

This iBelieve Essays

iBelieve

by Roman Tierney

I believe in focusing on myself. Helping and making others happy is fantastic, but when it gets to the point where the balance is shifted towards focusing so little on yourself that you are unhappy, then that is where the line is drawn. The sacrifices you make for others shouldn't affect your personal well-being emotionally and/or physically.

When I was around the age of eight through nine, I used to love being the center of attention. Although pleasing others gave me a sense of joy, I found myself prioritizing the wrong things. I would find myself thinking of jokes to tell my classmates instead of finishing my homework due the next day. Things like this impacted my grades tremendously. When I finally realized this, I was in seventh grade, I had finally understood that we live in a society based on competition over cooperation. This means that to achieve personal success, we are forced to try and be better than one another. Although I don't improve my emotional well-being at the expense of others like this theory explains, I do focus on making myself better instead of another.

Bruce Lee said, "Do not go out and look for a successful personality and duplicate it." Being your own person is the only way to create a unique image that separates you from anyone else. I believe that being different is the number one way to have an impact on anything. Living in New York City, I am surrounded by culturally rich people with new ideas, styles, fashions, and personalities. I am constantly inspired by everyday things I see. Instead of trying to duplicate the things that inspire me, I try to see how they can further push my *own* creativity into a new and original idea.