

Suppose you held the same hand

A4
K10876
Q532
J3

and the auction developed as follows :-

e.g	N	(you)	S	W
	1S	Pass	2S	Pass
	Pass	?		

now what ? you know all the arguments about not giving the opponents an easy ride etc etc BUT should you now bid 3H ?

Well it is definitely the winning bid. If not 100% of the time certainly 60+%.
Such a bid of 3H almost always will result in much gnashing of the opponents' dentures before they bid 3Sp or pass or or ? Who knows what they will bid but they will often make a wrong decision if you make such delayed overcalls.

Same hand -another auction.

e.g	N	(you)	S	W
	1NT	Pass	2C	Pass
	2S	Pass	3C	Pass
	Pass	?		

and now we bid 3H. Or should. NB once the opponents have revealed themselves to be *not* strong and to have a suit fit we should be prepared to come in with our delayed overcall.

I can tell you that it is a winning strategy . There might be the occasional time that it flops but it will pay huge dividends in the long run.

Incidentally -there is no need to wait until you have 10+ pts -whenever the opponents are limited you should consider the delayed overcall.

So with : AJ876 --- 32---K76 -765 after this auction :-

e.g	N	(you)	S	W
	1H	Pass	2H	Pass
	Pass	?		

2 Spades is the right call.

NB it is important to emphasise -we bid a delayed overcall (only) when it can be reasonably guessed that the opponents have an 8+ card fit .If the opponents have no known fit { and may have a misfit} DON'T bid the delayed overcall.