

Street Smart or Book Smart

Who do you think is the best, those people who are Book Smart or those who are Street Smart? Before we start discussing, let's have a clear definition of what are these two phrases.

Book smart people are those who are intelligent, have a good quality of education in life, have attended and finished their college degrees and sometimes had their Master's degree as well. These people deal with ordinary but challenging situations (bad or difficult ones) only from an **intellectual** point of view and based their decisions strictly on collected knowledge, available **facts**, or personal **insights** primarily **obtained** from an educational environment.

Whereas, Street smart people are those who have not attended college level and some were not able to finish their degree in the University, but are totally doing well in running their daily lives, business, association in the community and sometimes were able to be on top of their own **capabilities**. These people know how to handle practical situations in everyday life necessary to "get things done" but are not as naturally educated or **gifted** academically.

Just to name a few successful people in their business but they really didn't even finish their college degree or they were **dropped out** in the University.

Steve Jobs (founder of iPhone), **Bill Gates** (founder of Microsoft) **Mark Zuckerberg** (founder of Facebook), **Michael Dell** (founder of Dell Technologies) **Evan Williams** (founder of Twitter), **Larry Ellison** (a software billionaire and founder of Oracle), **Jan Koum** (founder of WhatsApp), **Travis Kalanick** (founder of Uber), **John Mackey** (founder of health food store called SaferWay in downtown Austin. Mackey grew his business into what is now organic grocery behemoth Whole Foods, **Ted Turner** (founder of CNN), **Soichiro Honda** (Founder of Honda) They all left college before they could collect their diplomas.



This article is not **stating** or convincing people to drop out from the University to have a successful business of their own, but to merely state a reason that you don't need to be intelligent to be successful in life. And just like **Donald Trump** mentioned in his reality series "**The Apprentice**", "You don't need to be so smart, but be business smart."

Everything can be learned because everything is **teachable** in our day to day living. And this is where the Street smart people excel the most because they know how to deal with it not **intellectually** but by logical sense of what other people will say "**common sense**". And the good news here is that everyone is teachable as long as you have an open mind and most of all, **willingness** to learn. Live and succeed in the real world as if with no rules and boundaries. Learn new things every day, and never stop learning because life never stops teaching us. – JMM

Vocabulary:

Intellectual – intelligent

Facts – evidences, details

Insights – intuitions, perceptions

Obtain – acquire, gain

Capabilities – abilities, skills

Gifted – skillful, talented

Dropped out – let go of studying

Stating – expressing

Teachable – willing to learn

Intellectually – logically

Common sense – good sense and sound judgment in practical matters

Willingness – intention or readiness

