

Reply ID: im8m

Hi Elizabeth-Anne

Thank you for your feedback. It was encouraging to know someone was reading what I wrote. I was about to stop but now I won't.

In response to what you wrote, I also think that education is a vital tool for success & helps to provide an alternative to a criminal life. There also has to be changes in the institutions & society in general. People who are educated & have multiple degrees are working in McDonalds & other places where they can't apply the knowledge they spent years getting. Enough jobs don't exist right now for every of-age American. Nonetheless this is the system we have & hold up as the ideal system.

Hello Paul

Thank you for your feedback. I welcome the other view on things. You can learn anything by only talking to people who agree with you. Based on your premise that I haven't met smart people because they didn't use their intelligence toward a

productive life is far fetched & baseless. I say that because a person's intelligence doesn't give them immunity from mistakes. Einstein was very intelligent by anyone's measure but he also built a bomb that killed many people.

I also disagree with your view of the Chicago crime rate. The mentality of street law & no cooperation with law enforcement is not the result of the tragedy that is happening in Chicago. The system there & across the country is broken. We have to get to the root of these problems & stop grabbing at sky high branches. The street mentality is the effect of having to live under those extreme conditions. Having the ability to adapt quicker can be the difference between success & failure or in real life terms life or death. No person can honestly say they love the entire street mentality & if a viable opportunity manifested that didn't involved crime many would gladly switch their lifestyle.