

As children, we all idolized our cartoon and comic-book superheroes. Their powers made us marvel and wish we too had their abilities. Perhaps we wanted to fly like Superman, or read minds like Professor X. Maybe we wanted to teleport like Dr. Fate and Nightcrawler, or control an element like Johnnie Storm, Aquaman and Iceman. What do we have in common with them? We too have an ability. What ability, you may ask. The ability to become invisible in a crowd through our appearance, demeanor and speech.

First, we must take a look at our appearance. Invisibility does not mean we are cookie-cutter students, all dressing the same—uniform making everyone unified. The important difference is the difference between Bling and Beauty. Bling is the extreme of beauty, dressing to be noticed. A person can be a very snazzy dresser and still be invisible. Their dress does not draw attention. For invisibility on a college campus, this means more than just wearing jeans and a tee shirt. It means that we do not look unkempt, nor do we wear as much jewelry and bright colors as we can. The key to remember is retaining individuality without being radical.

This brings us to another element. For invisibility, a superhero cannot be a radical or an extremist. To do so would bring them under public scrutiny and criticism. A superhero would choose to be imperceptible, gaining by osmosis, as it were, the opinions of others. Afterwards, they would form their own opinions. Thus, by action and speech, the person remains invisible, barely seen or not noticeable.

The invisibility here is a voluntary, controlled situation. This is, thus, very powerful. The person *chooses* not to make waves, though they have an opinion on the matter. When the situation calls for it, and when the time is right, the person sheds their invisibility, giving a contributory word or action. The person has total freedom—freedom is choice. They base their invisibility on knowledge of people, situations and things... controlling their power. If the situation is worthwhile, if the person is not fighting a losing battle, the superhero works their power.

The bottom line is control and choice. We can all become invisible if we retain those two points. We choose when to be invisible, and then we control the situation and the amount of visibility. When we master this, we become superheroes. Superheroes with the power of invisibility.