same decision at some point in his life as well. For example when I was in college I had a senior as mentor. He guided me on what courses to take, what internships to apply for and many other things. I don't think I would have been able to achieve what I did in my college without his help. I have also got a mentor now to help me succeed in my corporate life. The advantages of having a mentor are that you can use his/her experience to learn what things you should incorporate in life to achieve success.

2. Learn to say no.

Many a times in our lives we face a tough situation in which we know that the thing that has been asked from us cannot be done. But we are too afraid to say no. Your boss brings an almost impossible assignment for you and you do not say no to him as you are afraid that it might affect your performance ratings. Your friend calls you to borrow some money and you do not say no as that might hurt him. Think for a second how not saying no is affecting your life. It is destroying your work life balance, deteriorating your health and affecting your relationships. I cannot emphasize more on the Power of No. I used to be very timid in my school and college life. I accepted whatever was given to me without questioning. That brought a lot of problems in my life and started affecting my relationships. Since then I have made it a point to say no if I think that other person's demands are not reasonable. It might affect your relationship in short term but if the other person cares about you he will understand and respect your decision.

3. Stop caring much about other people.

When I was in 4th class there was a girl whom I loved a lot. In that tender age you don't really understand the meaning of love. One day a boy from our class asked me whom do you want to marry? For me the answer was simple. I took her name and within a few days the news reached that girl. She stopped talking with me after that. I realized that I never should have told my friend about that girl. From then on I became quite conscious

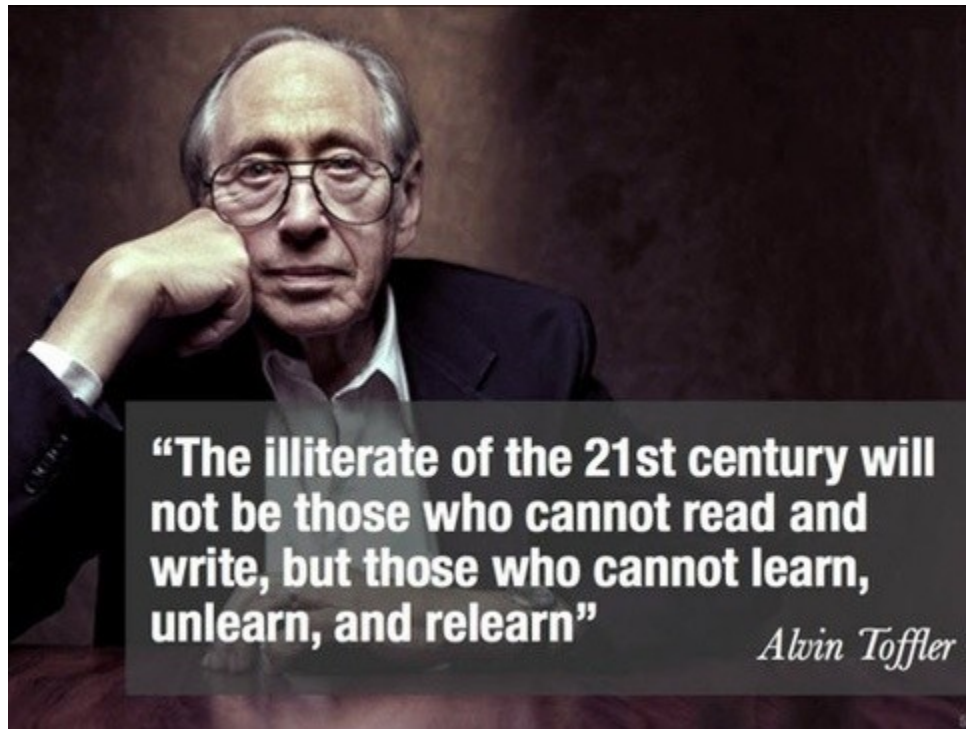
and started practicing extreme social caution at all times.

Everyday from the moment we wake up we start thinking about what other people think of us. How are these clothes looking at me? What will my colleagues think if I spoke out? If I take this job what will my family and friends think of me? The fact that most people do not understand is that none really cares about you. People are so much engrossed in their own lives that they do not have time to think about you. Once you realize this it will be a big step towards freedom. You have a great idea and want to start a company. Go ahead with it. You are willing to travel the world and have saved enough for it. Start traveling now. You should only care about people who really love you a lot and who will be there with you during the worst of times. These are your family and close friends.

4. Keep yourself financially educated.

We are not taught anything about money or finance in our schools. That can prove to be a big hindrance in your dreams to become rich. We are taught in schools to get educated in a particular skill and use that skill to get a good job. Once you have a good job you would not have to care much about money. But that is not entirely true. Having a good job never solves all your money problems. If you are not financially educated you open yourself to a lot of liabilities like loans, credit cards. These liabilities diminishes your savings and you begin to look for promotions or raises. You must read the book Rich Dad Poor Dad in which the author tells us about how rich people make money work for themselves and how middle class and poor people work for money their entire lives. You must educate yourself well about money if you aim to become rich in life.

5. Never stop learning.



Einstein had a famous quote "When you stop learning, you start dying."

A person can be of any age. He can be someone who has just learned to walk or some one who has lived through multiple phases of life. We all need to keep on learning new things to remain relevant in life. A lot of so called grown ups think that they know everything and do not feel the need to invest their time in learning new things. There are many government offices in India where employees are still not willing to use computers as it involves learning a new thing. The people who really do something worthwhile in life are the ones who keep themselves open to learning and unlearning. Read books on different topics, participate in a discussion with a will to listen and take online courses that really interest you. If you really want to taste success be humble and never stop learning.