

On Yesbuts and Whynots

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People who say “Yes, but!” are realists.
People who say “Why not?” are dreamers.
Yesbuts are secure—Whynots are vulnerable.
Yesbuts are affirmative—Whynots are hesitating.
Yesbuts rely on themselves—Whynots rely on faith.
Yesbuts know the answers before posing the questions.
Whynots ask questions and don’t know the answers.
Yesbuts accept mediocrity right from the start.
Whynots invite disappointment as for them the sky—and beyond—is the limit.

Are Yesbuts and Whynots living on different planets? Are they like fire and water? Not so!
Yesbuts and Whynots share common objectives. Let’s see:
“YES, I want to go through school without dropping out or repeating a class.
BUT my classmates despise me, my teachers hate me and I’m a hopeless case anyway.”
“YES, I want to go through school without dropping out or repeating a class.
WHY NOT stand up to my classmates, impress my teachers and be a success?”
“YES, the performance of my university, my company, my administration should be improved. BUT I know the people involved. They’ll never change”.
“YES, the performance of my university, my company, my administration should be improved. WHY NOT work for a culture where problem solving and exploitation of opportunities are turned into routine?”

“YES, Development Cooperation should be an effective means to improve peoples’ quality of life in less developed countries.
BUT look at all those Cathedrals in the Desert, at Corruption, at the sheer enormity of Failure and shattered hopes, and you’ll know: It’ll never work!”
“YES, Development Cooperation should be an effective means to improve peoples’ quality of life in less developed countries.
WHY NOT go for Solidarity stronger than Distrust, Determination stronger than Doubt, Conviction-plus-Professionalism, vanquishing Difficulties – one by one?”

There’s more to come, to wit:
Yesbuts and Whynots aren’t different people.
They are two souls, twin brothers living in the same breast: our own.
However, one of them is usually dominant, and becoming more so as time goes by.
It might be the wrong one, *if we don’t care about who’s going to win.*

WHY NOT try to influence the outcome?
We can nurture, foster, strengthen, one of them who then will become the dominant twin brother!
WHY NOT choose WHYNOT?