THE EDUCATION DEBATE
EMOTIONAL & RATIONAL

• OUR KIDS
• THE FUTURE
• MORE BUT HARDER CHOICES
• A PLAN… OR PLAN TO ADAPT
WHY WE LEARN

WHAT YOU DREAM

HOW WE EARN

WHAT WE NEED
The Me Me Me Generation

Millennials are lazy, entitled narcissists who still live with their parents.

Why they’ll save us all

By Joel Stein
It is tougher to get ahead these days than in the past

72%

Doing what makes me happy more important than making $$

81%
I feel a lot of pressure to succeed

Arts and Social Science Students: 79% agree

STEM / Trade Students: 83% agree

Source: Abacus Data March 2015
N=513, Canadian PSE students
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Arts/Social Science</th>
<th>STEM</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Freedom to live life your own way</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ability to pursue passions</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard of living</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall happiness</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### FEELINGS ABOUT JOB MARKET

#### Arts & Social Science Students

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Perception</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optimistic</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepared</td>
<td>52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lots of opportunities</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mainly low paying jobs</td>
<td>33%</td>
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#### STEM / Trade Students

<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optimistic</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepared</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lots of opportunities</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mainly low paying jobs</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Abacus Data March 2015  
N=513, Canadian PSE students
SATISFACTION WITH LIFE

Arts and Social Science Students

- Dissatisfied: 19%
- Satisfied: 33%
- 6 to 4: 47%
- Don't know: 1%

STEM / Trade Students

- Dissatisfied: 14%
- Satisfied: 37%
- 6 to 4: 46%
- Don't know: 2%
A RISKY DEBATE

THE MARKET CAN’T FAIL
THE DOERS

THE MIND AIM HIGH
THE LEADERS
WHERE CHANGE LIVES
THE LEADING EDGE
BRING YOUR DREAM

GROWING ECONOMY
HEALTHY COMMUNITIES
HIGH ACHIEVERS

A DIFFERENT POSITION
FINAL THOUGHTS

• CANADA LIKES COMPETITION, BUT NOT WINNERS & LOSERS

• LIMITING CHOICE A HARDER SELL THAN ADDING CHOICE

• AVOID BEING DRAWN INTO PARTISAN FRAMING