



Step Eleven: It Takes a Village



“As you navigate through the rest of your life, be open to collaboration. Other people and their ideas are often better than your own. Find a group of people who challenge and inspire you, spend a lot of time with them, and it will change your life – Amy Poehler

The adage It ‘Takes a Village’ has its roots in various African languages and reflects an emphasis that African cultures place on communal upbringing. The thought is, that for a

child to have the best chance at success, an entire community will need to take an active and healthy role in contributing to that child's life.

The same can be applied to anyone who wants to:

1. Bring their financial house in order
2. Launch their product or service
3. Give something back to their community and help make the world a better place

Folks, there's so much free help available at your fingertips. Madly talented people who understand what works and what doesn't work have made their wisdom available to the world for free on the Internet. They offer advice that will save you headaches, frustration, decades of trial and error, and thousands of dollars.



Oh By The Way I have some of the best guest speakers represented in The Launching Pad series. Take a moment and check out the topics and benefits of this course by [CLICKING HERE.](#)

[Free Is Good](#) I can't emphasize this enough. You can't put a price tag on free personal assets who can help you improve your net worth with incredible life-altering ways. They have performed their due diligence and know what works and what does not work. Their free advice is golden.

[Don't Stop There](#) Identify a list of resources you personally know and tap them for advice in just about any and every area of your life. People who know you probably better than you realize. If there is past or current conflict, patch things up. These may be the best friends you ever had:

- Parents
- Immediate and extended family
- Friends
- Acquaintances
- Neighbors
- Co-workers
- Teachers
- Mentors
- Personalities you follow
 - Social media
 - Podcasts
 - Radio
 - TV
 - Websites and blogs
 - books
- Cashiers (I've found a treasure trove of feedback from cashiers I've interacted with over the years who talk to a wide array of personalities)

[Join Online Groups](#) I've joined scores of online societies over the past ten years. There are five I really like and remain a member. These groups are composed of some terrific people who freely share their wealth of knowledge, experience and wisdom.

Although I have not met any of them in person, I would not be where I am today without my online friends. They have given me direction and insight into just about every facet of my passions: writing, publishing, teaching and leading.

The other groups I've left for various reasons. For me, five is a good number. Anything more than that is too much for my short-attention span brain to juggle.

[Example:](#) Facebook has a lot of Writer Groups. Many have thousands or tens of thousands of members. I thought, hey, badda-boom-badda-bing what a great place to promote and sell my books. I think I'll join twenty such groups. Makes sense. Right?

Problem was, these assemblages consisted of writers like me trying to hawk their books. No one joined for finding a great read to download. The result: there were thousands of writers hawking their wares with no one looking to buy.

[Lesson Learned](#) Look for forums with people who want to exchange ideas and views. The best online symposiums prohibit directly sell your stuff.

I am where I am today because of the amazing people who took me under their wing and mentored me. I reciprocate and give back to anyone and everyone the best I can. I pay it forward by helping a lot of people for free.



[Oh By The Way](#) Enemies are gold mines waiting to be tapped! Few prospectors dare to dig deep into these potential treasures.

Yes, many of your enemies will know you far better than you could possibly comprehend. Take a moment and consider why they don't like you. Hmmmm, do you think you can find serious constructive criticism that's worth a million dollars? There are lots of unexplored data mining here most people fail to recognize.

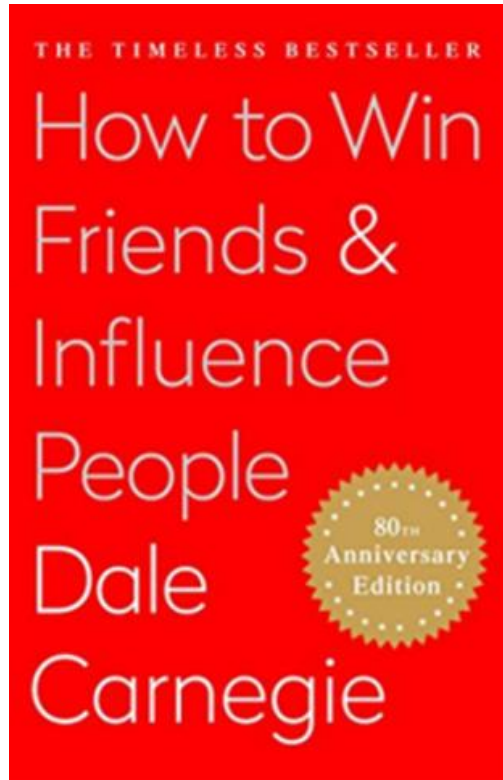


[Call to Action](#) Find constructive criticism and feedback from family, friends, frenemies and enemies. Ferret out what people think are your strengths and weaknesses. Buy them lunch. Invite them over for dinner.

Sure, this may be awkward. But have fun with what I call My Personal Case Studies the best you can.

Recommended Reading

[How to Win Friends and Influence People](#) (324 pages)



You can go after the job you want—and get it!
You can take the job you have—and improve it!
You can take any situation—and make it work for you!

Dale Carnegie's rock-solid, time-tested advice has carried countless people up the ladder of success in their business and personal lives. One of the most groundbreaking and timeless bestsellers of all time, *How to Win Friends & Influence People* will teach you:

- Six ways to make people like you
- Twelve ways to win people to your way of thinking
- Nine ways to change people without arousing resentment

And much more! Achieve your maximum potential—a must-read for the twenty-first century with more than 15 million copies sold!