



*This episode of **INSPIRATIONAL** features a “True Story” from the life of **Mr. Aniket Chakraborty** (Creator & Founder of “Living Virtuously”).*

*“I was quite careless, casual and unfocussed during and after my Class 12 as to ‘**What exactly I want to do with my life and career?**’ I didn’t concentrate and pay much heed to my engineering entrance exams and I ended up getting pretty low scores and ranks in those exams. It was during those moments, i.e. when I was **UNABLE** to get “Seats in B. Tech (Bachelor of Technology) Colleges”, I realized that I was in a big and serious problem. Within months, all of my friends and classmates got settled in proper graduation colleges and I was the “**Only One Left Out**”. My scores were so bad that I didn’t even get a call for P.I. (Personal Interview) & G.D. (Group Discussion). It was because of the reason that I only wanted to pursue C.S.E (Computer Science & Engineering) from my native state, I had no other option but to **sit at home for an entire year and try the engineering entrance exams the upcoming year**. I was highly demotivated and demoralized, and it was quite irritating & frustrating to face and confront this reality and situation. When me and my uncertain future became the center of everyone’s attention & conversation, i.e. while everyone kept **pinpointing** my year gap, it became immensely embarrassing and shameful for me. I went into depression and I completely lost my optimism, hope and mental clarity! I neither had any enthusiasm nor any mental energy & stability to focus, concentrate and study for the upcoming year’s entrance exams. Fear &*

*anxiety crippled me, and I constantly kept thinking pessimistically about pseudo worst-case-scenarios like ‘I’ll never be able to get into engineering, I’ll never be able to complete my graduation, I’ll never be able to do anything good in my life, I am good for nothing, I have no career and future, etc.’ This was during the year 2006. Also, it was till then that I only wanted to study, travel and work from my hometown.*

*However, during the later stages of 2006, I developed an interest to study in the South. I wanted to step outside of my hometown & native state and also imagined myself successfully doing that. All of a sudden, there was this willingness and desire in me to travel to the southern part of the country and pursue my B. Tech there. **I didn’t over-think and worry too much about the far future**, i.e. ‘How will I be staying over there?’, ‘What kind and taste of food I’ll get over there?’, ‘How will I communicate with the locals?’, etc. I just **thought and focused on one thing**, i.e. ‘I need to travel to the South and pursue my C.S.E. there’ and moreover I completely believed that ‘I will travel to the South and I will complete my C.S.E. there’. What happened from then onwards was quite as per my plans and expectations. In 2007, I cleared the necessary entrance exams and the interviews, and I achieved myself a C.S.E. seat in a B. Tech College in Andhra Pradesh, India. It was since then I didn’t have to look back. My educational & professional achievements and career advancements have ‘By Far’ exceeded and nullified my education gap of 1 year.*

*Thus, my **mental strength**, that enabled me to step outside of my ‘18 Years Comfort Zone’, & my **determination and focus**, that allowed me to take the ‘1<sup>st</sup> Big Step of Change’, eventually led me to learn and develop and inculcate a faith & belief that everything will turn out to be successful as long as I follow my passion and I put my sincere and honest efforts into my work. This also created a resilient attitude in me, and which is helping & supporting me even till today.”*

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**Website Link of this Story: <https://livingvirtuously.in/inspirational>**