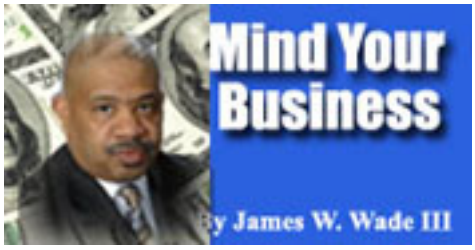


We communicate all the time, even when we are not aware of it. We communicate through gestures, body language, facial expressions, and tone of voice as well as through the words we speak.

On this tragic week of shootings at Chardon High School, it makes one wonder what has been your contribution to society. We are living in a cultural where youth are killing each other, most before turning 21.

Do we spend our life bragging about what we can do or what we did, or do you help someone along the way become a better person? Many weeks you have heard me talk about how it seemed like there were a lot of Black owned businesses, where have they gone?

Do we stand around and talk about how great we are instead of being great and not trying to do harm or back stab our fellow man? Well, I am sure the first ones to admit 'not me' are the main ones stepping on people trying to be somebody.

Last week, you heard about Tyler Perry giving the preacher in Chicago $98,000 to help him build his Community Center, which was truly a good deed. The business mind of
Tyler
is truly great, making good use of his money.

In today's crisis, it's good to have a job. I have even seen the great ones fall back to doing whatever they can to make a dollar. Many businesses in America are shrinking at an

unprecedented rate. So are government revenues. In this environment, the job losses will only increase, causing even further slowdowns.

It is hard to buy a house or car without a job.

Our economy has already lost nearly 2 million jobs during this recession, which is why we need an Economic Recovery Plan that will save or create at least 2.5 million more jobs over two years while we act decisively to maintain the flows of credit on which so many American families and American businesses depend.

While young school-leavers and graduates are struggling to find work, there was a 56,000 increase in the number of people aged 65 and over in employment, supposedly this may be due in part to the rising cost of living and the uncertainty of pension security. Still, it says something about working till we drop and fall to the ground, the expectations of our exploiters.

Today's figures also show a fall in the number of people claiming unemployment, which can be explained by the government drive and directive to sanction claimants at any given opportunity.

There's no question that some people in their 50s and early 60s who are laid off from high-paying jobs can have an extremely tough time finding a new job at the same salary. This is especially true for those who've worked for the same company or industry for their entire careers and have built up experience, wisdom or a full Rolodex of contacts that may not translate to a new company or industry.

I was unable to find specific statistics on income gains or losses for workers over 50 who were laid off. (If you know of any, please let us know and we'll follow up next week.) But older workers are clearly making up a bigger share of the so-called mass layoffs tracked by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Some of those displaced workers may become discouraged workers and officially fall off the government's statistical radar. When the government tallies the monthly employment report, it only counts those who are actively looking for work in the total workforce. So you can be out of

a job but not show up in the labor force numbers used to calculate unemployment rate. And there's less data available on those workers who tell the Labor Department survey that they've given up looking for a job.

Still, it's clear that many older workers *are* finding good jobs especially as more and more baby boomers say they plan to stay in the workforce past the traditional retirement age of 65. Though big companies in older, mature industries may be making big layoffs and getting the big headlines when they do, the overall U.S. job pool keeps expanding at a healthy clip.

Since 2003, some 7 million more new jobs have been created than old jobs were lost.

Now you have to remember, everyone not working does not qualify for unemployment. In order to qualify, workers must have received an average weekly wage of at least $213 during a base period of 20 weeks.

Think about this for a minute, because it may happen more often than you think… how many times have you stayed up late reading a novel that you couldn't put down or watching a movie you couldn't turn off? How many times have you pushed yourself harder after hearing the story of someone else's success or changed your opinion after reading a convincing article in a magazine or newspaper?

There's no doubt that stories can change the way we think, act, and feel. Oprah Winfrey especially, can use the power of a good story to influence and motivate their guests to new heights. Stories can inspire everything from understanding to action. They can create legends that an entire workplace culture can build upon, and they have the power to break down barriers and turn a bad situation into a good one.

So why not stop down playing your fellow man and work together for the common business good. The saying is, if you are looking down on someone it should be because you have your hand out to help them up. Who are you helping up?

We communicate all the time, even when we are not aware of it. We communicate through gestures, body language, facial expressions, and tone of voice as well as through the words we speak.

So going forward be careful who you talk about or what you say, because the world would be a whole lot better if you “Mind Your Business.”