



Self-Improvement - Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Dr. Hancock has written a regular weekly column entitled "All Psyched Up" for newspapers in two Canadian provinces for more than a dozen years. Over the years, her readers and clients have said that they have benefited from her common-sense solutions, wisdom, and sense of humour. Dr. Linda Hancock, the author of "Life is An Adventure...every step of the way" and "Open for Business Success" is a Registered Psychologist who has a private practice in Medicine Hat. She can be reached at 403-529-6877 or through email office@drlindahancock.com

Published

July 9th, 2010

Tonight I was watching the popular television show "Who wants to be a Millionaire?" and began thinking that it would be great if life was like this.

Imagine what it would be like to have everyone at home or work clap and cheer when you answer a simple question. The lights would flash and the music rise in a crescendo. You would smile, wave and bow to the audience knowing that you were appreciated and that everyone truly wanted you to succeed.

Then, when there is a question that you aren't sure about, you would merely poll those in the room and trust that the right answer is the one that has the majority vote. You would be able to trust this because you know for sure that everyone is sincerely trying to help you.

At times, you might decide to phone a friend from the extensive list of experts who you have at your disposal. These are people who have spent their lives gathering knowledge that they are just waiting to share with you.

You might have to use a good decision-making strategy of eliminating half of the answers and narrowing things down to two choices - one of which is correct. Don't worry; you can talk out loud as you try to reason through to the right answer.

The best part of the millionaire life game would be that within thirty minutes you could rise from your present financial status to wealth!

Well, life isn't like this. Not everyone will encourage you and some might even want to see you fail. The people around you usually don't clap and cheer when you answer a simple question (in fact, they rarely do this when you are truly brilliant). The music doesn't play and the lights don't flash.

The people around you might not have an opinion let alone the right answer to a problem and when you phone a friend for help the odds are high that you will get voice mail.

Instead of investing thirty minutes of your life into becoming wealthy, you will likely work for thirty years - and then likely enjoy a standard of living similar to the one you had the whole time. Yes, "Who wants to be a Millionaire" is a game show that does not really parallel real life.

BUT...if you have a friend to phone, a support group that encourages you, some good decision-making skills and a way to earn a decent living then you really are a winner already. You see, being rich really has nothing to do with the amount of money in your bank account. It's about all the other things that are featured on the show.

And, if you really want to have some fun, why not clap and cheer the next time a friend or family member comes up with a good answer. You never know - you might start a whole new trend!