

I Chose My Path Years Ago ... Can I Really Change It?

by Timothy ©

Q: Once they have begun on a path for their lives, many believe that they have to stick to it after initially choosing that lifestyle. Can they change it? What are liquid and solid choices? I see something like water or a tree branch moving in the wind when I look at this topic.

A: Every day you make millions of choices. You choose what to wear, when and what to eat, what route you'll take to work, and so on. Actually, your unconscious thought habits make so many of your choices for you that you're consciously aware of only a small fraction of them – usually only the choices that require the most consideration. And even your conscious choices are driven primarily by your unconscious patterns of thinking and feeling.

If you look carefully enough, you'll see that the social conditioning to which you've been subjected throughout your life permeates and surrounds all of your thought patterns. So unless you've developed great skill at brushing aside the intense gravitational pull exerted by that ongoing conditioning process, every choice you make is trapped in the net of your unique cultural perspective and individual experiences.

Making important choices about what to do with your life tends to set you on pathways that can be difficult to adjust. And making such choices without first closely observing how social conditioning processes have affected your perceptions and thought patterns is like jumping out of the driver's seat of a moving vehicle. Whenever you

abdicate responsibility for shaping the outcomes of your initial decisions and their corresponding actions, you create devastating collisions with unhealthy consequences for yourself and others. That's an almost guaranteed way to end up being victimized by the outcomes you produce.

On the other hand, when your mind is fully healed (freed from its conditioning), you make all of your choices with a clear understanding of a wide range of options that are always available to you. The key to achieving this healed mental state is tapping directly into a source of awareness that's immune to the limiting and debilitating currents of ego (physical) consciousness. The Chinese sage Seng-Ts'an asked, "If you work on your mind with your mind, how can you avoid immense confusion?" In other words, to truly clear your mind you must learn to open it completely as a conduit through which the Infinite Consciousness of God can flow without the inevitable distortions caused by the ego's input. Making choices that'll transform your life requires you to relax your grip on the beliefs that you've adopted under the influence of your conditioned mind. Once your mind is sufficiently relaxed and able to conduct divine (intuitive) insights, only then are you truly ready to choose wisely on important matters such as selecting a career or marriage partner, having children, or buying a home.

The Dynamic Realms of Liquid and Solid Choices

When you initially chose the path that you're currently on, chances are you did so without knowing much about where your journey would lead you. In fact, before you ever made a choice, you were swimming unfettered in an infinite ocean of potential

pathways. At that point, you had no constraints or limitations forcing you to choose one path over another. You existed in the realm of “liquid choices,” wherein you were able to express the total love and freedom enjoyed by all angelic beings. In that exalted state you rested, waiting patiently for the ocean current containing your true purpose to sweep you into its gentle flow.

Unfortunately for you at that time, the liquid choice realm is such a delicate and subtle state of awareness that you easily mistook the river rapids of your socially defined self-image for the ocean current of your divinely designed purpose. That’s how the wrong current swept your attention away. The moment that occurred, you committed your mind and body to fulfilling the destiny promised by your ego vision, based on its heavy investment of energy in the pursuit of a specific life path. That commitment marked your first foray into the realm of “solid choices,” which meant that all related follow-up decisions and their expected outcomes became limited by the specific goals they were designed to achieve. In the solid choice realm of awareness, options tend to present themselves as linear cause-and-effect categories. If you’ve applied these categories to your major life choices and then discovered that you’ve chosen unwisely, you probably feel stuck in a bad career, bad marriage, or some other emotional prison.

The good news, however, is that you’ve always been, are now, and will always be free to choose a new path for yourself if you dislike your current one. All you have to do is relinquish your emotional attachment to the existing journey, and you will suddenly, magically, realize that you’ve never left the vast ocean of liquid choices. After all, that’s the true habitat for humanity! ☺