

Are we resilient?

Fellow USJ community... You are the BEST!

Cheers to everyone! You are gladiators, You are warriors, You are resilient... and most importantly you are Lebanese!

Each one of us is holding his sword fighting his own emotional battle, holding his shield in order to survive this technological financial warfare and hoping for a better future which I guarantee you will come!

What does resilience mean?

Resilience is When you look into a mirror and there's nothing left except you and only YOU!

Resilience is When your injury in people's eye is fatal but for you it's just a scratch!

Resilience is When everything is pulling you back and you're keep moving forward!

The question is... are we?

I discovered the answer after the 4th of august blast... Please let me explain:

BOOM! The big blast occurred...

The next day I went helping people, reconstructing homes, and all I was waiting for was the change!

August 4th, united us Lebanese despite all our conflicts. We put aside our religious difference, the interests of our political parties, and we mourned together. We started rebuilding the country together.

I felt it... I felt a change. I felt THE change!

For the next 3 days my routine was simple: I attended work half day, then headed to Achrafieh in order to help rebuilding houses, then around 5pm geared up and started walking to martyr's square.

I was on the front lines neutralizing tear gas, helping people express their anger, their feelings and I remember the 2nd day a French reporter wanted to ask me several questions during the protest:

One of them was: what I was doing down there?

What are we doing here? I asked myself... Are we waiting for a bigger tragedy to claim our rights and our peace? There won't be a bigger tragedy! we have 3 weeks to prove ourselves ONLY 3 WEEKS! Because the world is watching us now, he just needs to hear our demands... after 3 weeks we will be forgotten! Why? Because the international media won't be talking about us anymore...

And It turned out that it took 4 days, 4 days to forget ourselves...the world was watching but we were not acting.

The 4th day like usual I braced myself ignoring my family's nags concerning my safety. I took my usual routine walk from Achrafieh filled with mixed emotions: hope while looking at the youth reconstructing, anger while looking at the demolition.

To my surprise, I made it to martyr square and I was shocked.

I was alone, carrying the Lebanese flag and waiting for the devoted youth, for the brave people, for the changers!

No body came this day not even the media... it was like a setup or more like a trap.

Betrayed, choked, lonely that's what I was feeling on my way home.

How can we turn off such a tragedy? why we switched our fights from standing together to a social media fight searching for the best picture searching for reactions, likes and comments...!

The world and every country were handling the social media fight we didn't need help in it. Our job was to stand or to sleep in the streets willing to know the truth and know who was behind it...

Anyway, I hoped the change I was believing in was a permanent, but it turned out it was temporary...

Here I asked myself:

Are we resilient? No, we're not!

We are drugged, they are injecting in us painkillers since the day we were born...

To progress? To move forward? In a political way I mean... It's not us who decide anymore because we're not resilient.

Since we were born in this country, we didn't have the chance to live in peace. We, our parents, grandparents fought to survive. If you go back in time, search in the newspapers you will find that we were facing the exact same problems in the 19's from corruption, to revolution...

But you, students, doctors who are listening to me right now are resilient.

Your fight consists on progressing through education or outside the education field. This is an act of resilience!

Your fight consists on working on yourselves in order to build a better future for you, your families and the people you care about. This is an act of resilience!

Now For the last time....:

Are we Resilient?

Maybe... Some of us are...