Why Get a Ph.D.?

Why are you here (getting a Ph.D.)?
Good vs. Bad Reasons (from Fred)  
Or True vs. False

- I want a license to teach at the college/university level.
- I want to be a Member of the Technical Staff at a major corporate research lab (e.g., Microsoft Research).
- It will help my career in product development, hardware or software.
- It will earn me a better salary in industry.
Good vs. Bad Reasons (from Fred)
Or True vs. False

- I came up the academic route, and that’s what’s expected of the ablest students.
- Grad school beats working!
- The market is depressed, and I can’t find a suitable job.
- I’m crazy about computer science and can’t help myself: I’m eager to learn with the best mentors and peers, and grad school is where the action is.
I don’t like being told what to do… I like FREEDOM!!

- Tried industry and really didn’t like it…

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*My Reason*

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*IS IT MORE IMPORTANT TO FOLLOW OUR DOCUMENTED PROCESS OR TO MEET THE DEADLINE?*

*I ONLY ASK BECAUSE OUR DEADLINE IS ARBITRARY AND OUR DOCUMENTED PROCESS WAS PULLED OUT OF SOMEONE’S LOWER TORSO.*

*WHERE’S YOUR ARTIFICIAL SENSE OF URGENCY?*

*TEAMWORK KILLED IT.*