

# The Meaning of Maturity

All of us seek to be mature – beginning, perhaps, with adolescence as we add years to our lives. We strive to be acting or seeming like an adult, experienced because of our development, and capable of serious thought.

I like how Abigail Van Buren, syndicated columnist, defines maturity. She says it is:

- The ability to stick with a job until it's finished.
- The ability to do a job without being supervised.
- The ability to carry money without spending it.
- The ability to bear an injustice without wanting to get even.

And humorist Josh Billings (1818-1885) put this take on maturity in his own life:

“I have lived in this world just long enough to look carefully the second time into things that I am most certain of the first time.”

And here is the other side of the issue: We are only young once, but we can be immature indefinitely.

– Beecher Hunter