

Why Not Just Be Bad And Get Yours

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In a world where most people are selfish and will justify anything that benefits them, "why not just be bad and get yours?" is a legitimate argument.

Let's be honest: most people do wrong and then feel moral about it. They lie a little, manipulate a little, cheat a little - and their brain instantly spins a story that makes them the hero. "I had no choice." "Everyone does it." "They would've done the same to me." Psychologists call this self-serving justification: we do what benefits us, then rewrite the story so we still feel like "good people."

So yeah - if your only goal is short-term gain and social camouflage, being "bad" kinda works. You can play the same selfish games most people are already playing and your brain will help you sleep at night.

But here's the counter.

First: the "bad person" strategy quietly destroys your power over time. Every time you violate your own standards and then justify it, you fracture your identity a little. You turn your mind into a courtroom where you're constantly defending yourself instead of building yourself. Over years, that creates anxiety, paranoia, and low-grade shame - even if you can't name it.

Second: being selfish in a connected, "positive-sum" world is actually dumb strategy. We don't live in a medieval zero-sum world anymore where the only way to win is to take someone else's slice. We live in a world where collaboration, trust, and reputation multiply your opportunities. The bigger the total pie, the more you can personally win. Helping others rise, building trust, making people around you stronger - those are selfishly smart moves in a world where innovation, networks, and goodwill compound.

Third: the "bad" path is crowded and low-energy. Most people are already playing that game - cutting corners, lying to themselves, chasing quick hits. Their nervous system is fried, their relationships are fragile, and deep down they don't respect themselves. You don't get leverage by joining the herd; you get leverage by being the rare person who's actually aligned.

When you choose to be genuinely good - not naive, not a doormat, but disciplined and aligned - you get something most people will never touch:

A mind that isn't at war with itself.

Relationships built on trust instead of constant calculation.

A presence that feels heavy, grounded, undeniable.

That alignment is a power source.

Most people burn energy on self-justification and secret guilt. You're using that same energy to build, to connect, to move freely. Over 5 - 10 years, that difference is brutal: in your money, your network, your peace, your ability to look people in the eye with nothing to hide.

So yeah, "why not be bad?" is a fair question.

The answer is: because being bad is a weak long-term strategy in a positive-sum world, and it quietly rots the only thing you actually live inside of - your own mind.

Being good isn't about being "nice" or "moral" for Instagram.

It's about playing the long game with your nervous system, your reputation, and your soul.