

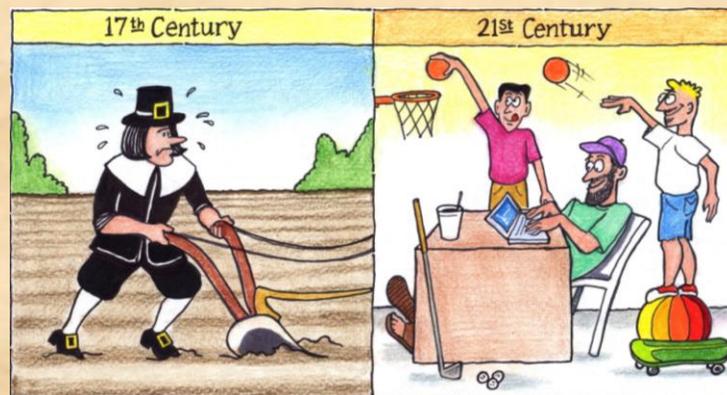
KILLING THE PURITAN WORK ETHIC

In the early days of our nation, it was necessary for individuals to toil throughout the spring, summer, and fall so as to ensure survival through the bitter months of winter. Strict religious tenets added to this highly disciplined and somewhat bleak lifestyle, as ministers explained that pleasure and rewards would come soon enough, but not in this world.

Although functional in the 1600's, this Puritan work ethic need no longer dominate our work environment in the 21st century. Industrial and technological progress have provided us the opportunity to work in an environment that is physically comfortable and allows us to focus time on a myriad of tasks that make life more exciting, fun, and worthwhile.

In the time of the Puritans, work and fun were often mutually exclusive concepts. The lasting scar is that many today still define work as the opposite of fun...a hugely dysfunctional MindSet.

The average American will spend 36% of their adult waking hours in the work setting. We are fortunate to live in a time when working as hard as you can and having the time of your life can be wholly compatible goals.



"I never did a day's work in my life – it was all fun."

Thomas Edison

"Pleasure in the job puts perfection in the work."

Aristotle

*"Do not hire a man who does your work for money, but him who does it
for love of it."*

Henry David Thoreau

"The more I want to get something done, the less I call it work."

Richard Bach

*"Far and away the best price that life offers is the chance to
work hard at work worth doing."*

Theodore Roosevelt

"I like work. It fascinates me. I can sit and look at it for hours." ☺

Jerome K. Jerome

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