

**“Success” Case Studies****Case Study #1**

This is about a man we'll call “VG.” VG graduated from high school but did not attend college. He worked all his life to be a successful musical artist, and he produced over 20 albums .

However, he did not sell a lot of his music, he only played shows at very small music venues, and he was barely able to afford his rent and feed himself throughout his life. As a result, VG was really depressed most of the time, and he never married or had a family.

After he died (at the relatively young age of 43), however, his music started to become really popular. 10 years after his death, he had two albums go Platinum, and he ended up as one of the most famous musicians of his time.

**Case Study #2**

This is about a woman we'll call “TH.” TH worked really hard in school, always getting the highest grades in her class. She earned a full-ride scholarship to an Ivy League college, majored in business, and started a very successful business three years out of college.

Her business was one of the top 100 companies in the U.S. and earned her several hundred million dollars, and she was named one of the “Most Influential Americans” in a prominent news magazine.

During the economic downturn, her company was proven to have been breaking the law, lost shareholder support, and ended up going bankrupt. She lost most of her money in the process, and she is now looking for a new job.

### Case Study #3

This is about a man we'll call "FG." FG was never a great student, but he passed his classes and graduated from high school on time. He went to community college for two years and then transferred to a local state college to complete his Bachelor's degree - and was able to graduate from college with very little money owed in loans.

He went on to become an executive assistant at a small company. He did not make a lot of money, but he earned enough, combined with his wife's salary, to pay for a small apartment where he, his wife, his mother, and his two children live.

FG goes to work at 8:30am, comes home at 5pm, and cooks dinner for his family each day. They do not have fancy things, but he gets to spend time with his children every day, and they are both doing pretty well in school.