

# This Page Intentionally Left Blank

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Have you ever opened a binder for a course, or a multi-page financial illustration or a cell phone bill, and come across an entire page with a 5 word inscription in the exact middle of the page which says "This page intentionally left blank"? What's this all about?

Has the author forgot to add something important and intended to come back and update the page, but forgot? Were they trying to end the document with an even number of pages, and the blank page was needed so the final page could be printed on the back side of the last page? Maybe there were instructed to compile a 50 page document and needed one more page as filler. I just don't know the answer and no one I have asked seems to either.

Now that you give it some thought, maybe we should adopt this philosophy into our daily lives. Maybe this is the missing link which has been staring us in the face, and we just couldn't see the forest for the trees. Let's say you are at work and the boss comes to you and asks for the report on last month's sales. Hand him a sheet that says "This Page Intentionally Left Blank" and turn your attention back to your computer. And imagine still if he said thanks and walks away with his nose and eyes focused on the middle text.

What if you had your car fixed and the mechanic hands you the bill which by now is no surprise when you read "this page intentionally left blank". How

good would that be? Actually it would be great. It's like a get out of jail card in Monopoly. It's like a twist on buy one get one free, but better. Maybe buy none, and get one free anyway.

Maybe this helps us answer why in our minds we actually find those little empty spaces when we momentarily forget what we were thinking. Maybe we didn't forget at all, and just ran into a virtual version of the page in our mind that said "this page intentionally left blank". It's because of these blank moments we are allowed to sit there for a minute and do absolutely nothing. Rumor has it that men have more of these pages than women on average and this is o.k. because we seem to need them more. This is what makes our book of life thicker.

This actually makes sense. The TPILB page may have actually started in our minds, and inadvertently made its way to a printed page when we were not thinking. Maybe there are more of them in all sorts of books, but we just don't see them when we read quickly. I'm just saying.