



## THE NEW PATH TO FAME AND FORTUNE

Establishing Back in the distant past, the aspirations of youngsters were simple, directed by admirable or at least achievable careers. That was the time when most teenagers' choices of careers were modest jobs like engineers, doctors, designers, and the most common answer – teachers. But these days, their ambitions seem to have taken a paradigm shift as youngsters aim for high-paying careers, which are mostly self-serving, instead of functioning to complement society as a whole. Influencers an unprecedented choice have suddenly been in contention with traditional careers and have received increasing popularity among the youth. For example, it was found that the culture, media, and sports industry is oversubscribed, while others such as building and construction are under subscribed, as shown in a report by the Education and Employers Task force. Is it true that the unrealistic ambitions and aspirations of today's youth are a cause for concern?



Nowadays, kids are heavily influenced by social media. As the internet has virtually infiltrated all facets of life and echelons, teenagers are exposed to various content on the internet, from boundless information and scholarly articles to videos placed by content creators across the globe, or we can call them influencers. Unfettered access to the internet has led children to follow the steps of these influencers, while their young minds have yet to be mature enough to comprehend the information on their glowing screens as right or wrong. Some might be helpful, providing guidance on education and skill learning or serving as a platform to share positivity. But it is a certain group of them who display and promote hedonism and self-gratification, setting a bad example for the future generation. Youth may perceive their actions as the right way of life, and the unwanted result is that many of them consider becoming an influencer as something glorious.

Respond Young people today seem to set their sights only on fame and fortune, which they expect to be handed to them on a plate. While I am pretty sure that this is not the case for the majority of young people, I do not believe this is anything new. Possessing ever-increasing fame and wealth generates a temporary feeling of satisfaction, as it is human nature to feel superior to each other, both in terms of status and standard of living. Therefore, young people who are generally becoming lazy and individualistic want an effortless yet rewarding way to achieve their goals. Most kids today believe they can attain these not through determination and perseverance, but through becoming famous. It is a bitter disappointment that they expect to be propelled into fame through a smooth sail by becoming one of those influencers on the internet. Although it is fine for younger children to contemplate these idealistic goals, as there is nothing wrong with dreaming big, as said by Robert Browning, 'Ah, but a man's reach should exceed his grasp, or what's a heaven for?', they will need a reality check as they step into adulthood.

In a nutshell, the way children wish to acquire riches is somehow going down a treacherous path, but it is unsurprising, for wealth has been central to human society, and we are always willing to summon our inner Machiavelli to obtain it. While I do not subscribe to the claim that our future generations should resort to general options and end up being lackadaisical, I feel that it is crucial to make it clear to them that everything in life comes after hard work. Perhaps parents should move from their comfy armchairs and care more about their children before they are indoctrinated into the delusion of becoming an influencer.

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