

By, Diana Luong  
For: Get in the Game!  
Article 1: Believe in Yourself

*"You're never going to make it."*

*"It's too late. It's not worth it."*

*"You're not what we are looking for."*

*"You don't have any skills or work experience for this position."*



**I remember hearing those statements since I was in 8th grade.** Today, I'm still hearing them. I know the feeling and thinking you're not good enough, and that you can't make your dream happen due to your background, family history of not going to school, where you live, where you go to school, and other factors. There are things that restrict you from being who you want to be, what you want to be, and where you want to be.

Some of us are very lucky and blessed to have someone to encourage us to believe in ourselves, every day. While some of us don't believe and it's due to fear of being criticized even more. It can make you feel alone. **I promise you, you are not alone.** What you are thinking and feeling about not being good enough is not true. I will show you how to overcome this self-defeating emotion and show you that **you can make your dream happen. It's just taking one step at a time.**

If you read my INTERN story, you will learn that I was told that I wouldn't be able to attend college due to my record of transferring to different high schools. I'm going to let you know I did attend a college, and graduated with a business degree in May 2011. I've been attending a graduate school for my Master's degree in Information Systems Management with Concentration in Information Systems Tools while working full-time since May 5, 2014. It was a tough decision whether or not I should attend a graduate school because of my financial situation, and because people told me I'm too late going to a graduate school because they say I am too old and my brain won't be on studying mode, and that it's expensive.

So yes, I still get the "He said. She said." These negative messages are never going to end in life - people telling you that you can't. It's part of life. What's so beautiful about them telling you the reasons why you shouldn't or that you can't is that **it's up to you to decide why you can, how you will and what you can say about it.**

What motivated me to get my Master's degree after three years of graduating college instead of applying right after college? Well, after being a Business Professional for three years, I realized I have a passion for creative designs, technology, and problem-solving, consequently, I tried to apply for an Analyst job, and I did go through the interview process. During the interview process, the Human Resources Manager told me I have no computer programming skills and was very rude. A majority of us would be upset that he wasted our time by not reading the resume that clearly states that you do have computer skills, that you can learn different computer programs, and which proves you did read the job description before applying. You might be upset that he didn't give you a chance to prove yourself.

**Instead of being upset** during the interview process, I couldn't help but laugh by telling him: "I don't see it that way. I see it that I don't have the necessary computer skills you are looking for yet, but I will in the future." Yes, I didn't get a call for the next interview.

**What did I do?** Instead of quitting my goal to have an Analyst position, **I researched.** That's when I found I needed to get my Master's degree instead of a Bachelor's degree to learn more about Information Technology. I applied for student loans in order to attend. While I'm pursuing my Master's degree, I'm also applying for internships in the IT field.

There are times I feel that I'm not good enough for an internship, a job opportunity, or for whatever I wish for because of an event that happened. **I limit myself in life.**

**These are the two ways that helped me to move beyond my limitations.**

**The first way is to create opportunity for yourself.**

I created an opportunity for myself by designing my website and offering my computer skills to help Get in the Game and other organizations.

**The second way is to write positive quotes and remind yourself of your "why" and your "how" on piece of paper and keep them in a jar.**

Jubilee Project Short Film created, *What's Inside* film, which inspired me. I always keep a piece of paper inside my jacket, wallet, or my pocket when I feel I'm not good enough for what I want in my life. It says, "You're kind, talented, smart, and funny. You are capable of doing so much more than you imagine. You don't need luck because it is what's inside that matters." It helped me to remind myself who I am and believe in myself more.

No matter how slow you're going in the progress in life, like a turtle, believe in yourself by being you first, and you will get there.

So go make your dream happen! One step at a time!

Sincerely,

Diana Luong