

**From:** Kim Ratz <kimratz@aol.com>

**To:** kimratz <kimratz@aol.com>

**Subject:** Live & Work Wise, from Kim Ratz

**Date:** Thu, Jun 9, 2016 3:40 pm

---

## *Live & Work Wise*

From Kim Ratz, Speaker-Trainer-Troubadour, [www.kimratz.com](http://www.kimratz.com), June 2015

Nothing fancy; just a fast, free read intended to inspire hope, improve skills to cope, and induce some fun in your day.

=====

### A Thought to Help You Live & Work Wise: *Should I Stay or Should I Go?*

I admit it; after 22 years of running my own business, there are some things I'm getting tired of! Like always having to market my services, be patient and productive during those spells when I don't have any presentations and the phone doesn't ring, and the rejections to endure as I work through the "No's" to find the "Yes's" ... Sometimes I think it would be so much easier to go back to working for someone else again. But, and it's a B-I-G but: I also know that if I did change what I'm doing to escape these few tiring realities -- I would immediately miss most of what I get to do and find so satisfying!

It reminds me of a situation in 1970 when my dad had been preaching at one church for 15 years, a long time for a minister to preach from the same pulpit. This was also a challenging time in churches with all the issues and changes society was dealing with, and dad was tiring of some of the repetitive attitudes and arguments ... He was trying to find a new church, not having any luck, and his desperation grew to where he actually entertained the idea of leaving the ministry and becoming a motel manager. Lucky for him, before he turned in his clerical collar he went to a nearby motel and sat in the lobby for a day to observe and get a better feel for what a manager actually does; his only perspective about a hotel was as a guest. I'll never forget his reaction when he came home and exclaimed how glad he was he didn't quit based on a half-baked notion about how refreshing that job change would be! He said he didn't realize how whiny and obnoxious some travellers could be, and he realized all the things he loved doing and wouldn't be doing anymore if he became a motel manager. It was my first real understanding of the phrase: "*Throwing the baby out with the bathwater!*"

*Is the Grass Really Greener on the Other Side?* It depends, of course. Sometimes there IS something better waiting for you and you need to muster the courage and wisdom to look for it. And many times you're thinking there's something better for you out there, yet you're in exactly the right place for you, right now. So the next time you feel you need a big change or that the grass is greener somewhere else and before you act, temporarily switch things up and do that other thing, or something really different; see if there might be more you'd miss about what you're doing now than you thought, or if that "other side" you contemplate would really be as satisfying as you think it would be. Granted – it can feel painful to feel stuck and not able to do what you really want to do; it's also painful to make a change and then realize you just "threw the baby out with the bathwater."

=====

### Another Thought to Help You Work Wise: *Back to School Workshops & Fall Conferences*

Does your school, center or organization have a "back-to-school" or fall In-service? Or maybe your group holds a fall Conference? If so, and your speaker hasn't been selected yet, let me know or share this with your supervisor and suggest that we talk so we can discuss the option of bringing one of my proven programs to your fall in-service or conference.

It can be a 60 minute keynote ("There's always SOME-thing") to all your employees to encourage them to think about what kind of year they want to have, and what do they need to be intentional about to make that happen ... Or it can be the workshop "Playing Nice in the Sandbox" which reviews communication, relationship and teamwork skills to help your team be even more cohesive and effective, especially in times of change, challenge or conflict; these workshops can be anywhere from 90 minutes to half-day to a full-day ... And because you receive this e-newz, this means your group is eligible for my "Fee-Range" which has helped me remain affordable to groups like yours because I support your mission and work!

The fall calendar is filling up, so contact me soon if one of these programs look like it would help you start another new school year the way you'd like to see happen, or be helpful at your fall conference. Then we can see if your date is available, answer each others' questions, and talk specifically about how these programs could help meet your needs and goals, all at an affordable investment. My phone # is at the end of this email, or just hit "Reply" and let me know when you'd like to talk.

=====

### *July is National Make a Difference to Children Month*

Since 2066, I've been proud to sponsor this "call-out" in July to all people who care about kids to "Make a Difference to Children" in one or more of these four key ways:

1. Pick one (or more) event or activity to do with a child (in addition to your own children; a child you know, and whose parents know you), that will make some kind of positive difference or impact on that child. A list with 100+ ideas for home, work, your place of worship, & in the community to make a positive difference to children can be found at: <http://www.kimratz.com/madtc100+.html>.
2. Support an organization that serves children. It could be your local community education dept. or public schools, YMCA, Boy or Girl Scouts, place of worship, park and recreation dept., or any other organization that serves kids. Your support might be as a volunteer, or giving a financial donation; they're all non-profits, and they need your support! Or go and personally thank the people who work directly with children and make a difference -- make sure they feel appreciated and supported!

3. Tell your policy makers to support initiatives that are good for kids, like your school board, city council, county commissioners, state legislators & congressional delegation; summer is generally a more relaxed time to communicate with them. Share your own story about "Making a Difference to Children," and WHY it's important to support programs for children.

4. Tell other people about this campaign who care about children, like your neighbors, relatives, friends, people at work, where you worship, learn or play - Print out the one page flyer and post it ... Forward an e-mail with the link to the web page (above) to others who would be interested and act ...

For more info on this grass-roots campaign: [www.kimratz.com/madtc.html](http://www.kimratz.com/madtc.html).

***Children ARE the future -- let's make a difference to them in July, and every month of the year!***

=====

Quotes for the days ahead related to -- "Perseverance"

*If you are going through hell, keep going. – Winston Churchill*

*Rivers know this: there is no hurry. We shall get there some day. – A.A. Milne, Winnie-the-Pooh*

*The brick walls are there for a reason. The brick walls are not there to keep us out. The brick walls are there to give us a chance to show how badly we want something. Because the brick walls are there to stop the people who don't want it badly enough. They're there to stop the other people. – Randy Pausch, The Last Lecture*

*You may encounter many defeats, but you must not be defeated. In fact, it may be necessary to encounter the defeats, so you can know who you are, what you can rise from, how you can still come out of it. – Maya Angelou*

*It does not matter how slowly you go as long as you do not stop. - Confucius*

*There are times to stay put, and what you want will come to you, and there are times to go out into the world and find such a thing for yourself. – Lemony Snicket, Horseradish*

*Many of life's failures are people who did not realize how close they were to success when they gave up. – Thomas A. Edison*

*Just because you fail once doesn't mean you're gonna fail at everything. – Marilyn Monroe*

*Courage doesn't always roar. Sometimes courage is the little voice at the end of the day that says I'll try again tomorrow. – Mary Anne Radmacher*

*The difference between a successful person and others is not a lack of strength, not a lack of knowledge, but rather a lack in will. – Vince Lombardi*

=====

I specialize in helping people create more harmony in their own life, and in their relationships with others. Its about being Congruent and making good Choices - by aligning your Attitudes, Aptitudes and Actions - so at days end you feel content, not regret. I do this through keynotes and workshops that inspire hope, help people improve skills to cope re: communication & relationships, teamwork and leadership, and original music, stories and humor to induce some fun along the way!

*If you need a presenter who shares content, energy and inspiration, call me so we can discuss what you need, and how I might be able to help!*

To Un-subscribe: Click "Reply" & write "unsubscribe" in the Subject line and you will be removed from this list.

=====

*Positively Yours,*  
**Kim Ratz**

---

**Speaker - Trainer - Troubadour - Author**  
[kimratz@aol.com](mailto:kimratz@aol.com) • [www.kimratz.com](http://www.kimratz.com) • (952) 938-4472  
3665 Woody Lane, Minnetonka, MN 55305  
*Successfully sharing skills, songs & stories since 1994*