Isaiah Riffel

Professor Pesano

EWRT 211

23 February, 2016

The Knowledge of Knowing

 Wisdom, how do we define wisdom? The dictionary definition of the word wisdom is: the quality of having experience, knowledge, and good judgment; the quality of being wise. But how exactly do we determine how wise somebody is. There is no way exactly to determine how wise someone is. Some of the smartest people in the world even had a slip up or two. Nobody would have guessed a young kid to get expelled from high school to make a difference of the world like Albert Einstein did. Yes, there are some tests out there to determine what kind of “smart” we are but, even the smartest people make some mistakes. But, mistakes help us learn the difference between what is right and what is wrong. I for one made a ton of mistakes in my life but, it shaped me to become the person that I am today. Even though some mistakes were terrible I wouldn’t take any of those mistakes back because it made me who I am today. After my petrifying childhood experience, I am much wiser in understanding how to pick friends that will stick with me through thick and thin.

Ding! Ding! Ding! The sound of the school bell chirped meaning school was out. I stood up out of my desk and went downstairs to Daycare while I waited for my mom to get off of work. When I arrived at Daycare I saw my best friend at the time his name was Tristian. Tristian was a 5’2 white skater kid. My mother would always tell me that I shouldn’t be hanging out with Tristian because he was bad news but I didn’t listen to her, and that was one big mistake. Tristian and I were known around the school as trouble makers. Tristian and I played football together and hung out every single day. We played Pop Warner football for the Campbell Wolverines in 5th grade. His dad was an assistant coach and was like a dad to me. Once school got out Tristian said to me “Hey dude, let’s go to the field to play football.” That was my weak spot. I loved to play football before school, during lunch, after school, and any other chance I got. But, little did I know that Tristian lured me over to the field to cause trouble.

“Isaiah, do you want to do something that’s really cool?” said Tristian. At this point I’m thinking what’s better than football? So, of course I was curious. I said “Yeah, what is it man?” Then he told me to follow him so I did to see what he wanted to show me. Tristian walked on the glossy green grass and I followed. He then ended up at the fence in the back of the field. The fence separated the field from the street. When Tristian finally got to the back of the fence he picked up a big, round object. Then, Tristian said “Watch this,” as he chucked the big oval shaped rock at a silver BMW passing by. \*Cluck, the rock barely dented the silver BMW that was passing by. I thought to myself, wow, this is really dangerous which made it fun in the ways kids look at things. After Tristian got away with throwing a rock at a car I thought I could to. So, I picked up a golf ball sized rock and waited for a car to pass by. Then, a blue Honda Accord passed by and I threw the golf ball sized tannish rock at the blue Honda Accord and then… \*Clank, Poo. Was the sound of the rock hitting the wind shield and breaking. I was so shocked I didn’t know what to feel so I just froze. I stood there and watched the car immediately stop and pull over to the side of the road. Tristian took off like Usain Bolt and told me to follow him. But, I couldn’t move I stood there frozen not knowing what to do. This small Asian lady got out of the car and started yelling, cussing, and screaming in Chinese. I couldn’t understand what she was saying all I could say was “I’m so sorry.” She then said I’m going to call the police on you and got on her phone and that’s when I ran like Bolt. I never talked to a cop in my life and I didn’t want to start now.

As I was running I didn’t know where to go so I just ran to the bathroom to hide from everything. I ran as fast as I could and threw open the door to the bathroom and that’s where I saw Tristian hiding. We both were scared out of our mind and then came to my head what my mom said about Tristian that he was always troubled. I should have listened but I didn’t. \*Bing “Isaiah and Tristian please come to the office.” Tristian and I got out of the bathroom and went to the office when we were confronted by a tall white man with a badge. I never have been face to face with a police officer but, I seen movies and pictures of police officers. That tall white man was a police officer and I almost peed my pants. He sat down with me, my mom, and the principal and told us that he talked to my friend Tristian and Tristian blamed everything on me. I couldn’t believe it; my own friend turned on me. I explained to the cop that I was really sorry and I didn’t know what I was doing. He then told me “It’s okay; I’ll let this one go.” This didn’t mean I was not in trouble by any means my mom took me out of Pop Warner and the principal gave me a referral. All I was thinking was, “Wow, I should have played football.”

Wisdom isn’t something that people are born with. Wisdom is learned through experience. People can be book smart, street smart, art smart, and much more smarts. But, that doesn’t mean they don’t make mistakes during their life. Some of the wisest people made mistakes in the world. Wisdom is learned by experiencing the mistake and owning up to the mistake. Without experience people wouldn’t gain wisdom and the world would most likely be really dull. As Leonardo Da Vinci would say, “Wisdom is the daughter of experience.”