

## If only I could start over

By Mr. Ed, 52 years old, 13 years on death row

Life as I now live it is if I'm constantly at work. I know that may sound a bit odd, or even strange. I no longer control my life. I have an unforgiving boss that makes me adhere to the rules or suffer the consequences for not doing so.

Everything is on a time schedule. I get only so many minutes to use the phone. I get only so many minutes to eat. I only get so many minutes to shower. All of these things are done only at specific times. It's the same things all day, every day. I need a change but change never happens.

I would like to go home, but that's not part of the job description. I miss all of the things that I took for granted, simply because they were part of my ordinary life as I once knew it. You don't know what you have until it's gone.

If I could do it all over again I would never have applied for this job by making mistakes, and bad choices in my life. I would take the time to not be in such a rush to have life pass me by. I would open my eyes so I could see clearly at all of the things I have. I would recognize the things in life that are important and bring me happiness without risk. The simple things are often the best things. I wish I would have known this sooner. Now I'm stuck in a dead-end job, trying to maintain the person that I am, and strive to be, without any of the benefits I should receive from doing so. All I have left to achieve is only personal satisfaction, and I have to hide that from the boss.

If only I could start over. That's a horrible way to have to look at life, but that's what my dreams are reduced to because of my mistakes. Make the best with what you have and do what you can to get what you want. Realizing the limits in life, and how to overcome them the right way is a recipe for success. I hope you are a success in life!

Mr. Ed

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