

Thinking about Dropping out of High School?

You've had it with boring classes... your teacher acts more like a cop than a teacher...school's got nothing to do with real life ...you need to make money. Why waste time sitting in front of a chalkboard when you could be out in the world doing something?

Well, consider these facts:

- High school dropouts have a life span that is nine years shorter than people who graduate.
- High school dropouts are about three times more likely than college graduates to be unemployed. They are about twice as likely as high school graduates to live in [poverty](#).
- Typically, a high school dropout earns nearly \$10,000 less a year than someone with a diploma. That adds up. Over a lifetime, high school dropouts make about \$1 million less than college grads.
- Nationally, 68 percent of state prison inmates are dropouts.
- Dropouts are much more likely than high school graduates to get divorced and to be single parents of children who also drop out from high school.

The results of dropping out of high school result in a life most of us would not choose.

Basically, dropping out is **the fastest way to limit your life options**, just at a time when most of us want to keep as many options open as possible.

Today, bosses consider a high school diploma the minimal guarantee that a worker knows the basics-you know, reading, writing and simple math. A diploma also suggests to many bosses that a worker has the ability to start and finish something.

About the only jobs open to those without a diploma are extremely low-paying and un-fun jobs like flipping hamburgers, picking strawberries or cleaning up hotel rooms.

Maybe you want to leave school to help your family pay the bills. If so, just think for a second: in the long-term you are severely limiting your earning potential. There's not much about that that will help out your present or future family.

Before you drop out of school, think long and hard about what your decision will mean for the rest of your life.

DON'T GIVE UP — STAY IN SCHOOL!