

URL: <https://stvp.stanford.edu/clips/the-upside-to-anger>

There is a time and place for emotion. Adam Pisoni, founder and CEO of Abl Schools, shares how his anger, fueled by inequity, energized him to persist. By channeling his anger into his work, Pisoni is able to push through challenges and accomplish more.



Transcript

- How do I stay persistent going after this problem? So it was two things actually.. One, I actually wasn't looking for a problem accompanying to it's start so I didn't feel that pressure.. I was actually looking for a problem that needed solving and if it was somebody else solving it I would have joined that company.. That allowed me to say like, where is this real? I'm gonna apply myself to something for the next many years.. I don't want to waste my time or their time.. So it's got to be something that I feel like I am aligned to solving, it's a real problem we're solving that I care about.. So that was one.. But two, personally, the inequity that I came to feel and then understand in the world, made me very angry and the anger drives me and sometimes when I feel the tension between trying to make money and trying to help schools I allow that anger to drive me.. I allow it to help me persist, even when it's not fun to do so.. So anger is often a bad word and it's not like I yell and express anger..

But I feel that anger and that anger makes me want to do more, you know, and not give up...