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The need to dream

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Why are we thinking less of our possibilities, and more about our limitations?

Kahlil Gibran, the Lebanese poet and author talks about dreaming in one of his pieces.



A young man approaches an elder and requests him to interpret a dream that he has had when asleep. The elder responds “Tell me of the dream you have when awake, I will then share my wisdom, for your dream when awake is filled with imagination. I cannot offer counsel for your dreams when asleep, for they are illusory.”

Many of us, owing to the pandemic and the resurgence of fresh cases, are limiting our imagination.

I notice this about myself as when asked what my plans may be for next year, I admit I cannot think about next year and that I am filled with fear.

Even with friends whom I interact with at work, I am realising our conversation is less about possibilities and instead about what may go wrong.

I am hoping that each of us consciously shift our lens and talk of what we can do rather than what we cannot.

A teacher of mine once told me, “When you say you cannot, you actually mean you don’t or will not, for there is nothing that you cannot.”

It will spare us the mental torture we are allowing ourselves to be consumed by.

Steve Jobs once said “If your dream list is shorter than your achievement list, it surely means you have grown old.” I hope each of us can prevent this happening to us.

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