award of successful citizenship. Imagine how our country would benefit if the youth would work hand in hand to develop their community. It would be an excellent step if the schools agree to undertake such projects. However, before I could pitch in the idea, almost half the people from the group raised their hands to oppose the idea. To them the proposal was too Americanized. This is what happens to a nation where expecting success is not feasible. They will follow the Westernize fashion, music and cuisine but they will never acknowledge the good that comes out from such communities. Ignoring those other half who were opposing, I decided to pitch in the idea anyway. And to my surprise there were several nods among the group.



It is believed that today's youth, the one third of the total population of this country, will undertake leadership, change the mindset of the society and work for the betterment of this nation. Hence if we do not change our attitude towards life and bring optimism among ourselves, how would we be able to ameliorate this nation in the coming years? Laziness, negation towards positive thinking, giving up responsibilities and neglecting solutions are not going to bring any change to the lives around us. We are the generation to set examples for the younger ones. Imagine what we will leave them with to follow.

I remember watching this movie last year, *Yes Man* by Nicholas Stoller. The leading role was played by Jim Carrey who is a bank employee and has become withdrawn and depressed since his divorce from his wife. Routinely ignoring his friends, he has grown used to spending his spare time watching DVDs alone in his apartment and his outlook on life has become inherently negative. But when an old friend persuades him to attend the 'Yes!' self-improvement seminar, Carrey reluctantly promises to stop being a 'No Man' and vows to answer yes to every opportunity that comes in his way. Thereafter his life drastically changes. The movie was hilarious and he happens to do outrageous things that normal people would not dare to try. But it left a statement that positive attitude towards life leads to happiness and success that can change the whole life.

If we look at the bright side of life, our life becomes easy. This light affects not only us and the way we look at the world, but also our whole environment and the people around us. If it is strong enough, it becomes contagious.

As Mclandburgh Wilson stated, "Between the optimist and the pessimist, the difference is droll. The optimist sees the doughnut; the pessimist the hole!"

Let us do something for a change that does not have a tag of monetary value. Let us push for something that seems impossible. Eventually we will end up motivating and empowering others around us.

Photo:Mithila