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*Being Right Vs. Doing Right
part 2*

 downloadsite

On the opposite spectrum there are the introverted “be-righters”. They use sympathy as a means of controlling others and gaining their favor. At first they are very cautious and careful to be in a relationship with an individual or a group but once accepted, they will overextend themselves to help other people, giving all their time, energy and effort. They avoid voicing their opinion, but listens to others with great intent. Seemingly, they appear to be good students, obedient and helpful, but they are also self-preserving and self-centered as they are highly critical of others. In both cases, when they are under pressure that they’ve created, they blame others, society, situation, condition, God, the external world for all their problems, troubles, hardships, and sufferings, without any sense of accountability. While the extroverted “be-righter” externalizes and lashes out at whatever they are blaming, the introverted “be-righter” internalizes, becoming self-destructive. In both cases they are proven right, they are victimized, people suck, the world sucks, everything sucks!

**Lee
Mattiucci**





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If one's desire is to be right, then they should always bet on failure, as success is far more difficult to achieve and nine out of ten, one will fail. And, this is exactly what they do. In either case an introvert or extrovert, "being right" sets them up for failure. The introvert doesn't believe they can ever succeed because of their condition, situation, and the more irreparable the better: I am too short, I'm a minority, I'm the wrong gender, I'm too poor, I'm too old, I was abused, I was abandoned, the list is endless. For the extroverted, they will always look for the faults and weaknesses of others and sabotage the relationship, once again proving that they were right and that no one else can be trusted. In both cases, they are

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self-centered and unable to have true empathy for others, being constantly preoccupied with their own fears and insecurities.

When faced with struggles and hardships, often they feel powerless and think that there's nothing right that they can do, rather than focusing on what they have done wrong to rectify the situation. Incapable of realizing the cause of their own mistakes, they continue to make the same mistakes, stubborn to change, ultimately ending in the self-fulfilling prophecy of failure, never being accountable but only justifying the negative outcome by blaming.

Life is an equal opportunist when it comes to suffering and hardship. It is hard for everyone and it is inescapable: that is the reality. In essence the "be-righters" cannot face reality; that the world is a dangerous place and life

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is difficult and the only way is to improve and better the self, not by escaping, hiding or running away, but to confront the hardships of life as challenges to overcome.

It is impossible and completely delusional to always be right. When a person desires to be right, they cannot handle criticism yet they are overly critical of others. Their entire identity is based on self-righteousness and they will do whatever it takes to protect it, even if that means lying or cheating. Protecting their fragile ego is more important than any other endeavors for self-enrichment and personal development. They cloud their judgment and enhance their delusions by disguising their life's pursuit as one of happiness and peace when in fact it is safety and security

from harm. It is the building of walls, a form of self-imprisonment, which ultimately stifles one's freedom and true happiness.

These traits are becoming more common every day. There are many factors for this, but mainly it is a product of our society, raising our children with too much emphasis on self-esteem and lacking of discipline, responsibility, accountability, and consequences for negative behavior. It is a failure of our educational institutions with the emphasis on accreditation rather than education, grades rather than ability, teaching how to pass exams rather than how to think. Today's culture where the highest moral value is placed on self-esteem, self-love, it is no wonder that it has



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produced a world with shortened attention spans, a high regard for immediate gratification, where everyone has their own truths, and everyone is right. It is completely irrational, illogical, and unreasonable.

You cannot think away the troubles of the world, disguise it with pretty words, or sedate it with drugs. The truth is often extremely painful and one requires strength and courage to face it. The martial arts is one of the best means to reveal the truth about the self, hence its immense value especially in today's society. We must all endeavor to understand the true spirit of our martial training and seek the best method to deliver its message to our people.

We see students like this in our martial classes who's only aim is to avoid being caught doing wrong. Their single goal is to avoid the corrections of the teacher. This is akin to the behavior of criminals and in fact if we allow it to continue, that is potentially what we are creating. When they are caught doing wrong and reprimanded, they become upset and defensive rather than admitting their mistakes. We as martial arts teachers must emphasize the importance of doing right. A student who desires to "do-right" wants to learn the lesson and is not afraid of making mistakes. However, we cannot teach that it's okay to make mistakes, to do wrong. It is not okay, but we are not perfect, we are flawed by nature and we will make mistakes and we will do wrong and when we do, we must be held accountable and deal with the consequences however negative they may be. Therefore, the goal of a martial artist, a warrior is to become stronger and more courageous so that we may better face the hardships of reality and the consequences of our inevitable unintended mistakes, errors, sin.

Sometimes "being right" offers immediate momentary satisfaction, but the rewards of "doing right" is never immediate yet significantly more gratifying and lasting. It is our task to make our students strong, rid them of their fears, and give them the tools to become virtuous; that only by making mistakes is how they learn, grow and to believe that they possess the power to change by learning to make the right choices as we are all created in the image of God with distinct, unique value and purpose and that we are all accountable for our actions, one day facing ultimate judgment by our Creator.

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*Do not correct a scoffer, lest he
hate you;
Rebuke a wise man, and he will
love you.
Proverbs 9:8*

My former student then asked,
“What type of students are you looking
for?”

I replied, “Any person who wants to
learn. Whether they are good or bad
student is irrelevant. What is a teacher
if he can only make good students
good? The teacher’s job is to make a
bad student a good person.”

I have been blessed with the
opportunity to have taught tens of
thousands of students in my lifetime.
Many have gone and a few have
remained strong and loyal by my side,
all sharing the virtuous desire to “do
right” in this world for the most
righteous, our Dear Lord. In the
upcoming articles, I am proud to
introduce to you some of the disciples
of my father Supreme Grandmaster Dr.
Joo Bang Lee and myself.

Hwarang and Godspeed!



**Lee
Mattiucci**

