

SUCCESS STRATEGY 9:

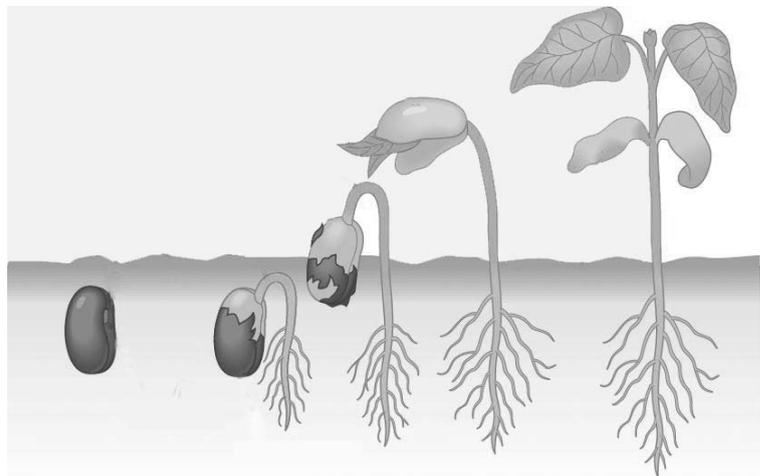
DEAL WITH CRITICISM

*"It doesn't interest me how old you are.
I want to know if you will risk looking like a fool
to achieve your GOAL and SUCCEED in life."*

People whoever achieved extraordinary result in their lives, were initially criticized or labelled as fool; because they only could see their long-term outcome or vision. Fear of criticism is one of the biggest obstacles in the path of success. Whoever has been successful in this world had to defeat this worst enemy- fear of criticism. People refuse to take action in spite of having all the talents due to the fear of criticism (if I fail). For these people fear of criticism is stronger than desire to succeed. Some people refuse to set high goal due to the fear of criticism from friends and relatives.

The world is always looking for new ideas, new leaders, new books, innovative methods of teaching, new methods of marketing, creative movies and TV serials, and new inventions. First you need to plant the seed of idea. It will take some time to germinate the idea and it will take more time to bear the fruits from the seed of idea. During this period of time- in between planting the idea and harvesting fruit, you are bound to attract criticism. To achieve your long-term goal you have to set foundation. Others can't see anything on the ground while you are setting your foundation like roots of trees. If you want to grow higher in life, you have to set strong roots and to set strong roots you need more time. During this period while watering your ideas, others may criticise you as they can't see anything above the ground.

Successful people deal with criticism as a feedback. Criticism is the measuring scale to inform you that you are doing something extraordinary. Those who don't do anything extraordinary in life don't attract any criticism. Criticism is part and parcel of a successful life. We can't



make everyone happy in this world. When you start practising core values, you will attract criticism from those who don't follow core values.

Fear of criticism is one of the common reasons for participants in my workshop to avoid speaking on the stage in spite of having a strong desire to be good public speaker and presenter. Though Mrs. Sonia Gandhi even could not speak proper Hindi, but that has not stopped her to come on the stage and today she is one of the top leaders in the world. People have always criticized her speech. Where are those critics? Mr. Rajeev Gandhi was criticized for the introduction of computer in India. Today India is leading towards development through IT industry due to his vision. If Thomas Edison would have feared ten thousand failures, we would not have got electric bulb. When Marconi, inventor of wireless communication announced that he had discovered a principle through which he could send messages without any direct physical means, was taken to a psychopathic hospital by his friends.

Who could think one day, "A junk metal will fly through the air", which Wright brothers could visualise and now you can see the evidence all over the world. Whenever you want to do anything different, there is every possibility of facing criticism, especially from your near and dear ones:

*It doesn't interest me what planets are squaring your moon.
I want to know if you have touched the centre of your sorrow,
if you have opened to life's betrayals or
have become shrivelled and closed from the fear of further pain.*

Some people blame their failure on the fate and some will blame on their near and dear ones as they didn't get the expected support from them. Initially people will not support rather they will criticize; that's the law of the nature. Very few can overcome these criticisms and stops taking any further action towards their goal by saying, "I had enough, I am struggling hard for these people and they don't understand and support me. What's the point of working so hard?" Only your actions can take you to your destination.

Some people believe in rings and stones to change their fortunes. Rings and stones are the reminders to take action as you can see them all the time. Stone can never change any ones fortunes. Our body reacts when rays and vibration pass through stones and metal that touches our body. You can be hyperactive or stone can make you dull to stay back at home. If you can use these reactions in your favour, you achieve success. For example a person who



always prefers to stay back at home will be given such a stone by astrologer, he will become hyperactive. He will feel like going out. He can use this action to meet more clients or run after girls. It's up to his awareness, values and belief system. On the other side if a person is hyperactive, he may be given the opposite kind of stone to become lethargic and stay back home. He can use this time to study and finish assignments to succeed in career or keep watching movies, TV serials and sleeping.

Let's come back to criticism, if you work very hard and support your organization, you may invite criticism from lazy colleagues. They will not do their job and criticize your effort and initiatives. They will label you to be fool, "You must be fool, I work 8 hours and you work 10hours; but we get the same salary." If you listen to them and stop taking the required action to get your desired result, then they are the winners. They have achieved their goal of dragging you down. But they are ignorant of their actions. They are destroying their own career and careers of their colleagues. They are passing the same kind of values to their children also. Their children will carry the same kind of values. It becomes too late by the time they realize that their children are not getting a good job or are not able to sustain a job due to those values imparted by them. They will suffer rest of their life.

Strike can never be a solution: It's very easy to go on strike and show anger. Show commitment and work towards your job instead of taking the path to avoid work- strike. Today if you are following strike to press your demands, tomorrow your children will also follow the same path, because you impart the same values to your children. That day for God's sake don't blame your children for the behaviour shown to you.

Your employer is your bread giver you can never fight with him. Nature will take its own course. God has given one stomach to feed your employer. If he consumes excess of anything he is going to suffer. If he is having excess food and drinks he is going to suffer from health problems. He will lose his relationship with his own people, if he is using company money for enjoying illegal sex; truth will come out today or tomorrow. Nature has also given us beautiful gift AIDS (HIV virus) for that.

You focus on your task; you will get what you deserve. It may take some time, therefore I have discussed again and again- Patience, Punctuality, Positive Attitude and Initiative are essential to lead a happy and balanced life.

I have mentioned at the introduction- to achieve ultimate success in your life you must follow your conscience and if you want to follow your conscience, you are bound to attract criticism. Most of us live in physical and emotional level i.e. we take decisions on the basis of physical and emotional gain. Noble Peace Prize winner Dr. Muhammad Yunus, founder of the Grameen Bank, a unique organisation established for the sole purpose of extending