

Have you failed enough?

Diana Christobel. A¹, Femila Komahal. F², Puttesha. C²

¹ChangeManager, TESCO, Bengaluru Pvt Ltd, Karnataka, India

²Assistant Professor, Nrupathunga University, Bangalore, Karnataka, India

Abstract: Failures hurt like hell, it is a more painful feeling that eats us inside out, but do we have to give into it. But is that it? Give it time, but not yourself. How do we treat failures and focus that energy to become more successful? Despite our failures where do we stand at the end of life? What did we do with the failures? It does not matter who starts first in life but what matters is, who is successful at the end, most of all who is happier? A detailed study on failure as a positive approach is made in this paper.

Keywords: Failures, energy, successful, hell

1. INTRODUCTION

"The secret of life is to fall seven times and to get up eight times." — Paulo Coelho [1]. Life is not all about success, even though, you hear that as a propaganda. Look at the life of people who have failed a lot, what do you see or more importantly who do you see? Yourself, parents, relations, friends, neighbours, someone you met the other day? Or was it Einstein, Steve Jobs, Walt Disney, Stephen King, Oprah Winfrey, Bill Gates, etc.? This article addresses failure as a positive approach.

2. AUTHOR'S WISH

"You always pass failure on your way to success." -Mickey Rooney [2].

I wish all of you have more failures :)

What! Did I read it right? Who on earth would wish for such a thing? May be the writer is an idiot or must be my worst enemy?

Well, after all these thoughts, settle down, sit back relax and reflect. How much have you failed? Have you failed enough?

3. HAVE YOU FAILED ENOUGH?

"Failure isn't fatal, but failure to change might be" - John Wooden [3].

Today's world does not treat failures kindly. There are a lot of expectations around you, your parents expect, neighbours expect, teachers expect, friends expect, spouses expect, well, you do expect a lot from yourself. Failing to meet them comes in as failure. You become anxious, stressed, exhausted, suffocated, sleepless and what not?

"I have not failed. I've just found 10,000 ways that won't work"-Thomas A. Edison [4].

We all fail to satisfy a lot of expectations, but, whose fault should it be? Yours or theirs? Sometimes we feel devastated when someone (that can be you as well), does not meet or live up to expectations.

"Don't bury your failures, let them inspire you"- Robert Kiyosaki [5].

Even before recorded history, people were battling with the push-and-pull created by this burning desire to succeed. This stems beyond mere survival. Survival is built into our DNA — it's part of the very fabric that makes us into who we are.

"Most great people have achieved their greatest success just one step beyond their greatest failure"- Napoleon Hill [6].

However, human beings weren't just made to survive; we were made to thrive. We've been thriving since the earliest days of our species some 200,000 years ago. With the beautiful invention of language, we've been able to expand our knowledge, enhance our technology and vastly improve our quality of life.

Still, while we're suffering through the disheartening and gut-wrenching pains of failure, we're often not thinking about thriving, we're solely focused on surviving. When we fail, it makes us question everything, right down to the very heart of who we are and why we've been put here on this earth. But failure, as much as it hurts, is also a necessary part of life. It's the pathway to our goals. "Pain is temporary. Quitting lasts forever" – Lance Armstrong Sally Jenkins [7].

In fact, the most successful and famous people in the world have endured the most failures in life. They've failed repeatedly. But they've also gotten back up. They didn't throw in that proverbial towel. They didn't call it quits or head for the ropes. They got up and kept going. And that's just what it takes to succeed. "Failure is simply the opportunity to begin again, this time more intelligently"— Henry Ford [8].

Today, if you've suffered through failures in the past, or you're going through the torrent of a failure right now, know this — failure will make you better. Failure will improve your life. It will allow you to reach new understandings and epiphanies on life, love, business and the people all around you. It will make you better.

Still, it's not enough to talk about failure in that aspect. It's not enough to talk about the theoretical power that failure has. It's far more beneficial to look at some of the most famous people in time who've failed. It's far easier to rely on their experiences and witness what they had to suffer through, than it is to just reflect on failure itself.

Remember, Failure is not the opposite to success but a part of success [9], you're never too old to try again. It's never too late to take another shot. Some of these famous failures were in their 60's when they gave it another go such as Colonel Harland Sanders, the founder of KFC, who was a wild-eyed 65-year old when he set out with nothing more than a \$105 social security check in his pocket and a recipe for his now-famous fried chicken.

4. THE WORLD'S MOST FAMOUS FAILURES

Few famous failures are given in the table below [10].

S.No	Name of the Famous Failures	S.No	Name of the Famous Failures
1	Albert Einstein	10	Katy Perry
2	Abraham Lincoln	11	Keanu Reeves
3	Beyonce Knowles	12	John Hamm
4	Charles Darwin	13	JK Rowling
5	Bill Gates	14	Jack London
6	Charlie Chaplin	15	Jack Canfield
7	Chris Gardner	16	James Dyson
8	Colonel Harland Sanders	17	Jerry Seinfeld
9	Curtis Jackson	18	Jim Carrey
S.No	Name of the Famous Failures	S.No	Name of the Famous Failures
19	Dr. Seuss	36	Marilyn Monroe
20	Elizabeth Arden	37	Mark Cuban
21	Elvis Presley	38	Madonna
22	Emily Dickinson	39	Howard Schultz
23	Fred Astaire	40	Henry Ford
24	George Lucas	41	Harrison Ford
25	Mark Zuckerberg	42	Dhirubhai Ambani
26	Michael Jordan	43	Amitabh Bachchan
27	Milton Hershey	44	Nawazuddin Siddique
28	Oprah Winfrey	45	Sylvester Stallone
29	Richard Branson	46	The Beatles
30	Robert T. Kiyosaki	47	Thomas Edison
31	Soichiro Honda	48	Vincent Vangogh
32	Stephen King	49	Walt Disney
33	Steve Jobs	50	Winston Churchill
34	Steven Spielberg	51	Shahrukh Khan
35	Rajnikant	52	Oprah Winfrey

Now, all these names would have meant nothing if they had given up! What do you think?

"Failure doesn't mean you are a failure . . . it just means you haven't succeeded yet"- Robert Schuller [11]. Gone are days when people see failures as stepping stone to success. We all want success and just that. One simple failure, one F grade in a test, one girl says no to your proposal, one college that rejects your application, one lay off, we feel that we are doomed. Is that it?

Did we not learn anything at all from the failures? Let's understand that nobody is entitled to be successful, it takes a lot of hard work, determination, consistency, perseverance, and most of all never give up attitude, to become successful and remain there. "You build on failure. You use it as a stepping stone" – Johnny Cash [12].

Stand up, stand up again and again, until no one or nothing can keep you down. Dress up and show up, no matter what others think.

Ask not, why is this happening to me? Ask, what can I do to make it better?

Failures make us stronger and more thoughtful individuals. More sustainable success comes from a person who can manage failures well, rather than a person who got into sudden success. They won't know what to do when they face an adverse situation. It is a skill that we need to acquire and partake to our next generation. Let's let them know that it is ok to fail. Create an environment where failure is not treated as a crime, where we create opportunities for people who are willing to try again. Let's not give up on ourselves.

Failure is a very temporary feeling, unless you decide to make it permanent. "Only those who dare to fail greatly can ever achieve greatly" – Robert F. Kennedy [13].

Keep working hard, harder than yesterday on yourself and compare yourself to your yesterday's self. You will most definitely see growth; consistent continuous growth is success.

5. WHAT IS THE IMPORTANCE OF FAILURE IN LIFE?

"If you've never failed, you've never lived" is how the saying goes. Failure is probably one of the aspects of life most people are afraid of. But the truth is: everyone has failed and everyone will fail again. We sometimes forget that all successful people have failed, but they did not stop after their failures. They stood up and tried again, time after time. We tend to think that people who are successful were just lucky, it just fell into their laps or they just had the right connections. So do not be afraid of failure, it is a part of your road to success [14].

CONCLUSION

"Just because you fail once, doesn't mean you're going to fail at everything. Keep trying, hold on, and always, always, always believe in yourself, because if you don't, then who will, sweetie?" -Marilyn Monroe [15]. I wish all of us have more failures, so that we have a more sustainable success.

You get the idea? Never give up on your hopes and your dreams. Never allow someone else to tell you that you're not good enough, smart enough or talented enough to achieve greatness in whatever capacity you're seeking. You can do anything you put your mind to. Anything.

Cheers, to the future where failure is the new and best element of success!

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