

Chapter 13
Finances
The Value of a Dollar

Finance is the binary study of managing and acquiring money and valuables. *Cash*, *credit*, and *assets* are used as *byproducts* to finance endeavors and exchanges. In company of the *exchange* and *management* of money, the *barter* trading system is also a type of finance.

At present we cannot imagine a world without finance. Obtaining and maintaining *available resources* is the prerequisite to accessing *physical resources* which are needed to perform purposeful activities.

Money isn't everything; however its value is viscerally significant to ones survival in today's society. We can hardly put food in our stomach without possessing the appropriate resources to finance it. Shelter, clothes, transportation, and other basic day-to-day activities all require finance.

Being broke is a humbling experience. The void of adequate finances galvanized my appreciation for the *value of a dollar* and motivated me to extend my support in creating opportunity for others.

Succeeding prison I chose *employment* over drug sales and within a year of hire I finessed my way through the administrative ranks of a multi-million dollar company to earn myself a generous salary as the *consequence*. Netting a set income of such stabilized me financially. I obtained *cash* and acquired *assets*, but failed to offset old debt and reestablish my *credit*. My financial resources contracted after a petty snafu in the workplace resulted in my severance from the company. The gist was funds were going **out**, but none was coming **in**. "The trap" was no longer a consideration of mine so I attempted to patch my economic wounds with new jobs. The postings I landed showcased no merit while the companies that did have potential mostly wouldn't hire me due to my criminal record conflicting "company policy". Frustrated, low-spirited, and broke; I spent the next 4 or 5 months unemployed and unenhanced, harmoniously challenging the evolution of my own volatile validities. Fiscal drawbacks contested my productivity. My competency to project an organic proclamation was proficient—managing the funds to back these inklings was the protrude deferment.

The money doesn't make the man, the man makes the money. Dollars come and go because capital is a *byproduct*; thusly it is the power of *the mind* that overweighs the value of gold and coin. I had to chase the **dream** to secure the **cream**. The goal is pecuniary autonomy. Work for the money then let the money work for you. Secure cash, cop *assets*, and maintain credit. Credit creates *leverage*. As income rises resist from raising your budgets. Be frugal; invest, manage. Save your money, one day your money might save you. Saving and investing cascades into *wealth*. Spending on *liabilities* brandishes memories of what used to be.

Respect your FICO score. Our credit history will be with us indefinitely. Establish a sturdy foundation and build; DO NOT DEMOLISH! Creditors don't forget. I continue to pay the price for financial decisions I made in my premature adult years. I used to sign up for everything my *social security number* could get me approved for then omit the bills. So when my peers were upgrading their properties and my advancement steadfast, I stared at a credit report blemished with outstanding balances and knew the reason why. Nothing's free out here. Conduct research and educate yourself before binding to any agreements. Read the fine print and understand all contractual terms and conditions in full. If necessary consult legal counsel. Comport square business; (*integrity*) if you say you're going to do something— do it, if you borrow something— pay it back.

Revolving and *installment* represent two types of credit. Revolving credit or a line of credit such as a credit card is open-ended and is mostly used for everyday purchases. Installment credit is a closed-ended loan often involving larger stakes such as a home mortgage. *TransUnion*, *Equifax*, and *Experian* are the three governing bureaus that conserve our credit reports. Credit reports contain information that is supplied by lenders, our own person, and by court records. Delinquent payments can motion creditors and lenders to close one's account and sell the debt off to a collection agency leaving negative marks on our report. Credit reports are said to be updated around every thirty days. It is suggested that we review and keep tabs on the accuracy of the activity purveyed through each of the three bureaus. Approach credit with attentiveness, modesty and good intentions. A reputable FICO score is to be venerated not forsaken.

Don't let a temporary shortage of funds deter you from your ultimate goals, craft additional goals to incur the available resources. Put *faith* in your will to find a way. Never let poverty *defeat* you. I implore you to digest these caveats and always remember that there is much more substance to life than **money**.