

# Dragons on the Eightfold Path

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### Wise Livelihood

First, a determination to consider livelihood as an integral part of the path of waking up:  
*"And what is right livelihood? There is the case where a disciple of the noble ones, having abandoned dishonest livelihood, keeps her life going with wise livelihood: This is called right livelihood."*

Some careers & behaviors to avoid:

*"A lay follower should not engage in five types of business. Which five? Business in weapons, business in human beings, business in meat, business in intoxicants, and business in poison."*

*"And what is wrong livelihood? Scheming, persuading, hinting, belittling, & pursuing gain with gain. This is wrong livelihood..."*

Balance in livelihood:

*"Just as the goldsmith, or an apprentice of hers, knows, on holding up a balance, that by so much it has dipped down, by so much it has tilted up; even so a householder, knowing her income and expenses leads a balanced life, neither extravagant nor miserly, knowing that thus her income will stand in excess of her expenses, but not her expenses in excess of her income."*

Wise Livelihood as the conjunction of Wise View, Wise Effort, & Wise Mindfulness

*"And how is **right view** the forerunner? One discerns wrong livelihood as wrong livelihood, and right livelihood as right livelihood... One tries to abandon wrong livelihood & to enter into right livelihood: This is one's **right effort**. One is mindful to abandon wrong livelihood & to enter & remain in right livelihood: This is one's **right mindfulness**. Thus these three qualities — **right view**, **right effort**, & **right mindfulness** — run & circle around right livelihood."*

Sources for all the above:

<http://www.accesstoinight.org/ptf/dhamma/sacca/sacca4/samma-ajivo/>