

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.

My Reason

■ I don't like being told what to do... I like **FREEDOM!!!**

◆ Tried industry and really didn't like it...

