

It's Tough Out There!

"When the going gets tough the tough get going."

I have spoken in recent days to a number of great candidates that have missed out. It's tough, it's not fair, reality is it is an employer centric market at the moment and it is a numbers game.

Follow up – If you're not getting the results you desire, do some honest self review. Ring your interviewer and **politely** explain that you would really appreciate some feedback to assist you in improving your future interview skills. Feedback helps you make changes and move forward in a more positive way. Remember that interviews are learning opportunities.

There are 2 schools of thought – "You should have known ✘ or you're here to learn!" ✔

If you land a job in the first two interviews, well done, brilliant! Go buy yourself a lottery ticket. Be aware that there are lots of good people out there, so don't beat up on yourself if you keep just missing out.

Reality check – It is tough out there, don't kid yourself. You need to understand and set yourself some realistic parameters e.g. If you have studied or worked for 15 years, allow yourself 15 weeks from when you seriously start going for positions to get an offer. That's around 25 x 1st interviews, with another 10 to 15 follow ups or tests. Reading this won't make you feel great, but it's often the case. Knowing this enables you to set plans and strategies in place to cope and move forward in a positive way.

Only 2% of students get picked at university for graduate offers. You have two options.

1. Be really gifted.
2. Get out there and do work placement throughout your tertiary study time. It will have a massive impact on improving your chances and adding value to your studies. Do volunteer work, do whatever it takes to be in control of your future. Be a player not a passenger in the game of life.

Fact – There is a job or place out there for you. You will succeed, and find what you are looking for. Just hang in there, be positive and be in the right place at the right time. Don't forget to pitch your skills in such a way as to make them feel comfortable about saying "YES".

Remember if you're looking for full-time work, or are currently unemployed; regard finding a job as being a full-time job. Take the process seriously, map out a plan of campaign and stick to it until you are successful.

Good luck in your next interview, James E Lynch