

choices and video games

How do you determine the path in life your taking is correct for you? How do you deem the choices you make are right? These are questions people have trouble asking. This could lead to many indecisive thoughts and feeling you aren't doing what you should. For people who play video games, they came up with their own mentality as to how to gauge that. In games, it's usually obvious what direction you need to go to advance in it. However, that path started to get more confusing and it made the correct direction obscured. So, the mentality to finding the correct path was, "If you encounter an enemy, then your going the right path." So, they would just find someone to fight in the game to help get back on track. Many would then take this as a way to look at life. They would think if you face adversity, then you are on the correct path. Is this a correct mentality though? Could you really judge if your right just by seeing the opponents in your path? I feel this could be a major question to be asked.

When we discuss this concept though, I think we should first designate what an enemy is. By definition, " an adversary is one's opponent in a contest, conflict, and pursuit." While this definition is vague, it lets us get a grasp of what we mean by adversity. It's going against someone or something that is fighting against us. This could be seen in the literal sense like in the protests of racism by Martin Luther King Jr. He seeked to unite the world against racism during the Jim Crow era of the south. He and the people who followed him were judged harshly for causing such a rebellion. In many ways, his protests were following this mentality. In Martin Luther King's letter to other religious leaders, he wrote, "Just as the prophets of the eighth century B.C. left their villages and carried their "thus saith the Lord" far beyond the boundaries of their home towns, and just as the Apostle Paul left his village of Tarsus and carried the gospel of Jesus Christ to the far corners of the Greco Roman world, so am I compelled to carry the gospel of freedom beyond my own home town. Like Paul, I must constantly respond to the Macedonian call for aid." (Letter from the Birmingham Jail page 1) They're message was just, and people were fighting to oppose this. They were pressuring them to give up on their fight.

Another way to look at this definition is more from a mental version. We all struggle with an opponent every day. Some struggle to wake up in the morning and go to work. Others might want to get something that either they need or want for themselves. However, we're all pressured with opposition from these ideas. This could range from our body's limitations, how much money we are willing to spend, and how we might get looked at for the choice. So, if we make our choice and we will face some form of opposition. Many would look forward for this sometimes. Many spend their lives contemplating a plan to solve this form of opposition. Some might pick up a second job to solve the problem of trying to finance a new house. Others might reward themselves each week with their favorite food if they go to the gym and lose weight for a week. Sometimes even the opposition is the reward in the end. As a college kid, we worry about finances. We worry about our rising debt as we go year after year to school. However, once we obtain the job we're looking for as a reward for all the hard work. Then we can use that to pay off our loans we raised for all that hardship. So, you can see how we have we can see the opposition as a proof of our success.

However, does that mean we are making the right decision though? Let's say hypothetically, I started smoking. When I would do this, I might face opposition like places telling me not to smoke at places, medical individuals would suggest me to stop, and my family might list off all the issues with smoking. So, you could argue this is a form of an adversary. While they want the best for me, I could see them as the ones who are against me. I want to smoke, and they aren't allowing me to do it. Many know that smoking causes a large range of problems. It's proven that over time smoking could lead to lung cancer. However, I don't see it at that point like that. So, who would be the adversary? Is it the people telling me no or is it the choice itself?

We could also argue this concept is confirmation bias. The idea of confirmation bias is that everything you see helps reaffirm your belief about something. We watch news stories that tell us opinions we already have. We talk to people who share our perspective. So, if this hypothetically the

opposition might not actually exist. If I make a story and someone points out flaws in it, are they my adversary or are they just helping me? If we're going the wrong direction on a road and the police try to stop us, do we oppose them because they are our enemy? This leaves so many more questions to ask and adds more harm than good. Just because we see something as an opponent doesn't mean everyone else does.

Overall, I feel this concept is a solid way to look at how we are progressing in life. If we look at our accomplishments, we could see how much we've fought against. It can also show that we have lived a life finding a solution in times most would give up. Plus, if we find an opposition, we can judge our morality overall. While some might argue this is invalid since it's a confirmation bias, we're not all known to follow the same morality concepts. No one is born and raised with the same mentality. If that were the case, there wouldn't be any opposition in the first place. It can also be said that what is a positive for my life might be a negative for another's. Is it good to have support in your endeavors? Absolutely. That shouldn't set a precedent though because then you would be living someone else's life instead of your own. In the end, I feel it's better to venture to accomplish the goals you want while also seeing if you can make some allies along the way.