



America – The Land of Success

by Joe Gandolfo

Denis Waitley, a world-renowned author, speaker and poet, who has worked with and developed performance programs for the US Olympic teams, NASA astronauts, professional athletes and corporate America, says this about personal development:

“Personal development is the belief that you are worth the effort, time and energy needed to develop yourself. It gives you permission to invest in yourself so you can develop your own potential.”

Those two sentences say much, and I encourage you to reread them a few times before you continue with this article and before you continue with your life.

Every word in his statements is of huge value and importance for each of us, whether you are a kid, teen or an adult. The words that I would like to highlight and explore are ***“you are worth”*** and ***“invest”***.

“You are worth” says it all! Each and every one of us are worthwhile, are one of a kind, are a person of value and have a wealth of untapped potential just waiting, and wanting, to emerge and express itself in our life! You may in fact feel a rumbling from deep inside as you read these words. Pay close attention too and honor that rumbling, for it is the champion inside of you wanting out.

“Invest” is where the power lies to create success in your life and allows your champion to emerge. And this is also where the challenge lies, not so much in **investing ourselves** and *our time*, but where we **FOCUS** ourselves and our time. Pay attention to where you focus your time and behavior, for those *“seeds”* will bring forth a *“harvest”*. And your *“harvest”* will be a **direct result** of the *“seeds”* **you planted**.

The field of personal development and the application of success principles had its birth in America in the 1870's. It has been expanded, propelled and offered to the masses by many – Orison Swett Marden, James Allen, Wallace Wattles, Napoleon Hill, Dale Carnegie, Norman Vincent Peale, Earl Nightingale, W. Clement Stone, Og Mandino, Tony Robbins, Steven Covey, John Maxwell, Jim Rohn – just to name a few.

I encourage you to read the books written by the above mentioned, as you may be surprised, delighted and inspired by what you find.

Listen to Joe's free daily podcast – ***Teen Success Radio*** – available on iTunes.

His new book ***The Greatest Teenage Myth in the World*** is now available @ www.JosephGandolfo.com or www.TheGreatestTeenageMythInTheWorld.com

Joe Gandolfo is on a mission to ***champion the greatest commodity in today's world – our youth, teenagers, young adults and college students***, and to rally, strengthen and energize the adults – parents, educators, mental health professionals and organizations - who work with and care about our greatest commodity in the world.

Joe works as a ***professional speaker, success coach, seminar leader motivational counselor and author***. He brings 20 years experience working with youth, teen-agers, student-athletes, professional athletes, adults, parents, educators, public and private schools, organizations and associations.

His clients have included: *Georgia Tech Athletic Association, Rockdale County Schools, Cobb County Schools, Cobb Teen Leadership, YMCA, Childcare Resource Network, University of Clemson, University of West Georgia, PGA of America, Milwaukee Brewers, Coca-Cola, SouthCoast Hospitals, Owens-Corning and MPI Georgia Chapter.*

He has been an adjunct professor at Georgia Tech (1996-2000) and Georgia State (2005-06). He was on staff at the Homer Rice Center for Sports Performance (2000-07). He has had a private consulting practice since 1991.

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