

## Failing Over and Over Again...

I had what you could call a dysfunctional childhood, and I also had some pretty outrageous ambitions. I wanted to be a multimillionaire entrepreneur; I wanted to make so much money that any mistakes of my youth would be erased from anyone's memory. Most of all I wanted to be truly free. Maybe because of how I grew up I associated being dependent with being vulnerable and subject to suffering. So I certainly did not want that kind of weakness to follow me into adulthood in the form of financial dependence. I thought if I worked for myself and made a large amount of money I would be as free as anyone could be in the world. Due to a lack of discipline, focus, experience and stability I had several wild attempts at entrepreneurial stardom beginning with renting out a Pac-man watch from a kid in the 5<sup>th</sup> grade class next to me for ten cents a game, two for fifteen all the way up to the dotcom era. I was a partner in a handful of what could be considered at best ground floor startups, and began a few ventures on my own when the partnerships dissolved. I tried anything from making websites to telemarketing. Nothing came together, and at 30 I decided to take a breath and get a job. After very little time I tried again to become an entrepreneur, but with a day job to fall back on. I would try several more times, each time a little more structured, a little more focused.

I won't go into the projects I am working on now, or make the case that I am on the cusp of finally achieving entrepreneurial greatness, but I will say that the lessons that I learned through all those ridiculous failures I now apply and have for sometime in my career. The experiences I obtained, as painful and poverty rendering as they were, I would not trade for any amount of money. In seeking wealth and leaving college I became poor and got educated. Where do I think I will end up, well, I am more confident every day, during every meeting, through every new contact that I will realize my goal. However, none of that, and none of the modest success I have enjoined over the past few years would have been possible had I not been allowed to fail over and over again. If the market was not free, free to the point where any idea was a possibility I would not be pondering the possibilities I am today, instead I would be resenting and yet fully dependent on the job I was fortunate enough to be assigned.

I don't want to live in a country that does not cherish freedom. The freedom to fail is the prerequisite to the blessings of success. The freedom to fail allows for ideas produced from people who have all the odds against them to lose everything over and over until they develop extraordinary abilities to align with their outrageous goals to create the economic miracles that produce our jobs, our research and development funds, our educational endowments and our charitable contributions.

A subsidy is a thief that robs the individual of their right to grow. A tax increase robs the person in need of the job that will never be created. A bailout is either a narcotic that

turns American industry into a debilitated junkie or outright corruption. Whether the intention of the left is good, and the older I get the more I question the quality of the intent, or not, the result is dependence, a lack of personal and professional growth, and economic stagnation at best.

If we do not limit the role of our government in our lives we will cease to be the rare exception in world history, we will not be the shining city on a hill, and we might instead be something like Europe without the food, art or delusional sense of self importance. I want to be FREE, I want to have the chance to succeed and for that I must be allowed to risk failure. I want to be an American in the Constitutional sense. I want to see the Tea Party movement break down party lines, break down old prejudices. I want to see the Tea Party movement light a fire that wakes Americans up to the fact that our greatest asset is not the dollar which can be diluted to worthlessness, our auto industry that is being bludgeoned to death due to the stranglehold of unions, or even our military which is being muzzled for the sake of not offending those who want us dead, it is first and foremost liberty.

Join a tea party, and if you are a member get plugged in further. Read the constitution, read the 5,000 Year Leap. Take a stand with us now, join a protest, send a letter, and make some calls to your representatives letting them know you have taken that stand and it's with us. We are not trying to take anything from anyone, instead we are working to restore the God given freedom to those who are its' rightful owners, and you are one of them along with the rest of the American people.