

Why We All Need Heroes by Hitendra Wadhwa

"You are lucky in life if you have the right heroes. I advise all of you, to the extent you can, to pick out a few heroes,"—Warren Buffett, *Warren Buffett Speaks* (2007).

We're all so jaded nowadays by any talk of heroes. Our icons keep falling from grace, in politics, business, and sports. (At least our comic book heroes seem safe for now.) Why then, you may ask, is Warren Buffett recommending that you look for heroes to study?

As you strive to become a better leader, it will help you to have heroes—great leaders you respect, relate to, and get roused up by.

Okay, so why should you have heroes?

Great leaders demonstrate that it is in fact okay to dream the impossible, to rebel against the mindsets of your times, as long as you are committed to relentlessly pursuing this dream.



Your Turn...

Wadhwa broaches the question that many of us may ask today—"Do heroes even exist anymore?" As we begin reading *The Odyssey*, people will agree or disagree that Odysseus has the qualities of a true hero. In order to truly form an opinion about Odysseus, we must further shape our view of what a hero really is.

Your job will be to take a close look at society around you. Search through your friends, family, government officials, or city workers. Look beyond your community to selfless individuals around the world. Examine your personal definition of heroism in order to choose one individual who seems to encompass the term "hero."

Options

1. Research and find an article about a chosen hero from anywhere in the world or your own life. Print your article and be prepared to present your hero to the class with some type of visual.
2. Choose someone you see as a hero and interview them. Find out what helped them become who they are today. Be prepared to present your hero to the class with some type of visual.

Options for a Visual

Anything you choose to use as a presentation aid can serve as your visual. You can make a PowerPoint, Prezi, Poster, Video, etc. Feel free to be creative!