

Weekly Column
Korean Newspaper



Melvin University
and Me

Are you smart? Do you have wisdom?

Recently, I used to think about these two things. To put it more simply, it is thought that intelligence is innate and wisdom comes by learning. I would also say that intelligence is talked about when children are young, and wisdom applies to older people.

Smartness given at birth is simply what we received, so we gained it naturally. Regardless of that, I think wisdom is learned as acquired. Schools are seen as teaching sites to eventually become wise people and devote themselves to society and humanity. However, wise people give the impression that they are less intelligent. It seems that other people evaluate it that way. They also express wisdom a little as if they have to be smart in this world.

In the past, when I was in seminary, the dean was an old man who graduated from Harvard, and now that I think about it, he seemed like a 'wise man'. On the other hand, a professor named John was a little young, from Oxford. He was simply 'smart'. He was really strict like a knife. One was someone who studied in America and the other in England. The first one was to understand Asians like us, and the next one was to treat them without any consideration. It came to mind as an example of smart and wise.

I don't know if it will be a bit of a leap forward, but I often see that wise people raise their colleagues, and smart people don't. Let's live together! Or you die and I live? It would be like a knife being on the operating table at hospital saves a person, but a weapon being in the hands of a robber. I even think that smart people are a little heartless. It's been like that since birth, so it

can't be helped, but it seems that there's a little bit of that. The best thing is that even from birth, it would be the icing on the cake if you become a wise person through various experiences.

By the way, I can think of another aspect, isn't there a case where the head is bad and wisdom is lacking? This may be a really reckless approach, but it often happens like this. The head is born like that, so it can't be helped. It would be difficult without wisdom. What's worse is that if such a person became the CEO of an organization or institution, it would be really embarrassing. There are people who shouldn't be taught. In this context, I think it is also said to be able to teach, that is, to check whether they are a person who can teach when choosing a small group leader.

This makes it very difficult for people who work with them. If they don't have the right judgment and their personality is not smooth or wise, it is really difficult. To lead an organization or Institution, they need to have the least judgment (brightness), but if you don't have it and become a maverick, it's really difficult. If they don't even have the ability to change, it's serious, but you can't artificially ask them to quit the CEO. Anyway, I think leaders need to think seriously about these things.