

Why Bother?

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Over the years I have advocated striving to be one's best. Some people agree. Others scoff at my "obsolete" ways of the past. Maybe they are right. Why bother anymore? I concede the following for the present but the question is truly answered in the end.

Why should grade school students bother to study hard and strive to live life according to old obsolete moral standards? If you are lazy in school then you are entitled to free housing, free food, free health care, and free money to spend and do not have to pay taxes. What else do you need in life? If you study hard then your reward is that you not only have to pay for your housing, food, and health care, but you also must pay high taxes to pay for those "unfortunate" people who receive those benefits for free.

The same concept applies to college. You can study hard in order to enter college and you can save money to go to college (although any savings are counted against you in financial aid determination – so why bother?) or you can be a member of a wide assortment of groups with privileged excuses and not only have college expenses paid but also be able to do minimal work and still obtain a diploma that states *John is got naledge*. Employers are prohibited from knowing about any program John was on and must give him equal consideration in comparison to those who graduated college the classical way.

Why bother to carefully plan finances to buy a house? Just go buy the biggest house you can and let the government bail you out when you are unable to pay for it. Those "dumb" ones who carefully buy only the house they can truly afford are then stuck with the tax bill to pay for the "smart" ones who do stupid things.

Why bother saving for retirement? Only the stupid save for retirement now. The government is going to take care of those who do not save by taxing those who do. You can work hard or hardly work – it will make little difference in the end.

Why bother trying to live a healthy lifestyle? Whatever lifestyle related health problem you end up with will be paid for either directly by the government or via government mandate where people making it a point to live a healthy life style pay excess insurance premiums to cover your expenses.

Why bother respecting other people's property? If you vandalize or steal someone else's property then you are seen as the victim of an unjust society that let you grow up in an underprivileged area and thus are entitled to benefits including education (see above) and job training – to make you eligible for some employer to have to pay you.

We live in the why bother age where it is possible for many people to coast through life on the wealth created by their hard working predecessors. Eventually that wealth will be dissipated and those who have coasted will become the low-paid servants of those who did bother to excel. Then the answer to my question of why bother becomes clear.