

Only *We* Can Make America Great Again

Author Lee Jackson recently posted a video of a disabled truck driver. His legs paralyzed, the man slowly but determinedly pulls himself into the cab of his truck. He breaks down his wheelchair into several parts and pulls them up, one at a time, transferring them to the passenger seat. Every time he gets in and out of his truck he must repeat that process. He does it. He accepts his plight, overcomes it, and gets to work.

Jackson rightly remarks, “Inspirational. Tell me again why millennials can’t find work and why we keep them on their parents’ insurance to age 26!”

One Twitter user responded to the post, “Many kids can’t afford to live on their own with huge school loans and 0 to few jobs avail in their field.” That excuse-making attitude, folks, is what is wrong with America. “*I can’t succeed because I have school loans.*” “*I can’t succeed because there are no jobs in my preferred field.*” What? Most American workers are probably in jobs that are “outside their fields.” Practically every waiter in Southern California is a failed actor working “outside his field.” I doubt that many sanitation workers are spending their days in their “preferred field.” The guy who pumps septic tanks probably did not entertain thoughts of such a career in his younger days. The mechanic fixing your exhaust system may have wanted to race the oval with Mario Andretti—but instead he’s an unnamed guy replacing your muffler. Tens of thousands of losing *American Idol* contestants are probably not now doing what they hoped to be doing. A young man who did some repair work at my house wants someday to return to Cuba to start a business. In the meantime, his “field” is whatever job he can get. Since I was 14 years old I worked in jobs that were never my “dream job.” So what?

Yes, there are people who “always wanted to be” a doctor or a lawyer or a police officer and who were able to achieve their goals. We should be happy for them. But we should not be jealous or envious. We should be thankful that we have the freedom to succeed and prosper in any of thousands of other careers. The reality is that we all probably know very few people who have had “dream jobs.” Most of us just “have jobs.” But that should not make us angry or resentful. It should not make us eager to look for excuses. (“*If only the government had paid for me to attend Harvard Law School...*”) If I could sing like Frank Sinatra, I’d have gold records displayed on my walls. But I can’t so I don’t. Instead, I have legs and no excuses.

Now get off your asses and help make America great again. Don’t wait for someone else to do it or it won’t happen.

Don Fredrick
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Link: https://twitter.com/Stonewall_77/status/814963721747501056