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Numbers

I want to be free from the fact that numbers define who we are and what we're capable of. I'm talking about SAT scores, A.P scores, GPA's, salaries, rankings, height, weight, and so on and so forth. These numbers determine what people think of you as. These numbers determine where you will go in life. Our lives are based upon numbers on a sheet of paper.

Let’s use the SAT and GPA to demonstrate. If you have a low GPA and a low SAT score that pretty much means you are not getting into any of the big schools, and have to resort to smaller collages. The small collages will only get you so far. It won’t expose you to other people who have these great ambitions that will change the world. If you get a good SAT score and have a high GPA that makes you very likely to get in to the big schools. You will learn more in these schools. These schools will then teach you how to think big and practically. When career recruiters see that you went to this school it is very likely to get a very well paid job. Let’s face it guys, success is pretty much determined by the size of your paycheck. Wouldn’t you agree? Look at Bill Gates, he was deemed successful because he sold so many products, thus increasing his paycheck. Wouldn’t you say he is successful? Yeah, there may be some outliers that find success through different means, but for the majority of us our lives are based upon numbers on a sheet of paper.

A.P scores are another example. If you get a 4 or a 5 then it is likely that you won't have to take that class in college, thus giving you more time to take classes relevant to your major, but you got a 1 or a 2. Now you're stuck in a class you've already taken. If you had just gotten a 4 then maybe you would be wasting your time. This shows you that the small change in numbers can make all the difference.

Rankings are also an example. We all want to be number 1, because we know that the number 1 will get more opportunities. The number 1 gets the money, wins the trophy, and gets in the papers; the number 1 ends up being more successful. What happens to the number 2? He gets left in the dust. He misses out on opportunities he could've had. This shows you that even a small difference In numbers can have a huge impact on your future.

There has to be another way to identify someone's abilities. I don’t want to abolish numbers all together; and I understand that you'll get interviews that will show how you think and the way you act. But you will only get that interview if your numbers look good. Maybe we cant be free from this fact. There doesn’t seem to be any better and reliable way to identify someone. We just have to accept the fact that numbers will define us and should just make the best of it.