

Greed, The True Motivator

When I was in high-school I participated in Lincoln Douglas debate, one of my many opponents that I faced came up with an interesting theory. He believed that the everyone has never done anything that wasn't motivated by greed. While I don't completely believe this theory in its entirety, I do believe that there are certain individuals that this theory applies to. Many people today are motivated by money and power, two things that are very hard to earn and even harder to earn yourself.

A more modern way of doing this is investing into small businesses or ideas. This has led to the expansion of ventures that make people very wealthy in a short period of time. Recently, cryptocurrency has been in every headline on every newspaper. Many people believe that this is another way to get rich, that if you invest in it, you will never have to work a day in your life. What is truly intriguing is the fact that not two years earlier this currency was deemed stupid and worthless to 90 percent of the population. In fact, many people either gave up on this idea entirely or used this currency for sex trafficking, the purchasing of illegal organs, and other black-market transactions. However, the most fascinating aspect of cryptocurrency is how quickly the intentional use can switch. Bitcoin and other cryptocurrencies were intended to replace all government related currency with this de-centralized currency. However, in 2014 the idea didn't stick for very long and it plummeted.

Personally, I believe that bitcoin is a smart investment, however, many people are not investing for the correct reasons. Many people are seeking out bitcoin because it has a large trade value to USD, not because of its unique qualities and potential. While this strategy may have its benefits, many individuals are missing out on the true potential that bitcoin has. People should be

investing in bitcoin in order to replace all of the government-issued currency that we are currently using today. Instead, they are investing mainly because of greed, they want to become rich and powerful and they see this as their way of doing it.

I believe that the true purpose of bitcoin fits the Honors Program motto; if properly used it allows all users to have Dilligentia, Curiositas, and Cognito. Because bitcoin is a decentralized currency, there is no way to track or trace what transactions are being made. While this might sound scary, this is a very good thing for the general public. Bitcoin allows people to exchange value without intermediaries which translate to greater control of funds, meaning that we are in charge of our own money. Bitcoin is also completely digital, meaning that there is no more losing money or transaction fees can occur. In addition, bitcoin is completely secure, meaning there is no way to hack into an account to steal bitcoin or duplicate bitcoin like many criminals today do with the U.S. dollar.

Bitcoin is a great alternative currency that will eventually replace the USD. However, the main problem with the public as of now is that they are investing for greed and greed alone. I don't believe that the public is following the Honors Program motto; I believe that they need to be able to research and truly find out the unique opportunity we have with bitcoin.