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Independent Thinkers

 Throughout history, people have risen up when they were pushed down to overcome adversaries and achieve their own personal success. The way most of them achieved this success was through independent thinking. Independent thinking is not having to depend on the help or thinking of others. The way one can achieve independent thinking is not letting other people influence one’s ideas or beliefs. Independent thinking is important because following the crowd is not the best thing to do; hard work and perseverance on one’s dreams will, in due time, lead to success. People who make their own decisions are examples of independent thinking. Not having to listen to people that will help one make a decision is important because they might not be right.

Independent thinking is important because it helps you to be successful in life; independent thinking also helps you get a job. Thinking for yourself impacts your whole life, just as in the short story “Superman and me” by Sherman Alexie. Alexie shows us that thinking for oneself betters oneself in the future; he explains that if he didn’t think for himself and didn’t begin to read he would’ve never been successful. (Alexie) In the story “Only Daughter” by Sandra Cisneros shows us how she followed her decisions all the way through even when her father told her not to. (Cisneros) Cisneros became an author, even though her father didn’t approve of it she thought for herself and it benefited her. In the story “Dreams” by Barack Obama show us how Obama didn’t let someone influence his decision on going to college. Obama wanted to higher his education but someone told him that going to college is not good, he didn’t listen and he went to college. (Obama) In each of these articles, essays, stories, the author went against what others thought of them and persevered to pursue something higher than what they were told they could achieve. Alexie, an American reservation Indian went on to pursue a college education and became a writer; Cisneros, a Mexican-American woman, neglected the “expectations” of a woman and went on to become a writer as well. Obama, an African American man, was told he would not make it in a “white man’s world” but overcame his adversaries and now he lives in the White House as President of the United States.

Similar to independent thinking, critical thinking is a vital skill in which people must learn to survive and prosper in the world. If they can’t think for themselves or think critically when it matters, they will fail. Major of the United States Air Force, George A. Emilio, distinguishes in his research report, “Promoting Critical Thinking in Professional Military Education,” that critical thinking is important in a military workplace because it provides “a powerful tool to operate in a complex, changing world.” (Emilio) The U.S. Military goes through constant changes with technology and economic issues, so the enlisted men and woman and to be able to adapt to the constant changing world around them. Critical thinking plays a crucial part when it comes to making decisions for oneself; in the military, if a squad is caught in a fire fight with insurgents, it is up to the squad leader to critically think for himself and his squad in how they will be able to survive. Critical thinking and independent thinking will save a life.

 Achieving independent thinking is more than what you think. The authors from the stories show us how to achieve independent thinking. They all want the readers to see how they change the thought of something bad to good and even though they were brought down they still managed to not care about what others thought and succeed. They want them to see the good of everything you never tried before and forget about the bad. There’s always going to be time in your life when you have to think independently. There’s always going to be situations where there’s people that think differently than you. You have to be strong and not let other people influence your decisions and ideas. If you think it’s the right thing to do then do it. You don’t have to listen to what other people say. The other people’s ideas might be wrong and yours right so stick to it and at the end it’s going to pay off.

 Independent thinking can be difficult at times but it’s always benefit’s yourself. If you think for yourself people might think you’re selfish, but you’re not. You just want to make that best decision that benefits you. Independent thinking is a key factor for human society. Independent thinking helps led to new innovations it also leads to new ideas that will benefit us. All the greatest inventors had to think independently and as a result their inventions have helped so many people. Independent thinking helps make a better tomorrow and society; independent thinking leads to success.

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