

## AN IMAGE OF SUCCESS

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**Abstract.** *The aim of this study is to examine the factors that contribute to high level of success by analyzing different examples and stories from the real life. The results of this study showed that there is a wide majority of factors which all together affect the final result. Even the rarest talents given from the birth does not guarantee the success, which means that there is not a unique way to gain achievements.*

**Key words:** *Success, factors, improvement, failure, achievement.*

### Introduction

Society - the environment in which everyone wants to assert themselves, being often influenced by people, things and stereotypes. We live in a world where being a famous man, you are judged, but looking good is a trophy. We all want success. We want to be known and loved, hoping that in this way we will leave something to the new generation. We chase money, fame, power, education, relationships and thousands of other things, without even stopping to ask one essential question: What Does Success Really Mean? Here are some answers from the people we know:

*Success means to achieve a goal I have set for myself.*

B.Vladislav

*Success means to produce high quality work before the deadline.*

B.Dumitru

*Success means knowing that my contributions positively impacted my company.*

M.Lupu

We get to the top only to discover we climbed the wrong mountain. We achieve our goals only to realize they were the wrong ones. It's a disaster few people are able to recover from their problems. Many people have fought and struggled to the top only to feel miserable and burned out once they get there. They're unhappy because they pursued the wrong definition of success - one that didn't match their values. Everyone has their own agenda and idea of who and what we should be. Although it's OK to value the opinions and hopes of others, we shouldn't necessarily adopt them as our own. No one can impose their version of success on us, but we still can listen and follow their way.

So, for each individual, success is a consequence of their own desires and mentality. Jim Carrey once affirmed: I think everybody should get rich and famous and do everything they ever dreamed of so they can see that it's not the answer. Typically, the very activities that engage and energize us are driven by our innate natural talents. If you have strong influencing or relationship talents, you will likely be motivated by managing a team or developing a business. Perhaps you are a great problem solver, strategist or visionary, inspired by new ideas and you do your best work when you have time to think and reflect. It is all about hard work and opportunities. Set goals, manage your time, work hard and follow your dream. It is all about you, about your mind, inner beauty and pleasure. Throughout childhood and early adulthood, we created and followed various models of success from our parents, teachers and friends.

### **Crucial factors leading to success**

In order to understand how the greatest and the most successful people of our time have achieved their extraordinary results, it is needed to analyze every detail of their long and tedious road to success much deeper than the majority of people might think. We pay too much attention to what winners are like, and too little attention to where are they from, that is: their culture, their family, their generation, and the individual experiences of their education. People tend to think that the most important factor which brings prosperity is the hard work, but it turns out that even the month of birth might be more crucial than the talent a person has. An example which emphasizes that, is the disproportionate number of elite Canadian hockey players that are born in the earlier months of the calendar year. The reason behind this is that since youth hockey leagues determine eligibility by the calendar year, children born on January 1 play in the same league as those born on December 31 in the same year. Because children born earlier in the year are statistically larger and more physically mature than their younger competitors, and they are often identified as better athletes, this leads to extra coaching and a higher likelihood of being selected for elite hockey leagues, therefore a lot of talented and hard-working players are ignored just because they weren't born in the right time.

Moreover, even the fact that a person is a pure genius does not fully determine his success. In order to apply and use a talent properly it is needed to have a well-developed practical intelligence (soft skills) which will help to cope with difficult life situations, and the most important, to attract people and make allies. As Malcolm Gladwell said: "No one – not rock stars, not professional athletes, not software billionaires, and not even geniuses – ever makes it alone". A bright example which illustrates this claim is the story of Christopher Langan, officially considered as the smartest man in the world. Despite having an IQ of 195, he ended up owning a farm in Missouri. The main reason Christopher Langan hasn't become successful is the detrimental environment in which he grew up, throughout his life there was nobody who could have helped him to take advantage of his unique gift, so he had to do everything on his own.

A straight counterexample to this story is the life of Robert Oppenheimer, the father of the atomic bomb. Unlike Christopher Langan, he was born in a family of a successful businessman and a painter in one of the wealthiest regions of Manhattan. It's hard to imagine a better environment to get a proper education and a high level of practical intelligence. By combining the opportunity to study in the best schools and the soft skills gained from his favorable surrounding, Robert Oppenheimer became one of the most successful theoretical physicists of all time. His negotiation skills were so developed, that he managed to avoid the punishment for the attempt of poisoning one of his teachers when he was a student at University of Cambridge.

### **Success stories**

In the world there are a lot of remarkable people and success stories that have changed the whole humanity through their unique ideas and have remained in our minds as individuals for example, their success stories inspire and motivate us to learn and grow professionally in order to achieve even greater achievements in our own career or personal life.

A well-respected personality among programmers both beginners and professionals, is Linus Torvalds. He is known for his monumental contribution towards the creation of a new open source operating system called "Linux Kernel". It is the one of the most popular Kernel in the world today. Inspired by the Andrew Tanenbaum's book "Operating Systems: Design and Implementation», he began to work intensively on the first prototype of the Linux operating system. Torvalds earned most of his \$150 Million through Linux Kernel, apart from earning an annual salary of \$10 million with the position he held at Transmeta, Open Source Development Labs and Free Standard Group. Free Standard Group was then merged and became the Linux Foundation, where he became the chief architect of the Linux Kernel and is now the project's coordinator. Over two percent of the Linux Kernel was written by Torvalds himself, the maximum a single person has contributed to an open operating system kernel till day. Linus Torvalds has

been a great success story for open source and his story represents how a simple idea can become a huge upgrade for the entire IT ecosystem.

To start a successful business, it is not enough only a good idea, it also needs a well-established plan and a lot of hard work, the success story of Michael Dell is a good example. He is a renowned entrepreneur, author and the founder as well as the chief executive officer of Dell Inc, was born on 23rd February 1965 in Houston, Texas. His father was a stockbroker and an orthodontist and mother were a money manager. Even if he is from a good family with a relatively large fortune, Michael wanted to build its wealth by himself. From teenage, Dell kept doing several part-time jobs from where he would collect money to invest in precious metal and stocks business. At the age of 12, he operated a mail-order trading business and earned \$2,000. At the age of 14 he received his first computer Apple II and studied details on how it worked and developed a knack for computers. During his studies at Memorial High School, he worked part time as a marketing executive for the Houston Post and learnt some precious selling strategies. In a year, Dell managed to earn \$18.000, back then it was quite an amount. When Dell was at the University of Texas, in 1984, he began his computer company “PCs Limited” with his pocket money \$1000. Hi family financed him with \$300,000 and Dell started assembling computer and selling with a year free service warranty. His dedication to service got him hundreds of satisfied customers. The next, Dell took a big decision, he quit his studies from the university to devote whole time in business and started selling PC, kits and add-on components. After that company was renamed with Dell Computer Corporation and moved in North Austin. In 1992, Fortune Magazine kept his company among top 500 companies and with that he became the youngest CEO at the age of 27. After 4 years in 1996, Dell began selling computer online and launched a server and the growth doubled within years and became world’s largest PC manufacturer. Currently, he serves as the CEO of the organization which he had founded as Dell Computer Corporation. One of the richest people in the world, he has billions invested in other companies as well. As of 2020, Michael Dell’s net worth is estimated to be \$35 Billion dollars. Michael was not scared of the big competitors that had been on the market for many years, he realized that he can provide better services and cheaper laptops and took advantage of this fact, the main advice we can take from his story is that we should innovate when we see an opportunity.

We all know the history of the company Apple Inc. and we all know about Steve Jobs, which is one of the founders of Apple Inc. but fewer of us know about Steve Wozniak, which is also one of the founders of Apple. He is an American computer scientist, inventor and programmer. In partnership with his friend Steve Jobs, Wozniak invented the Apple I computer. They founded Apple Computers in 1976 with Ronald Wayne, releasing some of the first personal computers on the market. Wozniak also personally developed the next model, Apple II, which established Apple as a major player in microcomputing. Wozniak was the son of an engineer at Lockheed Martin and was fascinated by electronics at an early age. Although he was never a star student in the traditional sense, Wozniak had an aptitude for building working electronics from scratch. He was the technical brain behind the sales and marketing vision of Jobs. Steve “Would always find a way to turn them into money” Woz explains, “Steve knew where to sell things. I never thought about that, I just built things for fun”. Wozniak went on to conceive the Apple II as part of the company's personal-computer series, and by 1983, Apple had a stock value of \$985 million. Wozniak ended his employment with Apple in 1985. When asked how he felt about ‘missing out’ on some of Apple’s success, Woz made it clear he knew early on that there were two types of success – the extrinsic success marked by what others saw – how you dress, where you live, your title and the car you drive – and the intrinsic success criteria which he rated far more important. That is how you feel about yourself and those closest to you – he reckons he know happiness. His estimation of success does not lie in making the maximum amount possible He’s content with the \$100 million he’s currently worth today.

## Conclusion

Success is a matter of luck or accident or being in the right place at the right time. By practicing the principles that you have just learned, you will move to the front of the line in life. You will have an incredible advantage over people who do not know or who do not practice these techniques and strategies. You will have an advantage that will give you the winning edge for the rest of your life and career. Many people consider graduation caps or diplomas as symbols of college success. If those are meaningful to you, consider one of those as an option. Alternatively, yours can become more personal—an item that speaks to you as a sign of what you’re working towards, and how you’ll know you’ve “made it.”

If you consistently and persistently do the things that other successful people do, nothing in the world can stop ...

You are a strong, determined individual. You may face prejudice and ridicule and physical pain and emotional distress. Disasters may knock you down. You may make big mistakes. But you quietly survive. You think and you reason and you take action. If you decide to be a Master of Success, there are only three things that can stop you immediately and permanently in your tracks: laziness, selfishness and a lack of ambition.

*Try not to become a man of success. Rather become a man of value.*

Albert Einstein

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