



WHAT SHOULD I BE

Enlightening interviews with passionate people,
sharing what "they" do,
how they got to where they are,
and how you can too!

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What Should I Be, Inc.

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We welcome you to visit our website at <https://whatshouldibe.org/>

Search through our interviews at <https://whatshouldibe.org/interviews/>

"Choose the path you want to follow before starting your educational journey."

- Gary M. Gordon



Introduction



Introduction

My name is Gary Gordon and I am the founder of “What Should I Be.” This book, along with its accompanying website and resources, is dedicated to me, to you, your children, and everyone who has or will have ever asked the question “What Should I Be (when I grow up).” Those of us who miss the opportunity to answer this question “early in our lives,” often miss the opportunity altogether and therefore may lose their one chance at living and experiencing life to its fullest.

So, when should we actually begin thinking about this question? I believe we should begin at least pondering this, and other related questions, as early as about 8 or 10 years of age. At this age our minds are much freer to think and explore simple questions like “what would I like to do today.” Because, as adults, every question we ask ourselves comes with “baggage” (concerns) that seem to constantly get in the way. For example, when an adult asks a question, even as simple as “what would I like to do today,” we often tend to follow up with additional “baggage” concerns like “how much is this going to cost” or “do I really have the time for this” or “is it too hot or cold outside” or “how long will this take since I have to get to bed early” or any others that we (as adults) can think of. Therefore, it would be best to begin asking ourselves these types of questions when we’re still very young and our “baggage” is at a minimal level. At only 8 or 10 years old, the type of questions we can begin asking ourselves might include “what do we like to do more than anything else,” or “what things are we good at,” or “what type of things do we have a natural curiosity about,” and/or “what is it that makes us truly happy.” Regardless of how immature the answers may seem (to an adult), we need to pay very close attention to them and find a way to hold onto them, keep them in our hearts and prepare to incorporate them into our lives as we get older.

Then, during the years of about 10 to 14, it is important for us to begin the actual quest of identifying and understanding all of the things that are truly important to us, what things make us happy, what interests us, etc., leading us eventually to realize our desired purpose in life. I realize that many of you may be saying that this is too early in someone’s life to worry or even think about such things and this period of life is simply a time to “be” young. You’re right, in many respects. But, while being young and virtually free of life’s preoccupations, it is also the perfect time to pay attention and nurture those “childish” thoughts, dreams and wishes as they are being formed and developed so they can eventually be incorporated into our life’s future. I’m simply recommending that during these early years, we should pay very close attention to all of our wishes, fantasies, thoughts and dreams. If we pay attention and listen closely to what makes us happy during

these early years, including things that we find fascinating, exciting, compelling, etc., we will have a better chance at identifying a path and purpose for our lives that will provide a tremendous sense of worth and joy.

In our young adult period, when we are still only about 14 to 18 years old, we are just a few years shy of being an independent and hopefully productive adult in society. At this point, there's no time to waste. Because, for many of us, once we get into our 20's, we are just about ready to begin making our way in the world, doing "something" to earn a living, moving out on our own, purchasing a car, renting a home or apartment, etc., which means we're about to begin life's big "adult" journey. And as an adult, we will very likely begin to accumulate a variety of debts. And as our debts and responsibilities increase, the opportunity to turn back and do things differently becomes more and more difficult, if not impossible. Life is going to simply move forward. Hopefully, if you had spent the previous 8 years (from about the age of 10 to 18) thinking and preparing for your future, you'll have prepared an exciting plan and path to follow for your life. However, if you haven't selected a plan or path for your life, that's okay. You can surely become a part of someone else's plan, whether you like it or not. So the choice is yours.

On the website WhatShouldIBe.me, you'll find many useful resources including in-depth and personal interviews of people, no different than you and me, doing what they love. For example, you'll be able to hear from people working, pursuing their passion and enjoying their lives in many different occupations such as an Accountant, Flight Attendant, Astronomer, Business Owner, Landscaper, Military, Marine Biologist, CEO of a Fortune 500 Company, Auto Mechanic, Comedian, Dancer, Painter, Computer Programmer, Doctor, Secretary, Nurse, Musician, Professional Golfer, Boxer, International Spy, Actor, Singer, Geologist, Scientist, Gardner, and many, many more. These interviews are designed to provide you with an inside look at what these people do on a day to day basis, how they got started, how they got to where they are today, what their lives are like now, what they might have done differently with what they've learned over the years, and many other inside details to help you identify at least one or more possible "perfect choices" for you and your life's journey.

This project is dedicated to providing you with everything you'll need so you can answer the question "What Should I Be" ... and never having to look back at some later point in your life and say "I missed my chance."



Get Started Now!



Get Started Now!

Get started now! Not tomorrow, not next week, not after (whatever you may be thinking you need to do first), but begin this very minute.

I really do mean now. Why would you want to wait any longer to learn and know more about the things that will truly make you happy in life? I'm sure you've heard the saying "If you don't have a plan for yourself, you'll be a part of someone else's." Let me explain the truth about this saying and why it's important to start thinking about this now.

We can either identify what we want for ourselves, preferably at an early stage in our lives, or we can just go with the flow of life (and take whatever life dishes out to us), and in most cases, this means getting caught up in someone else's plan. Then, as we get a little older and begin to accumulate debts such as car bills, credit card bills, rent or mortgage payments, school loans, and many other things, it simply gets tougher and tougher, if not impossible, to make the decision to turn back the clock and do things differently once you're life is already in full swing. Think of your life as if you were on a train ("the train of life"), heading down the tracks at 60 or 70mph. As you can imagine, at that speed and with all the baggage and passengers that are with us on the train, it's going to be difficult to jump off without experiencing a considerable amount of pain. Therefore, I think we might all agree that it would be better to have gotten on the correct train at the beginning, instead of finding ourselves in a situation where we want desperately to get off and take a different train, but we are trapped.

I'm also sure that you have also heard many people who are over the age of about 40, 50 or so, say "I wish I knew then, what I know now." One of the things that this saying is referring to is, "there are no do-over later in life." So, don't allow your life to take you down a path without first making sure it is leading you to a place you want to go.

Once we've reached the age of about 18 to 25 or so, it's very easy to be tempted to get involved with something like taking a job, because the situation simply fell into your lap and looked "really" good at the time. In this scenario, after a few years and before you know it, you realize that you're doing something that you really don't enjoy, but you're compensated well, so you continue with it. Then, as time goes by even further, maybe several or even many years down the road, things change and you're becoming even less happy with whatever it is you're doing. It's also possible that the company or people you work with or answer to have changed and are now making your life miserable. Or, the work you do every day is boring you to

death. But whatever it is that you chose to do, even though you don't really like it, has become all you really know how to do. So, at some point you consider leaving the place you're currently working at and want to go somewhere else or better yet, do something else. But again, in this common scenario, you're earning a fairly good income and you have various debts for things such as a nice new car, a big house, kids going to college, etc. The only thing you're qualified to do, in order to continue earning the same type of income, is the same something that you're not happy with. By the way, this is the "train" I was talking about earlier, and trying to get off might just prove to be near impossible or at best, really painful.

Preferably, if you could have known then, what you know now, you may have chosen a different path in the beginning. You may have at least chosen something that you really liked to do, something that you were interested in, something that made you happy, and "not" something that just appeared to come your way at (what appeared to be) ... just the right moment. Figuring out what you were truly meant to be, what you want to accomplish in your life, what drives you, what makes you happy, what you naturally excel at, etc., before you become tempted to go down the wrong possible path, is much easier if you begin the process as early in your life as possible.

Therefore, when you're only about 8 or 10 years old, I want to urge you to start looking at yourself and identify the things that you like to do, what things interest you and what you enjoy. Equally as important is evaluating the things you dislike or don't enjoy. You'll also benefit by understanding the things you enjoy doing alone as opposed to doing them with others. And then there's the question of "do you prefer listening to others or would you rather do the talking?" Please don't be overly concerned with the number of possible questions you could be asking yourself. The idea is simply to learn and understand who you are, what makes you tick and to start the process as early as possible in life. The sooner you start, the easier it will be to identify what you should be doing with your life, how to get on the right train, and create a plan to make it happen.



The List of Options



The List of Options

If you think about it, as most of us try to decide what we want to be when we grow up, the list of options that we have to choose from can appear quite limited. However, the reality is the exact opposite. The problem isn't that the list of options is limited, because there are truly thousands upon thousands of possible options in the world to choose from. The problem is how you can go about getting the information you'll need so you can quickly and efficiently sift through all of the possible professions, careers, jobs, etc., and make the best decision for yourself to answer the question "what should I be."

The goal, of this book and the website "WhatShouldIBe.me," is to help you find your purpose, your path in life, by exposing you to many useful resources. Most important are the exclusive and informative interviews with people who are living their purpose, pursuing their passion, and enjoying every day of their lives. Their stories will inspire you to find your own purpose and select the best possible path for you and your individual life. Each interview will hopefully paint a full picture as to what it's like to live "their" life, if you were to choose a similar path.

It doesn't matter if you're a middle school, high school or college student, already working for someone as an employee, fired or laid off, self-employed, or retired. It's never too early or too late to begin looking for your passion and purpose in life. But while this is true, I must emphasize that the ideal age at which you should at least begin "thinking" about what you want to do for the rest of your life, is actually when you're only about 8 to 10 years old.

Today you will hopefully begin re-thinking your life, or maybe thinking like the eight year-old you once were. Think about it this way. This is your life and you only get to live it once. You should be waking up each morning, excited about each day that lies ahead, loving the path you chosen for yourself, and eager to learn something you didn't know yesterday. This is certainly an attainable goal if you take the time to identify the things that make you happy, do the things that make you happy every single day, avoid things (as much as possible) that make you feel uncomfortable or upset, and challenge yourself to grow each day (by learning more about things that interest you).

Therefore, your goal, as soon as possible in your life, is to uncover the answer to one of the most important questions that will impact what you do with your life ... "What Should I Be (when I grow up)?"



Finding Your Purpose



Finding Your Purpose

Finding your “purpose” and choosing the path you want to follow, is actually easier than you would think. The difficult part will be working through the challenges that come with the choices you’ll make.

As you go through your life, you may even want to change your purpose and path from time to time. If this happens, it’s important to understand that you haven’t failed or fallen off the wagon. A desire for change can occur at different times in our life as we are continuing to learn and experience new things. Change means that we’re evolving, growing and continuing to learn. Having a desire to change can also mean we may become tired of doing the same old thing and just want to do something new, something that will challenge us in new ways, etc. So, it’s important to understand that finding your purpose may or may not be a one-time process.

In order to help you identify the most appropriate path or purpose for your life, consider one or more of the following questions:

1. From the moment you wake up in the morning, if you could do anything you’d like (all day long); what would that be?
2. Imagine yourself in a library. You can only pick out one book. You can select any book on any topic you’d like, but just one. What would that book be or what would it be about?
3. Someone that is very well known, someone you respect, is willing to teach you something. You will work with them every day, 8 to 10 hours a day, for 3 months to learn as much as you can about it. What would you like them to teach you?
4. You want to volunteer to help someone, an organization, a business, an association, or a facility, do whatever it is that they do. Remember, no pay will be provided since you’ll be working as a volunteer. But you’re expected to have fun, learn a lot, and enjoy your time volunteering. Therefore, where would you like to volunteer and what would you like to be doing?
5. You win the big lottery. You’re now a multi-millionaire. There’s no need for you to do anything that you don’t want to do. So, for the first few months, you might elect to just sleep, eat and enjoy doing nothing. But after a while, doing nothing has lost its appeal and you realize you want to do something productive. Since money is no object and you have the ability to choose anything, what would you like to do or learn how to do? Identify up to maybe five (5) things that really and deeply appeal to you and create a list, numbering them in order of your preference.

These questions will help you begin to unlock your mind to explore a world of possibilities that are of interest and importance to you.

Once you have come to understand more about yourself and what you like, don't like, are interested in, or have an interest in learning more about, you might want to go through an online "career" questionnaire that will help to identify at least several interesting choices. The information they provide should simply be viewed as an aid and not a be-all and end-all decision maker. Online "career" questionnaires and services are designed to help provide options that are potentially a good fit for you, your personality and your interests. But, since they are all constructed differently, they tend to provide at least slightly varied results. There will be differences and similarities between them all, which is why they should be used as a guide and not as an absolute crystal ball. (See our [Useful Resources](#) section for information and links to some of our recommended partners, supporters, associates and advertisers.)

So, after you've asked yourself each of the previous questions and after you've completed one or more personality tests, aptitude tests, or online "career" questionnaires, the next few steps in your journey is where the fun begins, but so does a lot of work. Previously I've been telling you to think a lot about what you want to be and now I need you to kick it up a notch. Hopefully at this point, you've figured out at least a direction in which you want to go. For example, maybe you've decided your interest is in the medical field, or maybe computers, or maybe the arts, or maybe sports, etc., etc. Whatever you chose, if it's going to put a smile on your face, it's a perfect choice, because it's a decision you've made for you alone. It's important to understand that no one other than you should be telling you ... if your decision is right or wrong. It's a path that you've chosen for a purpose and life that "you" want to live out and enjoy. And again, it's okay if you decide to change your mind at any point and pick a different purpose or path to follow. The important factor is, that it's a decision that you make, for your life, to please yourself.

So, the next step begins my "one-two" knockout punch approach.

ONE: You now want to either "talk" to people that are doing the type of work you are thinking might be right for you, or "listen" to (and/or read) interviews that are provided by WhatShouldIBe.org, and or other sources. By talking with someone (or listening to an extensive interview of someone) that is actually doing whatever it is that you believe may be your perfect choice, you can quickly, within just a matter of minutes, learn what might have taken other people years to figure out. Each interview on WhatShouldIBe.org attempts to uncover most everything you'd want to know and everything you'd want to ask, pertaining to the career, job, activity, or role you want to consider for your life's purpose.

TWO: Once you've either "talked" to someone or "listened" to one or more interviews from the WhatShouldIBe.org website or other sources, my final recommendation is to obtain an internship, volunteer position, job as a trainee, part-time job, etc., for at least 6 months, in order to actually "walk the talk" and confirm you're making the right choice. This should be done "before" embarking on any actual paid training or continued educational program, such as signing up and paying to attend college, etc. Depending upon your chosen path, attending College may be a good choice or may even be a requirement; my only recommendation is, make sure you know what you'll need (as far as training and additional education, etc.) before you start paying money and investing your precious time.

After going through this entire process, you will grow to understand, with greater clarity, what your interests are, the things you like to do, the things you don't enjoy, what additional questions you may have, etc. Only then, can you hope to find a goal worth pursuing.



What Is A Weekend?



What Is A Weekend?

Think about it ... if you are getting up every morning and looking forward to doing what you love, and enjoying the endless process of learning more and more about the things you love, and if the compensation you earned for doing what you love was enough to satisfy you, there wouldn't be any difference between any day of the week, including the weekend.

For many people that have jobs or do work that they don't enjoy, weekends always seem to come and go quickly. Monday's are viewed as the first day back (after their little weekend vacation). Wednesday, are the mid way point to another weekend vacation. Fridays are typically celebrated, because the next day is the start of another weekend vacation period.

If you ask me, that's a pretty sad life to have. Many people work 5 days a week, Monday to Friday, yet all the while you're thinking (most every day) ... how many days left till the "weekend," just so they can stop doing whatever it is that they don't enjoy.

So, whenever you hear someone else say "I can't wait for the weekend" or "There's only (X) days till the weekend" it should hopefully trigger a question in your head that says .. "What is a weekend?" Because, once you've found a purpose for your life that makes you truly happy, something that gives your life meaning, something you look forward to doing regardless of the time of day or the day of the week, the thought of needing the "Weekend" to make you happy will have ended. Therefore, the next time you hear someone say ... "Woo-hoo, .. it's the weekend" .. I hope you'll stop, cock your head slightly and with a little squint of your eyes ... say to them ... *"What is a weekend?"*



Interview Questions



Interview Questions

Within each of the interview you'll find on the website at WhatShouldIBe.me, our goal is to provide you with a detailed and personal account of the life of the person being interviewed. Each interview will attempt to outline how the person got started on their path, exactly where they were (in their life) before they got started, a look at the road they traveled to get from here to there, as well as answers to many other questions.

Each interview consists of many similar questions and often in a very similar, if not identical order, in an effort to allow you the ability to easily compare one field of study and work to another. Each interview, although similar due to the common list of questions that are asked, is also unique since each person being interviewed is permitted to take us through their story, in their own way (to a great degree), which can occasionally steer us into uncharted and unexpected areas.

Here's an example of some of the typical and common questions that are asked in each interview:

- How they got started (in the very beginning)?
- How old were they when they first identified that this was what they wanted to do?
- How did they learn that their selected path was even an option?
- How did they learn enough about their selected path to know it was a good fit for them?
- Why did they come to choose this particular path to follow?
- A description of the road traveled to get from where they started, to where they are today.
- What challenges were encountered and how were they overcome them?
- Where there any detours or forks in the road that had to be dealt with? (How did they work out?)
- A description of a typical day or week in their life, related to their chosen path?
- Have they ever considered doing something else (and if so, what, when and why)?
- Are there any educational or financial requirements related to the path they chose?
- How difficult is it to learn and master the "tools of their trade?"
- Who, if anyone, helped you along the way (and how)?
- If they had it to do over again, would they (and if so, what changes would they have made)?
- If they knew then, what they know now, what changes might they have made?
- For someone considering a similar path, what additional thoughts, comments, suggestions will help insure their ability to achieve success in this field?

Other questions will also be asked to help identify whether or not this choice would be an appropriate fit for you.



About The Author



About The Author

My name is Gary Gordon and I am the founder of WhatShouldIBe.me. Based on my education and life experiences, I have developed a variety of opinions, concepts and theories that I would like to share with you in order to help you identify “what you should be” and to help you obtain this goal. If you’re wondering why I began this project, let me explain by starting with a brief introduction of my background.

When I was in elementary school, at around the age of 8, a door-to-door sales person stopped by and knocked on the door of our home offering music lessons. I know it may sound odd, but this is how many things were done, back in the mid 1960’s, when I was just a boy. Almost immediately, and don’t ask me why, but I chose to learn how to play the Accordion. Long story short, after several years of lessons, I guess I learned how to play it fairly well. I even taught myself how to sing. So, by the age of 14, I decided I would like to start performing at local parties and events. I figured I would perform at a couple parties for free, just to get started, and then I began charging just about \$10 to \$15 for the entire night. After a few months, I began to increase my rates to \$25 per night, then \$50, then \$75, and even higher over time. I found that I really enjoyed the attention I received when I performed at the parties. The money may seem like it wasn’t much, but it a lot for me at my age back towards the late 60’s and early 70’s. Looking back on it, the thing I enjoyed most was having people tell me how much they enjoyed my playing and singing. Over the years, this turned into my livelihood. I made a good amount of money for a number of years, but there were many pitfalls to being a professional and “local” entertainer. As I later expanded from performing at small house parties, etc., to playing in restaurants, bars, and small night clubs, as well as a lounge in an Atlantic City Casino, etc., the work was somewhat consistent. But, there were many times, for months on end, where work was very hard to find. I don’t want to bore you right now with my entire life story, and how the road twisted and turned, but I would like to say that I really enjoyed performing and the praise that came along with it. During that time of my life, which made up a good 18 to 20 years of it, performing was my life’s purpose and passion (aside from being married to my high school sweetheart and having two wonderful sons).

By the age of about 35, I decided for various reasons, that I wanted a change in my life. The challenges that came along with being a professional “local” performer were getting in the way of other important things in my life and I felt it was time for a change. So, I needed to search for a new purpose ... a new “something” that I could be and get the same enjoyment from. I had to find something new that would interest me, something I’d enjoy, something that I would want to continuously learn more about, and something that

would provide me with consistent praise (in some fashion) from people around me, since I already realized that this was something I needed for myself.

After looking at many options and trying many different things, including Real Estate Sales, Sales and Sales Management, Cooking, Pizza Delivery (yup, I even tried delivering pizza for a living), I found something that I really enjoyed. Again, long story short, I became a Website Programmer, Developer, Designer, Web Server Administrator and Internet Marketer.

I took a 9 month webmaster certification course at a local county college and from the first day, I just loved it. The course itself included about 6 to 8 hours of class time each week. But, because it was something I really enjoyed and wanted to excel at, I spent an average of at least another 20 to 30 hours each week on the assignments that were given by the instructor. I would work on an assignment doing things one way, then ... I'd re-do it another way, and I continued over and over again until I really understood the concepts and became the top student in the class. I guess, in addition to other things, I also wanted to hear the instructor tell me "that was a great job."

Then, about half way through the course, after learning quite a bit, I sent my resume around on the Internet, with examples of my work. Within just a matter of days, I had an offer to work at a University (as a sub-contractor). At of today, I am still working at the same University as their IT Webmaster .. and I love what I do. The people I work with are great, the people I help are terrific and I love being involved to indirectly help all of the students. I say indirectly because my work is to help and support the faculty and staff at the University, so they can do all the things that they do. I like to think of the work we do at the University as a group effort.

While working at the University, I often like to talk to students when taking the shuttle back and forth from the parking lot up to the main campus, or just when I'm walking around from building to building. I quickly realized after speaking with many students from time to time, that many of them seemed a little clueless as to what they were going to do after they graduated. For example, I might ask them .. "after you graduate, what do you plan to do?" If they were a student, majoring in business, they might answer me by saying "get a job in business or marketing" or "try to get a job on wall street" (since we are near the New York area) and so forth. Then, if I said "like what" or "doing what" ... they typically answered "I don't know yet" or "I'll have to wait and see."

I have to say that at about this same time, both of my sons were in college. If I asked "one" of my sons the same questions, I basically go the same type of answers. But if I asked my other son the same questions,

he knew exactly what he wanted to do when he graduated. He knew exactly what he would need to learn and know in order to work in the field he chose.

Therefore, I don't want to give the impression that all or even most students are clueless (prior to or during their early years in college) when it comes to knowing what they want to be after they graduate. Clearly, one of my sons did while the other did not.

The point I do want to make is that I believe it is best for everyone to clearly identify the things they like best, the activities they enjoy the most, the things they are eager to learn about, the things they can naturally do well, and also identify the things that they aren't good at and don't like, etc. Then, as soon as possible in your life, begin to engulf yourself with the things that you like best, do best, naturally want to know more about, etc. You want to start sharpening your skills related to these areas quickly and emphatically. Believe me, there really is no time to waste. As they say, you only live once and yesterday will quickly be gone and replaced with tomorrow. And, at this time, there's no way to do-over a day from the past. Time just keeps moving us forward.

Therefore, if you're a student in middle school, junior high or even high school and you're planning to attend college, knowing what you want to be and knowing what you want to do (very specifically) .. prior to even applying to a college, should be one of your primary goals. Similarly, if you aren't planning to attend college (which is a perfectly acceptable choice), you should still know what you want to be and what you want to do (very specifically) prior to graduating High School.

College or not, you're going to want to know how to do something, and you better know how to do it well. So you'll either need to learn things on your own by doing your own research and reading, etc., or by working with or under someone else who knows how to do what it is you've chosen, or by take some classes or courses, etc. to get the additional education and training necessary, or by attending a trade school, college, University, etc. and obtain one or more necessary degrees for the specialty you've chosen. Since I'm not yet aware of any pill you can take to immediately become proficient at something, I think you'll need to go through one of those methods.

Since attending a Trade School, College or University can literally cost you thousands of dollars a year, it's important to make your choice wisely. It's also important to get the best possible education (for your area of interest) that you can afford. But getting the best possible education doesn't end with your being accepted and attending the school of your choice. For what it's worth, in my opinion, only 20% to maybe 40% of what you will get out of attending any College, University, Trade School, etc., will come from the information taught

by way of the teachers, professors or mentors. If you want to really learn anything well ... that is taught to you by a person, a teacher, a professor, etc., you're going to have to do about 3 to 5 times as much work on your own. What I mean is .. if you spent 2 hours a week with someone (teaching you how to do something), you should be expecting to invest at least another 6 to 10 hours each week on your own, reading more, practicing more, doing more, etc. The key is, if you really have a sincere interest in what is being taught to you, putting in "more time" to learn more and to become proficient at what is being taught, will be exactly what you "want" to do, not what you "have" to do.

You know how when you're in school, and you're being taught something you like and have an interest in, you naturally do much better than when you're in a class that is talking about something you find boring or uninteresting. During your K to 12 years of school, you really don't have much of a choice because most of the curriculum is handed to you. But, after high school, you have the ability to choose what you want to study, where you want to get the education from, and so forth.

So, you'll naturally do better and learn more in College or at a Trade School, etc., if you've chosen to learn about something that is going to interest you, something that you have a sincere and inner burning desire to learn about, and something that you have a natural aptitude for.

Think about it, if you could somehow relate every topic that is taught to you, in every course you take, while in middle school, high school, college, etc., to a topic that you are passionate about and have a sincere interest in learning about, you'll be more likely to absorb and retain the information being taught. It just makes sense.

Similarly, if you don't have an interest or can't see how something that is being taught to you, will be useful, meaningful, or beneficial in your life, it will make things much more difficult for you to learn and digest.

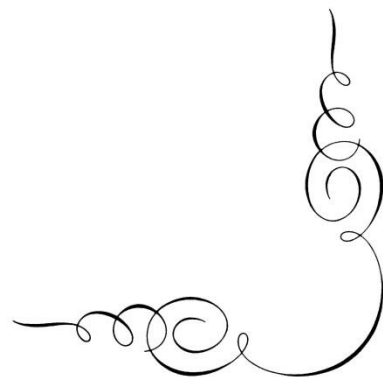
This is why I believe it is extremely important for people to make every attempt to discover their area(s) of interest, identify one or more potential paths to follow, realize what they want to be when they grow up (regardless of your current age), before starting any educational process, such as attending a trade school, college, University, apprenticeship, internship, mentoring, etc. If you can identify "what you should be" as early as possible in your life, you'll be more likely to absorb and learn the things taught to you, retain what you learn for a longer period of time, and find ways to associate information (from sources all around you) that may initially have appeared to be unrelated to the path you've selected, but ... can be related in new, exciting and "out-of-the-box" ways.

The challenge is how and where to get the information you need? Where can you go to ask questions and get answers? Who can you speak to? When should you get started?

As you can see, there are many questions and challenges. Well, this is all leading back to why I started this project and developed this brief introductory book and the website called “WhatShouldIBe.me.”

Therefore I hope, before anyone makes a decision to obtain an education (from any source) beyond their middle school years ... that you first look inside yourself, understand what makes you happy, recognize your natural abilities, identify all the things you’re interested in learning about. Getting started on this life long journey, as soon as possible, will hopefully provide you with every opportunity imaginable and allow you sufficient time and freedom to realize and discover the answer to the question for yourself of ... “what should I be.”

Credits



Credits

Gary M. Gordon

Founder and President of WhatShouldIBe.org

Author of this book: **What Should I Be**

We welcome any questions or comments at gary.gordon@whatshouldibe.org.

Useful Resources

The website offers a complete and up to date list of helpful and useful tools, resources and information. Please visit the website: <https://WhatShouldIBe.org/> . Visit our interviews at <https://WhatShouldIBe.org/interviews/>.

What Should I Be

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