

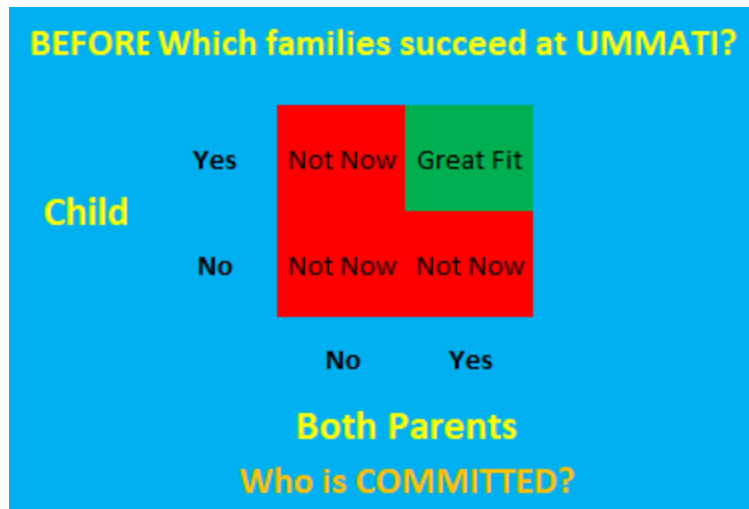
# Which families are a good fit for UMMATI?



Often, we are asked what type of families are a good fit with UMMATI. We used to say: “Anyone can flourish,” but recently we realized we must have Children *and* Parents who have the courage and conviction to set and hold high standards.

BEFORE Which families succeed at UMMATI?			
Child	Yes	Maybe	Great Fit
	No	Not Now	Maybe
		No	Yes
		Both Parents	
		Who is COMMITTED?	

Originally, we believed if either an Child **OR** both parents were committed, the odds were good for a child to succeed at UMMATI.



We still believe almost any young person *can* succeed at UMMATI. But we now know the Child **AND BOTH** parents must be fully committed or it puts too much pressure on the studio.

In other words, if UMMATI is a model for hundreds of Learner Driven Communities, we cannot ask Children to put up with studio-mates who shirk work or disrespect others or parents who allow such behavior to continue.

### **A Courageous Stand Against Corrosive Forces in Modern Society**

UMMATI families face three corrosive forces in modern society:

- **Resistance** – a fear based reluctance to take the first step in learning a key skill; and
- **Distractions** – addictive like behaviors towards video games, television and social media.
- **Victim-hood** – lashing out at others rather than courageously assuming personal responsibility for life's surprises and challenges.

Under and over-parenting has led to:

- The average nine-year-old spending over 50 hours per week in front of a screen;
- Child obesity increasing 500% in a single generation;
- Americans medicating teenagers at seventeen times higher rates than parents in Great Britain.
- And the list goes on

Even more troubling than tumbling rankings on international tests is the loss of self-control, conscientiousness and civility that are the bedrock for a satisfying and fulfilling life at age 30 and beyond.

### **Celebrating Children and Parents Committed to their life's purpose**

UMMATI parents refuse to cede critical responsibilities to schools in return for a report card that makes them look like successful parents. They care less about short-term happiness, and instead accept the struggles, failures and lessons needed to prepare for a fulfilling life in the real world.

UMMATI parents are willing to hold the line when a Child refuses to work or acts disrespectfully:

- **Overcoming Resistance/Over facilitating/Pampering:** by insisting Children take the first step.
- **Removing Distractions** by setting strict limits on or even eliminating access to television, social media and the internet at home and in their personal lives to be a role-model first
- **Ignoring Victim-hood** and instead letting the natural consequences of studio contracts and covenants shape habits and decisions; and
- **Making manual labor or a much less attractive traditional school** the alternative to UMMATI instead of a painless transfer to a less demanding school where every child receives a trophy.