

# Nick Vujicic

## (1982 - present day)

Nick Vujicic was born with a rare disorder called Tetra-amelia syndrome, meaning he is missing both arms at shoulder level, both legs, and has one small foot with two toes protruding from his left thigh. Nick's enthusiastic and motivational speaking to teenagers across the world focuses on encouraging self esteem and the belief that you can do anything.

Born in 1982 in Melbourne, Australia, Nick initially struggled hugely with his disability. He was originally prevented by Victoria state laws from attending a mainstream school, despite the fact he was not mentally impaired, but he eventually became one of the first disabled students to attend mainstream school. Sadly, he was very unhappy at school. He was bullied and frustrated by his physical limitations, and by 10 years old he was suicidal.

His perspective gradually changed and Nick started to find ways to be thankful for his life. Seeing other disabled people making a success of their lives made him realise that he wasn't alone and he learnt to master the daily tasks of his life – answering the phone, using a computer and shaving – as well as other skills like playing the drums and swimming.

Nick graduated from Griffith University at the age of 21 with a double major in Accountancy and Finance, and set up his Non-Profit organisation 'Life Without Limbs'.

He started to give motivational talks and has spoken to over three million people in over 24 countries on 5 continents. In 2005 he was nominated for the Young Australian of the Year Award and in early 2012, Nick married his girlfriend, Kanae Miyahara.

Nick has shown determination in every area of his life, from finding the strategies, to completing everyday tasks, to setting up a non-profit organisation. With many more obstacles than other people face, he has continued working hard and achieved so much in his life!

*If I fail, I try again, and again, and again. If YOU fail, are you going to try again? The human spirit can handle much worse than we realise. It matters HOW you are going to FINISH. Are you going to finish strong?*

**– Nick Vujicic**