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**Can Do or Can't Do? That is the Question.**

**A Monday Morning Musing from Mickey the Mercenary Geologist**

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*"Some people see the glass half full. Others see it half empty.  
I see a glass that's twice as big as it needs to be." George Carlin.*

This old-school hippie comic expounded a humorous and practical view of a common adage. In this brief missive, I explore the basic idea in a simple and cursory manner.

I propose that many human beings can be categorized into two polar opposites: the optimists and the pessimists, or if you will:

- Those who look at a half-filled glass and see it as half full.
- Those who look at a half-filled glass and see it as half empty.

Adjectives that categorize people by this fundamental outlook on life include:

- Bright and hopeful.
- Gloomy and doomy.

In a similar binary vein, there are diametrically-opposed views regarding mankind's future on Earth:

- The cornucopian thesis advocates that Earth will provide us all that we need when we need it for our long-term future. Societies will prosper and standards of living will continue to improve for human beings worldwide.
- The malthusian platform argues that humans will deplete all the planet's natural resources in the near-term. Societies will devolve with starvation, war, and plague and pestilence, and mankind will soon face extinction.

I can carry this argument to other general attitudes toward life. People can be divided into:

- Those who adopt a can-do approach.
- Those who choose a can't-do attitude.

I submit that one's underlying philosophical bent (e.g., positive or negative, yes or no, 1 or 0, go or stop) has much to do with success or failure in education, career, competition, and personal relationships.

As an independent, mercenary geologist and analyst for three-plus decades, I strive to be a can-do yes-man. Although I have turned down scores of potential jobs over the years, only a handful were declined because of limited knowledge in some discipline of geology.

I figure that my first college degree enabled me to teach myself what was required and my second degree developed an ability to conduct original research independently.

First and foremost, success follows from a can-do attitude that relishes new challenges, embraces learning, and employs problem solving, goal-oriented approaches.

And of course I expect those who provide services, work, assistance, or help on my behalf or for mutual interests bring a similar mindset to all opportunities.

So it comes down to this: Can do or can't do?

That is the question.

What is your answer?

Ciao for now,

Mickey Fulp  
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The [\*\*Mercenary Geologist Michael S. "Mickey" Fulp\*\*](#) is a Certified Professional Geologist with a B.Sc. in Earth Sciences with honor from the University of Tulsa, and M.Sc. in Geology from the University of New Mexico. Mickey has 40 years of experience as an exploration geologist and analyst searching for economic deposits of base and precious metals, industrial minerals, uranium, coal, oil and gas, and water in North and South America, Europe, and Asia.

Mickey worked for junior explorers, major mining companies, private companies, and investors as a consulting economic geologist for over 20 years, specializing in geological mapping, property evaluation, and business development. In addition to Mickey's professional credentials and experience, he is high-altitude proficient, and is bilingual in English and Spanish. From 2003 to 2006, he made four outcrop ore discoveries in Peru, Nevada, Chile, and British Columbia.

Mickey is well-known and highly respected throughout the mining and exploration community due to his ongoing work as an analyst, writer, and speaker.

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