

When All The World's Problems Are Solved, is Optimism Still Necessary?

Imagine all the world's problems are gone. Children in Africa are now well nourished, everyone has access to clean water, global warming stops, and America finally gets out of debt. Imagine tomorrow when you wake up, all of these problems are solved. If all the problems are solved wouldn't it just be a perfect world? So think, in a perfect world, is it still necessary for people to be optimistic? I believe it is. I think in a perfect world it is important to be optimistic because the world will continue to thrive and flourish through optimism.

The Oxford dictionary describes optimism as "hopefulness and confidence about the future or the successful outcome of something" (Oxford Living Dictionaries). After reading that definition, your understanding of the word optimism might have changed, or your or prior conceptions about that word may have been challenged. If you are like me, you were probably taught synonyms of the word from a young age. In my life, I have always correlated the word optimistic with the word happy. When I hear someone is optimistic, to me, it means they are happy and positive about something. However, after reading the definition, I realized I had been leaving an important part out. Being optimistic can be as complex as looking for the best in every life-changing situation, or as simple as looking forward to cooking a good meal for your family one night.

I believe that it is necessary to stay optimistic, even in a perfect world. There are many different things that support this belief. For example, imagine a world without inventors and innovators. These are two of the most optimistic groups of people in the world. Inventors cannot be afraid to fail. If an inventor is not optimistic about their new invention or product, what are

they supposed to do when it fails the first time? Imagine if Thomas Edison had given up the first time the light bulb did not work. We would probably all be sitting around our house with oil lamps and candlesticks. But when his first trial failed, Edison did not give up. Instead, he was persistent. He never lost hope in his invention and stayed optimistic, striving for the success of the future. In the imperfect world today these people strive to build and create new and better things for society. In a perfect world, this should not change. Instead of being optimistic through their failures, these inventors will not have to worry about failing in this new perfect world. They will become fearless and strive for bigger and better things because they cannot fail.

Being optimistic with friendship and new bonds is also important. The group Optimist International has a group of core beliefs that I try to live by daily. The one that sticks out to me the most is "To talk health, happiness, and prosperity to everyone you meet." Whether I have known a person for years or meet them in the drive-thru at work, I strive to treat them the same; being kind and welcoming. I also think this core belief is similar to the Golden Rule and the rules the Bible set out for us, "Love your neighbor as yourself." I am a Christian and a firm believer that evil and corruption have brought pessimism into the world today. If everyone were to abide by the Optimist belief and put the Golden Rule into practice, I believe that this imperfect world would shape and grow into a more wholesome environment.

People might counter my belief saying, in a perfect world where there is no evil or corruption, why should we stay optimistic? To that I say, the perfect world where evil and corruption do not exist is what Christians call Heaven, something we are all hopeful for and look forward to a positive future. But, even if you are not Christian, in a perfect world we would need

to hold core optimistic values because they draw us closer together as brothers and sisters, and would continue to push our society to successful outcomes.

In conclusion, optimism is important. Whether it be a perfect world where evil does not exist and everyone is at ease or the imperfect world we live in today, it is important that we stay optimistic and strive for the successes of the future.