

True Light Girls' College

Issue No.28

February 2018



迴響



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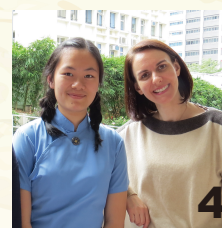
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I LOVE TRUE LIGHT = WHY I LOVE THIS SCHOOL

Wong Sin Tung 4C (29)

I Love True Light

Diversity in True Light

Difference is all around us. Some may be significant whereas some unnoticeable. But with closer examination, you will realize that nothing is ever identical. Like the trees in a forest, they all come in various shapes and sizes, exuding different smells and possessing an ancestral history of their own. In the forest, nevertheless, they come together as a unit despite their differences. Their leaves all contribute to the verdant glow of the forest as a whole, and they all aim to grow tall and reach for the sky. Like a forest, students, teachers, and other staff members, despite their different backgrounds, work together to build this school and create a supportive learning environment here. The diversity makes this place so beautiful and unique.

Everyone has their own story to tell in spite of their age or gender. Students from True Light Girls' College may have different backgrounds, colored skin, languages and even religions, but we all belong to this school. We are all like the trees in a huge forest where we all grow strong and produce our beauty.

Some students may come from families without much financial security. However, they study diligently and win competitions with tenacity and determination. They see their economic background as the motivation to strive for excellence so as to move their family up the social ladder.

Dreams and envisions for the future may originate from ones' interests or experiences. If we strive hard, we can become whatever we want to be and the possibilities are boundless. Studying in this school, we believe that we will be the leaders of the future society. With the knowledge we acquire here, we shape our future and create the life that we yearn for.

"The skill of a carpet is to bring all the different threads together and make something we can all stand on. Life is like a carpet," said Abdul Karim it confidently in the movie 'Victoria and Abdul'. Like different threads woven together to make an exquisite carpet, students of different backgrounds gather together in this school to form a community. No one holds any prejudice against anyone. The nationalities of students in True Light may vary from

Nepalese to Indian, Chinese to Korean. Still, we all regard this school as our 'second home' where we interact with, accept each other and embrace our differences.

Diversity exists even amongst teachers and staff members. Teachers have different lifestyles, interests, values and attitudes. Some teachers value constant acquisition of knowledge and insight. Thus, they see teaching as an opportunity to learn along with students, engaging in different workshops in their free time. Some teachers live by their own motto, constantly reminding themselves of their missions in order to inspire students continuously. Their different perspectives of teaching result in the variety in teaching style, rendering a meaning to their teaching.

Teachers also have different expectations of themselves and of their students. Some teachers work extra hard even after hours in an effort to improve students' grades and fulfill their duty as a teacher. Some may hope to inspire students and arouse their enthusiasm for the subject, making their lessons engaging and motivating. Teachers, with different goals and expectations initiate changes in this school for the better. However, they all aim to assist students to reach for the stars.

The diversity among people in True Light teaches students, teachers and staff members to embrace the differences so that they grow together. Diversity exists among us. Every day, we approach different people who have different stories to tell. The diversity in True Light Girls' College is precisely what makes school the only one of its kind.



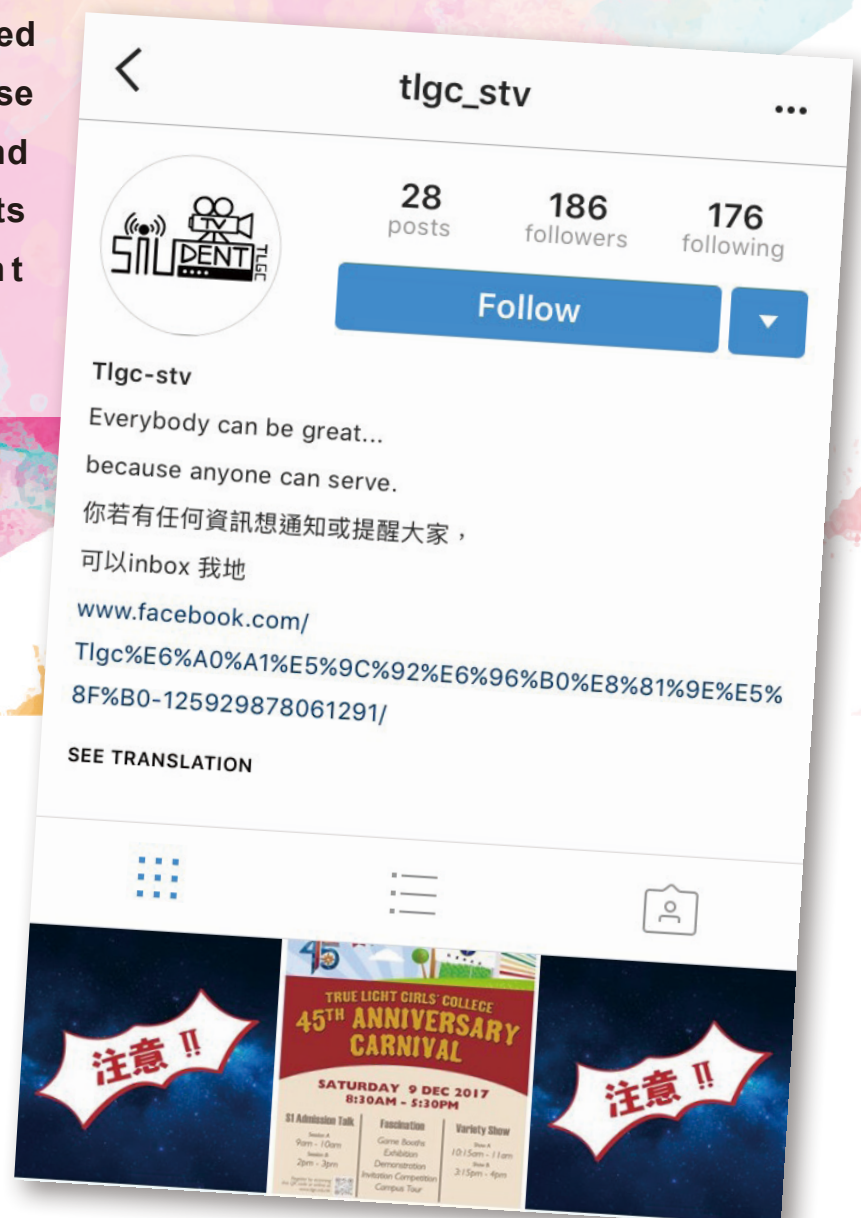
▲ True Light girls of different backgrounds and ethnicities come together during a cheering practice

Innovation in True Light

Yeung Wing Ching 5B (29)

Time passes at an unimaginable speed, but creativity and determination allow us to catch up with the pace. Learning in the 21st century not only requires you to adapt to changes, but also create innovative ideas.

True Light has always aimed at helping students maintain close ties with modern society and get accustomed to the rapid changes of the world. This year, some of our students have made attempts to innovate, hoping to help students dabble and experiment in different fields of interest. We have conducted interviews with two of our innovators, one from the Student TV and one from a newly established club in our school – the Japanese Culture Club. Their insights and constructive ideas help students to understand the current innovations in True Light.



Interview with the chairlady of the School Student TV

Helia Chan Yan Tung from class 5A is the Chairlady of the School Student TV. This year, the Student TV has introduced a new announcement system via Instagram, allowing different societies to promote their activities and give reminders via the system to reach more students.

Q: How did you come up with the idea of using Instagram as an announcement system?

A: The system is established mainly because of the responses we got when recruiting new Student TV members. While interviewing form 1 students, we realized that a lot of them had not been informed of some of the activities in our school, despite the use of announcements and posters. Our committee members then came up with the idea of collaborating with other school clubs and teams, promoting the activities via Instagram and allowing more students to be informed about the events available for joining.

Q: Are there any difficulties that you've encountered when establishing such a system? How have you overcome them?

A: The main obstacle is probably the communication between societies and the Student TV. Although the chairladies of most school societies are mostly senior form students, it is impossible for the Student TV committee members to be familiar with all of the activities and programmes. However, on this new platform, we can publicize all the information we have obtained. This facilitates the communication between societies and Student TV, which is something that we treasure.

Q: Are there any new activities you'd like to tell your schoolmates?

A: Yes! We are holding an aerial photography class this school year as the use of drone in photography has been gaining more recognition and popularity these days. We've thought of collaborating with the Photography Club to hold a joint school activity, with the intention of allowing students to share their filming experiences and learn new skills.

A warm welcome to the new teachers

Fong Kit Wa Victoria 5A (9)
Yeung Wing Ching 5B (29)

Ms Capel Sarah Katharine Jean



Q: What difficulties have you faced being a teacher in True Light?

A: That's a tough question as there aren't really many difficulties I've encountered so far! If I had to list some examples, I'd say the online booking system for special rooms and equipment is quite difficult for me to use, since I'm not used to handling advanced technology. Another major difficulty is to help students speak in English. They could be reluctant to converse in English sometimes.

Q: What do you think could be the reason behind students' reluctance in speaking English?

A: I think students avoid speaking English as they are not confident in their ability of handling the language. They may lack courage as they don't usually communicate in English, and are afraid that their mistakes would be spotted. When writing in English, mistakes can easily be covered up with white-out, but speaking in English is impromptu so mistakes can't be hidden, and thus students' intention in speaking English may be reduced.

Q: Have you tried out any activities to encourage students to speak English?

A: Apart from the Speech Festival, I usually have an informal conversation with students out of class on different topics, like feminism and women's role in society. It's important for students to learn to enjoy speaking English, as it really is a journey of exploration, and they will spontaneously start speaking English once they find the fun in doing so. Through discussing topics that they are passionate about, students could actually discover their true selves by speaking English!

Q: Do you have any motivations or mottos that keep you working?

A: Yes, I do! I've recently listened to a speech given by Sir John Jones about learning in the 21st century. The notion that the talk promotes is that every student is born to be a 5-star student. As long as you're brave, resilient and determined, you can always reach your goals! Some students may seem more reserved or less outstanding, but they are still 5-star students with unlimited potential, ready to shine.

Mr. Pang Kwan Kit

Q: What are your motivations or mottos that keep you working?

A: My motto is "meet all deadlines no matter what". It motivates me to get my jobs done on time. Deadlines are vital as there are many uncertainties which could hinder our progress. Things could be much easier and smoother if I can fulfil my duties earlier and other people can give me feedback of what I have accomplished

Q: Do you enjoy teaching in True Light? Why is that?

A: I enjoy teaching at TLGC very much. All students are very attentive, friendly and helpful. In one of my Form Two listening lessons, most students asked if they could help me take their textbooks to my bookshelf. I was very surprised as these books were heavy and my students were willing to help me. Impressive!



Miss Cheung Wai Sum



Q: What subjects are you currently teaching in True Light?

A: I'm now teaching English and ASD.

Q: What difficulties have you encountered in True Light?

A: As I'm an alumnus of the school, it felt slightly awkward and nerve-wracking at first, having to work with those teachers who used to teach me. A lot of adjustments to the mindset have to be made. But so far everyone has been so kind and helpful, which I am really grateful for. Another challenge would be turning education theory into practice. Even though 5 years of university studies and 2 teaching practicum have prepared us well for the potential challenges, education itself is dynamic. As teachers, we must acknowledge the fact that every student is unique and not one single approach would be able to

suit everyone's needs. We need to constantly think of new ways and adjust our teaching strategies to make the best out of every lesson for students' sake. Overwhelmed by tons of markings and various duties, it has been really exhausting since the term starts. But whenever I see students making progress or that they learn by heart anything that I've said, it reminds me of how rewarding and meaningful this job is and drives me forward.

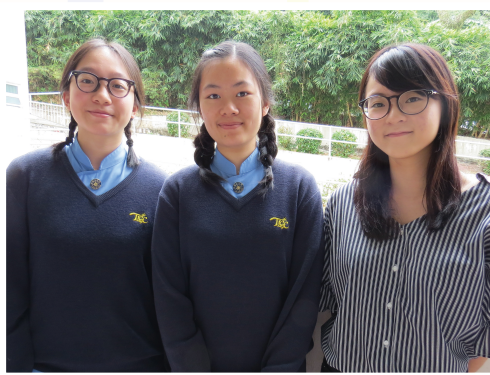
Q: What is your first impression on this school and how is it different from your impression on the school now?

A: My first impression of the school dates all the way back to the time when I was still a primary student taking English courses here at True Light. I was fascinated by the signature cheung sam and the artworks created by the old girls. This impression has not changed much, as I could see students of this generation are still very capable, creative and responsible, living up to the reputation as a True Light Girl.

Miss Chi King Man

Q: What difficulties have you encountered when working as a new teacher in True Light?

A: I think it's inevitable for new teachers to face difficulties in a new environment. As the class teacher of 1B, I have to deal with teachers' complaints about 1B girls, and I'm learning to listen to them and deliver their messages to the students. Despite these difficulties, I enjoy teaching in True Light, one of the reasons being the lovable 1B girls.



Q: What is your impression of True Light Girls' School?

A: I attended my first job interview here during the summer holiday, and I was quite surprised as the campus was lively and dynamic despite during holidays. The Form 1 Bridging Course was taking place at that time, and my first impression was that students in this school are lovely and willing to engage in activities. Since I personally attended a girls' school, I am familiar with the atmosphere of this school. Actually, having studied in a girls' school is one of the reasons for me to start my teaching career at True Light Girls' College!

Q: How would you describe your teaching style?

A: I would say my style of teaching is more communicative and engaging as well. Some students have considered my teaching as "different", but I'm not really certain if it's a complement or not. I do encourage students to get involved during lessons. Learning takes place when they answer and raise questions.

PLAYING THE ROLE OF LEGACY AND SCINTILLATION — LEGAS

Kwok Ka Lam 5A (17)

It is challenging but definitely exhilarating to be the chairlady of the Student Union in this academic year. The name of our cabinet, LEGAS, has connotations of legacy and scintillation. Legacy means bequeathing significant traditional values of the school. We all strongly believe that the greatest legacy one can pass on to the future generations is not materialistic comfort accumulated in one's life, but rather a legacy of character and faith. Being a part of the True Light family, we attempt to take on the responsibility to promulgate the distinctive and intrinsic personalities of True Light Girls – enthusiasm, solicitude and perseverance. Scintillation implies our aspiration to become the spiritual illumination and the lodestar of our fellow schoolmates, leading them to glitter upon darkness and upholding the school motto.



The upper part of the logo design of our cabinet consists of a flare, implying that the Student Union will take the leading role of glittering with exuberance in the dark and brightening up the school. Apart from that, the inverted triangle on the lower part symbolizes the Earth, which is divided to multifarious plates that are all undifferentiated as a whole.



With the support of our school, my fellow cabinet members and I have been granted multitudinous opportunities to develop our leadership skills and realize our full potentials in different realms. With the remarkable experience we gained, we would like to make small but positive contributions to the school and serve our schoolmates wholeheartedly. Although there were countless predicaments, including seeking welfare sponsors, designing activities and video filming in the entire preparatory journey, my fellow cabinet members and I worked hand in hand to

overcome all the stumbling blocks unwaveringly. The whole election campaign experience has genuinely reinforced our cohesion and fostered our problem-solving skills, adding vibrant colour to our secondary school life.

This year is the 45th Anniversary of our school. We sincerely hope that this iridescent campus would be filled with vivacity and diversity. We, the Student Union will make a conscious effort to fulfill our promises in the coming future by serving the school and our fellow schoolmates wholeheartedly and organizing a vast array of activities that add vibrancy to their school life as we have an unflinching vision – Legacy bequeathed sparks future, we are here to make it there.



STRESSED – The Unpleasant Truth about Hong Kong Students' Mental Health

Fong Kit Wa Victoria 5A (9)

Every other week or so, I hear a classmate complaining about having four tests in a week. As I walk through the corridors, there's another one screaming about how she's going to give up an elective subject because of the mediocre results she received the other day. Living amid these protests, it is way too easy to not take stress seriously. Reading the newspapers, however, always reminds me that there are teenagers like us who chose to take their lives because of the burdens they had been shouldering, and because of the anxiety eating them up bit by bit.

In the past three academic years, over 70 pupils chose to commit suicide. Over 70. This disheartening figure only proves that inaction does cost dearly, and that it's time for us to face up to the elephant in the room – what our students are dealing with.

I'm not trying to criticize the lack of action taken to attenuate the excessive and prolonged stressed on students, but isn't it of paramount importance for us to be aware of the fact that nowadays, our students', whom adults extol as the pillars of the future society, are lacking mental well-being?

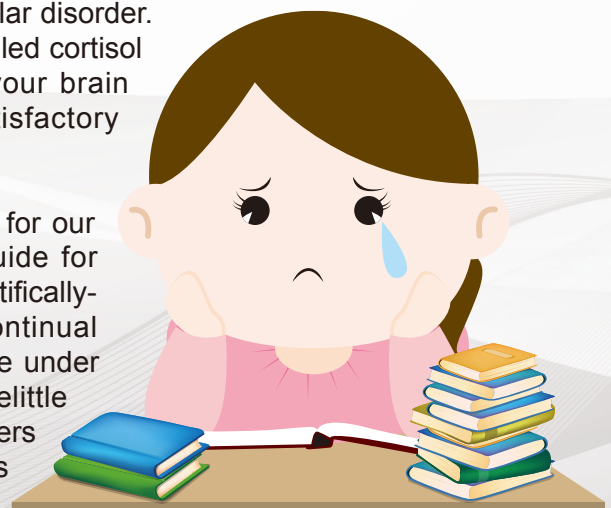
The role of academic pressure on students' mental health has long been recognized. Under elitism and the one-off Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination, students not only face a competitive learning environment in secondary school, but also unreasonably high expectations from the elders and even from themselves. Yet there is much more than academic expectations and standards that threaten students' mental well-being.

We are currently living in an era of uncertainty, forcing us to make assumptions, anticipating the outcomes of the choices we make, even though we may feel clueless and anxious. Secondary school is not the end of the journey of feeling stressed, as university students constantly have to contemplate their future, especially when education inflation and increasing amount of saturated industries are still balls and chains tying the Hong Kong society down. Students have no direct path to follow and no clear goal to strive for. They couldn't find a trustworthy future to believe in and dedicate to, giving rise to a tide of confusion, helplessness and eventually, hopelessness.

Despite knowing that too much stress is definitely a no-no for anyone, many are not truly aware of how stress could take a toll on our health. Many students do realize that academic standards is not a definition of their self-worth, and that holding on too tight usually brings about distress, but it's just oh-so-difficult to get rid of the state of being stressed when you've been in too deep.

What stress does to our students' health is even more horrifying. Suffering from chronic stress suggests a list of possible consequences, ranging from mood swings to being prone to mental disorders like clinical depression and bipolar disorder. To get into the details, your brain releases a type of hormone called cortisol when you're under stress, and too much of it could affect your brain structure and size, leading to poor concentration and unsatisfactory performance in judgement, decision-making and social skills.

Don't lose hope just yet, my fellow readers, as there are ways for our students' mental well-being to recover. A simple self-help guide for students is to exercise and try out meditation, as these are scientifically-proven to be effective means to reverse the influence of continual stress on our brains. Do keep in mind that even though you are under a mountain of pressure, it still doesn't give you the right to belittle another's misery. As a society, now is the time different stakeholders come together and take concrete actions to prevent students from falling into the endless pit of pessimism and despair.



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TED Ed –How stress affects your brain - Madhumita Murgia
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Articulating Your Thoughts - Bi-literacy and Tri-lingualism

Tsang Isabella Livia 4C (27)

Our hometown, Hong Kong is indeed one of the most vibrant cities in the world. With its history of being a British colony and an autonomous territory of China, Hong Kong is no doubt filled with a huge variety of different cultures and languages. Since the handover of Hong Kong from Britain to China in 1997, the Hong Kong Government has been trying to promote Tri-lingualism and Bi-literacy.

Many people might not have heard of the term but Bi-literacy and Tri-lingualism is actually always around us. Being international languages, Chinese and English are official languages of Hong Kong. Hong Kong citizens' mother tongue, Cantonese, is the main language that people communicate in daily life and Cantonese speakers comprise around 90% of the Hong Kong population.

To be able to speak three languages and be exposed to two vastly different cultures definitely gives our children a head start on their future development, as researches have shown that being multi-lingual can enhance one's ability to solve problems and make decisions. Their brain activity is considered to be higher, too. It seems that learning another language is surely good for you, do we really need to learn them?

Critics have pointed out that learning Cantonese is already enough for connecting the people, so why bother with three? The answer to that is simple. The ability to fluently use three languages is not only for our personal benefits, it has a symbolic significance to Hong Kong people's culture, identity and history. Cantonese is our primary language, the local language that our ancestors have used for over hundreds of years while Mandarin reminds us of our Chinese origin, the country that nurture us. Learning English is not only because of our history of being a part of Britain's colonial empire but the fact that English is the most widely used language on the web and a recognized lingua franca.

Despite the argument over whether Tri-lingualism and Bi-literacy is useful or not, it is no simple task for our government to carry out the policy practically. It might be a piece of cake for us to excel in one or two languages, but learning three is not something we can just shrug off. As most people only speak Cantonese to converse with people, they rarely get the chance to practice the other two. It is the same case for native English speakers or mainland immigrants as they, too, don't often get the opportunity to speak in another language. Is it the rational choice for the Hong Kong government to still stand their ground and refusing to take back their decision to make Hong Kong a multi-lingual territory?

If we look into it, many countries across the world also have more than one language as their official language for various reasons. Take Iceland as an example, being an isolated island country did not stop it from educating their people about other languages and cultures. Alongside their native language, Icelandic, Iceland students are required to study English and Danish. They are also encouraged to study other European languages like Spanish, French or German. That is the reason why most of the residents in Iceland are fluent in at least two languages or more, giving them an advantage compared to their fellow European counterparts.

What made the Iceland's language education policy so successful is that the locals recognize the importance of learning other languages as they have been an isolated country for thousands of years. Kids in Iceland are exposed to other languages since birth by television or at-home education. Some may even speak more than one language with their parents, providing a perfect environment for them to gain knowledge of different languages before engaging in proper lessons.

Through examining other cases, we know that it is possible for Hong Kong to fully change into a metropolis thriving different languages. Our government should advertise how mastering these languages can be proven to come in handy to let parents give our future generations a suitable learning environment. Training of teachers is another essential step to improving this scheme as students learn most from their school lessons. The teachers pose a great effect on them so teachers should all attend courses to enhance their ability to stimulate students' language learning.

The issue of Bi-literacy and Tri-lingualism has been controversial and will continue to be challenged in the future. But no matter what, there is a need for us to preserve our languages and the meaning behind it.



Artificial Intelligence:

Ip Wing 5A (13)
Kwok Ka Lam 5A (17)

Is it a Yes or a No?

As technology continues to bloom and thrive, Artificial Intelligence (AI) has gained popularity over the past few years. Its astonishing ability to perform a specific range of coded and cognitive tasks is even said to surpass that of humans. So, is the development of AI a blessing to mankind, or is it a curse?

AI has the capability to establish an enormous database for large-scale companies, which can be essential for locating target groups among clients and boosting business growth. AI is also able to handle a wide scope of information over a short period of time, including sorting, analyzing, concluding and predicting data, and thus allowing effective response to individual needs of every client and ultimately, achieving personification. Take YouTube as an example. As viewers from across the globe take interest in different types of videos, our frequency of watching certain kinds of videos in relation to our age, gender and nationality can be collected as data by the AI, which then process the information and renew our YouTube feed accordingly with a variety of videos that will most likely suit our taste— as the company simultaneously conducts market research with the information obtained, all the while aiding the company's decision on business directions and future prospects.

AI is also capable of shielding us from cyber-attacks. Due to AI's highly accurate and efficient performance, such system is believed to be able to prevent users from falling prey to hackers and malwares. AI is able to protect personal information of owners by assessment of risks and recognition algorithms, therefore making decisions as to whether block them out or let them in, resulting in a drastic reduction on the risk of data leakage and data loss. In current times, AI recognition is mostly applied on cellphones, using biometric authentication like facial, iris, fingerprint or even voice recognition to identify the owner, almost indubitably getting an edge over conventional security means like PIN and pattern locks that grant access to everyone with the correct combination. AI allows customization by each individual, thus protecting users' devices from most viruses and spams.

With unprecedented advancement in the scientific endeavour, AI has been expanding and merging in leaps and bounds. However, there is a harsh irony of the overambitious development, which recognizes the possibility of machines gradually replacing humans in certain realm. In virtue of the prescriptions of intelligence program and sophisticated system, AI robots acquire profundity and analytical precision which not only allow them to manipulate a vast array of monotonous and laborious work, but also help them deal with prodigious amounts of information. It is anticipated that the work of drivers will be fully taken over by AI after 25 years. Most jobs taken up by the middle class at the moment including data input and analysis will also be seized by robots in the next 30 years. In Japan, the first automatic cash register has been introduced recently and the system is said to reduce the workload in the convenience store and solve the overcrowding problem as well as the shortage of staff during the day. But is the idea of machines becoming fully-fledged and replacing humans really that exciting? Imagine values including devotion, the sense of belonging and commitment would no longer exist in the world of artificial "intelligence" – is that the foreseeable future that we genuinely anticipate?

In the aggregate, with profound assistance from AI machines, the lateral thinking and multitasking abilities of human beings may diminish strikingly, jeopardizing our humanity at the expense of technological advancement. Human are here as the most sophisticated creatures that are not only coming up with ideas to enhance our own living standards, but also creating more intriguing possibilities. However, whilst the creators of AI and other technological innovations have rummaged through their heads to create these inventions, the people using the technologies are losing their ability to think perspicaciously. Many people nowadays are baffled by simple sums without the help of a calculator. Spell check has hampered our ability to spell simple words accurately. Due to the augmentation of AI, humans need not utilize their critical thinking abilities, and thus becoming overly dependent on machines and losing their instrumental mental capacities.

William Shakespeare once said, 'Men at some time are masters of their fates: The fault is not in our stars, but in ourselves, that we are underlings.' We, humans are all confronting a desperate yet critical situation – the AI Revolution. Unlike the Industrial Revolution, the focus is no longer on the labour force, but on the level of intelligence between human beings and robots. When problems are exacerbating and eventually reach an alarming level, we all have to start wondering where the undifferentiated society and future are heading.





Thor: Ragnarök, the third installment of the Marvel's Thor series directed by Taika Waititi, took the world by storm with its unprecedented story-telling approach expected by none. There is the essential element of an appalling catastrophe, one that Marvel is renowned for; while almost everything else is a new sight set to take the Marvel fans by surprise. As a result of Marvel's bold and innovative attempt, Ragnarök has earned its respect by being one of the most unique installments in the entire franchise.

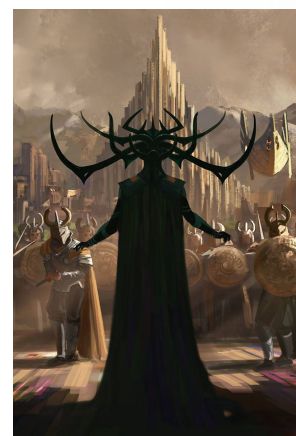
The story features Thor, prince of an advanced foreign planet called Asgard, returning from his mission to save the Earth only to be faced with two menacing crises—the commencement of the 'Ragnarök', a prophecy stating the utter destruction of Asgard, and the return of the wicked Hela, the Goddess of Death, now freed from the shackles of confinement and ready to conquer the universe with tyranny and sorcery. Alongside Loki, the younger Asgardian prince, Thor began his journey to stop 'Ragnarök' and Hela from laying waste to Asgard, all the while enjoying a deeper dive into the universe that gracefully unraveled itself before his eyes.

As a diehard Marvel fan, the abrupt change in style of this particular installment is more than apparent to me. As the story develops, Thor encountered virtually the most intense calamity one could ever imagine—he lost his father Odin to time; he had his beloved hammer Mjølfnir destroyed; he was forced to venture out into a little-known, forsaken planet called Sakaar; and as if it wasn't enough, he was met with the inevitable dawn of the 'Ragnarök' and the intrusion of Hela. Such horrendous cataclysm should have been an easy way for Marvel to come up with a heavy, dark ending in suspense that depicts the mutual suffering of the good and the evil despite the victory of the heroes. However, Marvel chose to sprinkle the solemn and tragic story with a bitter sense of humor and sarcasm, cheering the audience up with comical dialogs and non-heroic, silly acts featuring Thor mumbling to a lifeless skeleton.

With the characters shrugging their plights off and still finding the time to be humorous amidst a burning inferno, Marvel has succeeded in creating an unrivaled masterpiece spectacular of its kind.

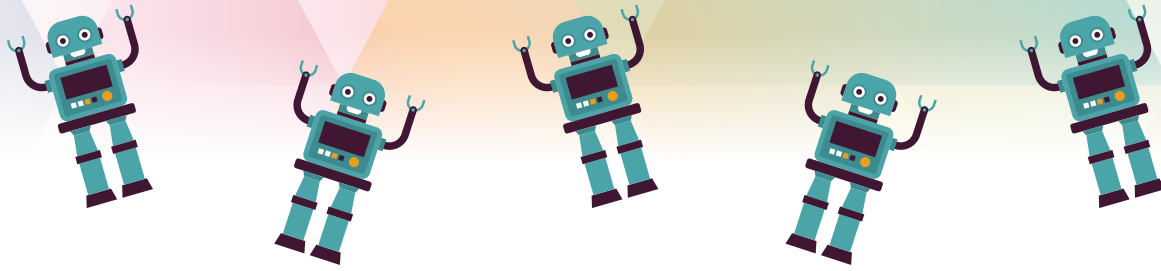
Ragnarök has also maintained a close connection with earlier installments, which all the while makes the story even more enjoyable. The complicated relationship between Thor and his adopted brother Loki was another thing that unquestionably drew my attention. After attempting a massacre on Earth, Loki was locked away in the Asgardian dungeons until Thor resorted to granting him freedom in exchange for his alliance in the battle against the Dark Elves. Until then, Loki resented Thor for casting a long shadow over him; while Thor wore himself out trying to care for his brother and forgiving his mistakes. Their relationship was at the brink of collapsing, when their mother's death reunited the pair. As they fought hand in hand against Hela, they realized the mutual benefits of sticking together, until ultimately discovering the tinge of brotherly love they still had for one another. Jealousy and betrayal had once turned them against each other, and for a while I thought it would stay the same. After seeing how they joined forces out of genuine kinship, however, I was embraced by the heart-warming revelation that brothers stay brothers even through the toughest of times.

Surrounded by a cyberpunk-ish ambience and mindless bits of hilarity, Ragnarök is truly a work of art. Anyone who is keen on the Marvel Cinematic Universe would find themselves falling in love with this installment, where chaos and comicality are fused into one in a splendid adventure alongside the God of Thunder.



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<https://twitter.com/GeekVibesNation/status/888923783742050304>
2. Movie Review (2) (Hela, fulfilling her promise after swearing vengeance upon Asgard.)
<https://wallpapersite.com/movies/thor-ragnarok-concept-art-hd-1588.html>
3. Movie Review (3) (Thor and Loki, fighting side by side as brothers once again.)
<https://thetrendingnow.blogspot.com/2017/10/6-things-we-absolutely-loved-about-thor.html>



The Race Between Man And Machine And Its Impacts On The Relationship Between Man And The Earth

17th Lions International Youth Exchange Scholarship Essay Competition - Certificate of Merit

Fong Kit Wa Victoria 5A (9)

We are living in an age where innovation conquers, tech titans are ready to cheer for another success while new machines are being developed in a warp speed without us even noticing. From stochastic programming to quantum mechanics, the society is evolving into a brand new era of robotics and mechanization - even Pokémon Go, bringing back memories along with a refreshing rollout of augmented reality, contributes to this evolution from entertainment and gaming aspects. In this century, more than ever, technology plays an important role in metamorphosing our world, for better and for worse.

The impact of the technological unemployment wave has a long history. One of the earliest examples includes the Bombe machine invented to decipher encrypted data during World War II, replacing cryptographers who used to spend years decoding a message with their brain with a machine that takes only twenty minutes to do so. Nowadays, we are talking about how common jobs are substituted by hi-tech inventions. For instance, drivers may soon be replaced by vehicles with autopilot technology that Uber, Tesla and Google are currently working on. It is still contentious, however, whether such invention does more good or harm to the human race. Since automatable tasks are now performed by machines, labour is now considered redundant, leading to the creation of new jobs that require higher level of knowledge and, indispensably, extra capital. Yet these jobs tend to be concentrated in well-developed cities like New York and London, casting an indifferent eye to those without advanced skills to work in the knowledge-intensive industry, and this could lead to social unrest and deteriorating wealth disparity.

Whether the mechanical enhancement would temporarily disrupt the job market or causing permanent harm to the economy remains arguable, but these gadgets that we interact so often with are definitely deskilling us. We trust machines so badly simply because of the help these handy, smart tools offer. Their efficiency and great organisation skills are so promising that we are lured into relying heavily on them. Last year, Kaspersky Lab published a report called "The Rise and Impact of Digital Amnesia", which illustrates how we could get amnesiac once we become over dependent on our tools. One in three of the interviewees admitted having trouble making a call to their partners without looking their numbers up in the contacts, and nine out of ten revealed the difficulty in making phone calls to their children's school from memory. Some might argue this is all due to the weakening social bonds, but what this phenomenon really is demonstrating is that these gadgets might be slowly degrading human without us realizing it – we are more forgetful but at the same time, these gadgets are freeing up our brains' cache for other 'useful' information. Is this, after all, a degrading or rewarding experience or us that we so desire?

One thing for certain – we are somehow disconnected from the environment, allowing the age of innovation to blur our sights on the Mother Nature. Technology is almost certainly in opposition to nature. Take Apple products as an example. They are designed and developed in the US, manufactured in China, warehoused in the US and then distributed globally. We all know what it takes to put an Apple product onto the shelf – the natural resources required for manufacturing the components, the greenery wiped out for building manufacturing plants, the materials for the minimalistic packaging, the fuel for transportation – but we choose to turn a blind eye from it, the daunting and hefty price we have to pay for building a tech-based world. Once we have joined the race between man and machine, depleting the nature has become essential to feed our needs. The dire picture, often neglected, is intimidating.

What is considered an appropriate attitude towards the rapidly-changing world then? Many try to be objective, focusing on the pros and cons of living in this digital age, while some solely criticize technology for making the world a worse place to live in. The technological changes made are, however, irreversible. Being too optimistic does not help much. Succumbing to the fact that we are all boiling frogs will not save us from our demise either. For critics, instead of harking back to the time when modern communication was not mainstreamed, let's thrust the issue into the limelight and abate the negative impacts brought by the technological improvements, so that we can take control of what the society, what we will transform into.

International cooperation has always been crucial. To counteract the uncertainty over what our future holds, we need concrete actions to make our future foreseeable. The ever-increasing scale of technological development is unstoppable. The crux of the matter is how to cope with the threats it poses to the global community. This is a cause worth having world leaders to set aside their dispute and put their heads together and think about what should be done. Technological unemployment is a pressing issue for sure, and creating job and education opportunities that are important for a society that values credentials, could be the solution. Technology can defile the Earth, but it also holds the key to alleviate the destruction, such as the widespread use of sustainable power and an advanced technology called methane capture that can reuse the greenhouse gases to generate electricity. It is still dangerous to pin all hopes on technology as new automation can also wreak havoc on our world, but a more cautious attitude to the use and development of technology could definitely delay even stop the potential apocalypse of the world. Start scrutinizing our lives, from where we can to take the initiative like switching off unused smartphone, our Apple Watch or whatsoever can already make a huge difference.

Now switch off your phone and take a deep breath in. Hold it and look around you, listen to the birds singing, and then breathe out. No more GPS, no more Wi-Fi and no more unnecessary data flooding into your brain - just you stepping back into the real world. Hopefully you will like this tech-free version of you. Boom. There you go. A man RECONNECTED.



真光 45 週年之「真光事·真光情」 專訪真光老師、職員及校工

徐加加 5A
陳寧 4B

真光四十五週年校慶在即，校園各個角落皆洋溢著喜樂和期盼，校慶標誌著我校各位師生、職員以及工友一起走過的悠長歲月，在這個值得紀念的日子裡，就讓我們跟隨他們的步伐，聆聽他們在真光的點點滴滴……

范妙盈老師：

1. 在真光的教學生涯中，您最難忘的回憶是？

難忘的回憶說起來有很多，記得當時我初教中四中文，一位我大學時非常欣賞的老師曾經教導我為師必須要「先嚴後寬」，因此作為新老師，我也一直秉持著「先嚴後寬」的原則，比較嚴厲，總是裝作一副不苟言笑的樣子。沒想到，某天有兩個學生居然課後悄悄告訴我：「老師，我們知道你平時是故作兇惡，你本人性格是很溫柔的，我們都很喜歡你！其實，你不用這樣子，我們真光學生很乖的，所以，你可以放心地做回自己啊！」如今我依舊和這兩位學生有聯繫，大家亦師亦友。另外一件事，就和學生學習有關。我曾經做過鄧紫棋（G.E.M）的班主任兼中文老師，她當年已經簽約成為歌手，每天放學都十分忙碌，既要練歌又要練舞。因此，她上課時不免也露出疲態，難以跟上課堂進度。雖然她未來發展的道路未必和學術有關，但學習是打下知識的基礎，十分重要，所以，我當時就想「到底有甚麼方法可以讓她在發展事業的同時有動力去兼顧學業呢？」於是我抽空和她聊天，鼓勵她把握現在，好好學習，這樣的話，以後她成了炙手可熱的巨星時，就不用擔心媒體翻查她以往的會考成績了。後來，在學習上她果然刻苦了不少，在會考考獲了不錯的成績。



2. 您為甚麼會選擇成為老師？有甚麼寄語贈予學生呢？

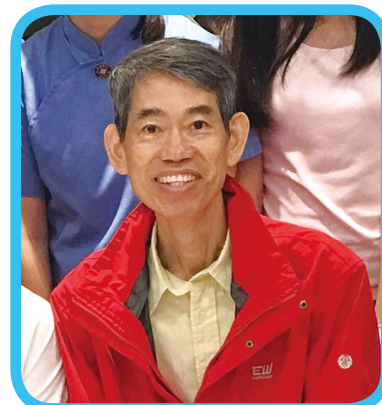
「教育，是向下接而不是向上爬。」這是李天命先生的一句話，我一直銘記於心，這句話亦對我影響深遠。「向下接」是非常重要的，我們要時刻堅守初心。教書，是育人，不是只教成績好，有天資的學生，而是有教無類，不但教授知識，還要傳道，培養學生品格。有時候做老師的時間久了，最初的熱情也會稍為冷卻，但我每天下課回家休息時，都會反省今天有沒有不足之處，繼續努力，提醒自己保持初心。至於寄語方面，我希望真光學生都能夠學會逆境自強，因為我留意到有時候一些學生在遇到困難或不愉快的事情時，很容易就會陷入低潮，很長一段時間都難以自拔，不懂放手。我們的人生有高山低谷，路途有筆直曲折，人生不如意事十常八九，何必執著於「八九」而忘了「一二」呢？跌倒不可怕，跌倒之後不懂爬起來才可怕，我希望學生都可以學會堅毅不屈，經得起考驗，不要輕言放棄。

林志明老師（退休老師）：

1. 過往是甚麼讓你選擇一直留在真光，教書育人呢？

我在大學畢業前，便知道自己別無長處，成為教師便是自己最有可能的人生方向。在偶然的情況進了真光當教師，一教便三十餘年了。期間我沒想過轉校，因為真光太好了。在真光任教初期，學校生態是很不錯的，沒有那麼多行政工作、課外活動和文山會海，同事常有機會下午茶聚和進行球賽，所以同事之間是很融洽的。

不過，令我樂於在真光任教的還是因為真光的同學。不知是不是受真光校風淳樸的影響，真光的同學都比較純真。有時候我開同學玩笑，但她們仍是笑嘻嘻的，教學生活十分愉快。每班總有一些同學願意聽我的講課，會受我的影響，令我在教學生活中得到很大的滿足感。我最記得一個場景，是在一次口語溝通的課堂練習中，我看著我評分那組的同學的神態，聽著同學的說話內容，覺得她們表現在不錯。討論時間結束了，其他組別同學圍上來，或坐或立，或疏或密的又形成一圈，有發出問題的，有對我的回應提出質疑的，有點頭表示贊同的，有發表自己的意見的，每個同學都笑意盈盈，面孔都有亮光。啊，在真光教學的時光是多麼的愉快呢！



2. 您眼中的真光和真光學生是怎樣的？

真光是一所女校，這是一個很好的地方。我是持「大女人主義」的人，相信女性的獨立自主和全面發展是人類文明進步的重要因素。在男女校中，女生得到鍛煉的機會較少，但在女校中，女生便不可依賴男生，也不需受保護，自然有利養成獨立的心態和能力，這是在真光學習的一大好處。至於真光同學方面，除了個性純真外，也很願意用功溫習。惟不足之處，就是同學在學習上過於被動，不會積極思考和發問。而且同學太受考試制度束縛，過於重視名次和成績，以致忘記了讀書的本來意義。我時常對同學說：我最不喜歡考 1、2、3 名的同學，特別是在初中的時候。我有這種看法是因為我主要教高中的班級，而且每年都教兩級中文，而中文科不是一個著重學科知識，而是著重語文能力的科目，尤其是中文是同學的母語，最能反映同學的思考能力和知識基礎的高低。而同學給我的印象，一般都是思考能力和知識基礎薄弱。因此，希望真光同學的目光不要再局限於成績名次，而是重視學習能力和知識基礎的發展。至於學習方法，其中之一便是看好的書報，最好能夠將閱讀變成愛好和娛樂——既有實利，又能令生活豐盛，一舉兩得，何樂而不為？

除了訪問老師，我們亦邀請了同為真光一員的校務處職員及校工接受是次訪問。

校務處職員——黃靜婷小姐：

1. 在校務處工作多年，有否發生過一些令您印象深刻的事呢？

有一次，有一位準中一的學生的家長打電話來學校校務處，向我們諮詢有關中一的資訊，我將學校的校訓、我們學校是英中等基本資料向那位家長介紹過之後，那位家長突然就誇讚了一句：「你們學校真細心，真體貼我們家長的需要！」後來他說，其實家長都很緊張，孩子從小六升上中一其實是一個很重要的階段，我們提供的資訊令他們十分安心，也令他們覺得我們是一間很好的學校，使他們很放心把他們的女兒送來我們學校接受教育。



2. 真光校務處現今和以前的工作一樣嗎？有什麼不同？

其實說到真光多年來的改變就是學校開始運行電子通告這個系統，所有的行政事務從以前的白紙黑字的人手點名改為用電子通告點名，到近期老師同學都透過電子系統，借用平板電腦和課室，這除了減少紙張的使用，還方便了師生甚至家長。家長收到電子通告，就能瞭解女兒有什麼活動要參加，對女兒的學校情況瞭如指掌。校務處的行政事務也方便了不少，有時發現通告出錯，我們便可以即時更改，不需要再拿紙張去重新印製，這是我們學校一個很大的進步。而在學校行政方面，很多工作現在都透過電子系統處理，例如剛剛提及的租場和資料上的儲存，我們都是用電腦操作，方便了校務處處理行政事務。

3. 您多年來和無數同學接觸過，您眼中真光的學生到底是怎樣的呢？

我最主要的工作是做前台接待，一定會接觸到不同年級的真光同學，其實大部分的同学都非常有禮貌。

記得我放產假的時候，我的朋友分享了一則帖文，內容是有關我們學校的同學在消防局附近幫助一位老婆婆撿紙皮的，網民拍了照放了上網，更誇讚真光的學生非常熱心，見到別人有困難的時候也主動去幫助。原來在我工作的地方的學生，除了在學業上非常出色之外，她們的心地也非常的善良。同時，我期望真光女書院的同學，可以遵循我們的校訓——爾乃世之光，用自己的心去照耀他人，讓有需要的人感覺到溫暖！

校工——袁丁容姨姨：

1. 在真光工作多年，您印象最深刻的一件事是什麼？

我印象最深刻的事就是搬圖書館。圖書館書多，櫃子也多。以前圖書館在舊翼，也就是現在地理室的位置，興建了新翼之後，就需要把圖書館搬到新翼。學校聘請的都是女工，沒有男工，因此物品都要我們搬，完成了搬運之後，就覺得工友們個個都很厲害！很重的東西都是我們一手一腳搬過去，完成這件事雖然很辛苦，但也很開心！



2. 您見證了真光多年變遷，現時的真光是否與以前大不相同？可有什麼有趣的見聞？

真光的變化真的很大，我剛來的時候，學校的課外活動不多，設施也不算很好，例如那時候課室是沒有冷氣的，只有風扇，但是現在全都安裝了冷氣，連飯堂都有。還有現在有對講機，以前通知一個人是需要從一樓走到五樓的，但是現在通訊系統很方便，我們有急事的時候就可以即時用電子器材通訊，像上次有個學生突然暈倒，我們用對講機通知對方，全部人馬上都知道發生了什麼事，這是一個很大的進步！

3. 真光有否一些令您捨不得、不願忘記的人事或物呢？

我最捨不得的當然是那份情！在這裡工作那麼多年，不捨得的有很多，雖然我們是學校裏最低的一個職位，但是也覺得自己是真光的一份子，無論校長、老師、校務處職工和學生，都非常包容我們。有時做事辛苦時，我們也會粗聲粗氣，但大家都很體諒我們。在這裡工作了這麼多年，就算是要離開，也很捨不得，覺得自己是真光的一份子，不想離開真光！

四十五載時光轉瞬即逝，在真光的點點滴滴就如散落在海邊的貝殼。在這時而幽靜安詳、時而洶湧澎湃的海邊，我們或靜靜走過、或肆意奔跑，但同樣的是，我們都會滿心虔敬地看著這些晶瑩珍貴的回憶，偶爾會拾起一兩顆能打動心靈的貝殼，把玩欣賞，然後懷著一顆感恩的心，繼續與真光人並肩同行，朝著理想進發，一起奔赴更美好的明天。



言論自由 = 暢所欲言？

徐加加 5A 林泳欣 5B

羅靜宜 4C 彭寶怡 4C

訪問香港大學法律學系前院長陳文敏教授

人類天生都是自由、平等和獨立的，如不得本人的同意，不能把任何人置於這種狀態之外，使其受制於另一個人的政治權力。

——〔英〕約翰·洛克：《政府論》

近日，「言論自由」成了城中熱話，今年校報有幸邀請到香港大學法律學院前院長，名譽資深大律師陳文敏教授與我們一起揭開「言論自由」的神秘面紗，探討何謂言論自由，為我們指點迷津。

首先，到底甚麼是言論自由？陳教授指出，言論自由，是自由表達意見之權利；這種權利是指可透過語言、文字、或各種藝術形式，不分國界，尋求、接收及傳播各種消息及思想之自由。乍聽之下，言論自由的界限似乎異常廣闊，并不受限制，然而，言論自由是有一定的限制的。言論自由是指在合法的範圍內，在不侵害他人權利的情況下，享受言論的自由之權利。因此，言論自由的大前提，便是不能以自己的自由去侵害他人的合法權利，發表有害的違法言論，例如誹謗，便有《誹謗條例》來限制相應的言論。這就像一名法國啟蒙時期思想家、律師—孟德斯鳩的一句話一樣，“Freedom is the right to do whatever the laws permit” 自由是做一切法律所允許做的事情的權利。

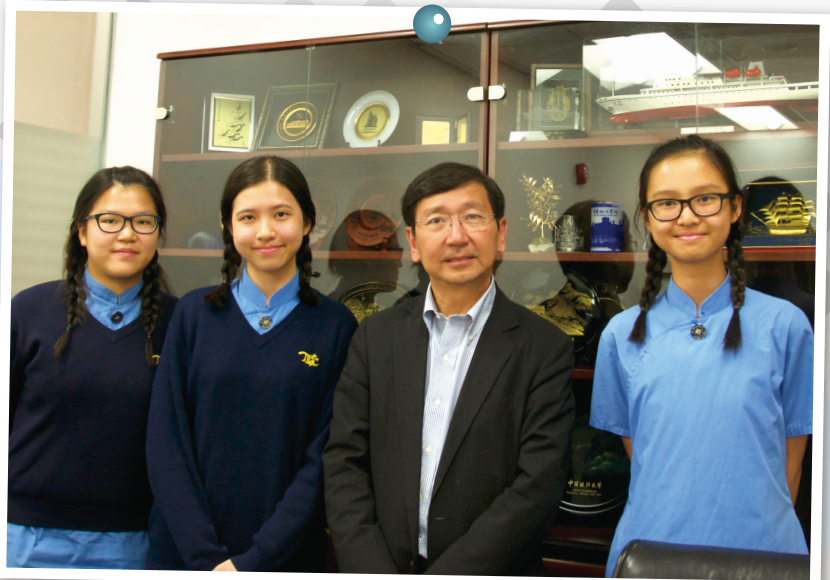
早陣子香港教育局蔡副局長喪子，有人於大學的民主牆上張貼恭賀字句。陳教授認為此等言論十分涼薄，但該言論並沒有違法，因此，我們可以在道德層面上批判、譴責，但卻不能夠因此箝制別人的言論自由，因為兩者有所不同。要杜絕有關行為，我們必須進一步証明該主張或行為違反法律條文，才能予以限制，而發表言論的人也可以通過法律途徑爭取發表該言論的權利。在管制言論方面，陳教授指出，若要規限某些言論，必須要符合三大原則：分別是規限具有良好目的、二者有合理關係及有法律基礎。第一個原則「具有良好目的」指的是限制該言論有助於保障他人權利，保護公眾及國家安全。第二個原則「二者有合理關係」，則是指該言論與限制的原因二者之間要具有必然關係，例如我們不能夠因為覺得一部電影的內容會影響社會和諧和與鄰近國家的關係，便使用公權力去限制該電影的放映自由，因為兩者並沒有一個合理和相對的關係。最後一個原則是「法律基礎」，言論自由雖可受法律規限，但決不能矯枉過正，因為想減少反對聲音，就直接立法規管負面意見，只要是反對的聲音便被視作違法，雖然這在一定程度上減少了反對意見，但卻只是自欺欺人，掩耳盜鈴的做法罷了。

言論自由的重要性又在於甚麼呢？陳教授指言論自由的涵蓋範圍十分廣闊，這也是它的要點所在，言論自由除了可涵蓋相反的意見外，更包括了可能令人感到不安、震驚，甚至離經叛道的言論。非主流的意見看似驚世駭俗，但逆流而行，就是錯的嗎？從來如此，便是對的嗎？以史為鏡，歷史告訴我們，非主流的意見有時候往往是正確的。日心說便是個最佳例子，日心說與當時社會主流學說完全背道而馳，極力支持此學說的一眾科學家如哥白尼、伽利略和布魯諾可謂是冒天下之大不韙，而這些抱持違背教會教義和意見的人，亦遭遇到在當時社會當權的羅馬天主教會的極力打壓，伽利略被認為是異端而遭受宗教審判，布魯諾更被處以火刑。言論自由所保障的，正正就是這些社會上少數群體的權益，讓他們能做第一個去吃螃蟹的勇士，發表己見，而政府亦能藉此聆聽多方聲音。

近來有不少人非議，認為政治入侵校園。然而，事實上，並非政治入侵校園，而是政治從來都是校園所不可分割的一部分，他們不是兩不相干、涇渭分明的獨立個體。陳教授指出現時大部分指責政治影響學術圈的言論所遺忘的一件事，那就是校園和政治其實總是息息相關的。政治是生活的一部分，校園與政治兩者之間並沒有相隔著楚河漢界。學生關心社會，討論政治本是理所當然，並不能將之標籤為一件壞事，唯恐避之不及。而學生身體力行參與政治亦早有先例，從六十年代的美國反越戰示威和民權運動，到國內近代推翻四人幫、八九學運等政治運動，皆是由學生發起，由是觀之，「政治入侵校園」此說法並不成立。陳教授認為問題的關鍵還在於各方的處理手法，有時候校方不免過於風聲鶴唳，處事有欠妥當，例如日前大學生於民主牆張貼港獨標語一事。民主牆作為一個自由的平台讓學生抒發己見，校方應淡然處之，這些大字報本該無異於一顆扔進大海的石子，激蕩不起半點漣漪，奈何校方卻雷厲風行地移除了相關字句，反讓「小事化大事，大事越發大起來」，引起極大迴響和學生的強烈反對，令學生感到不被尊重，產生言論自由被打壓的不公感。

陳教授認為一個多元的社會需要有多方面的聲音，言論自由的重點在於社會擁有廣闊的胸襟並以尊重的態度去接納、擁抱多元意見，和而不同，周而不比。當權者則更要有容忍度，有海納百川的容人之量去包容不同聲音，甚至是那些看似離經叛道的少數派意見。學校作為教育團體亦應如此。學校是社教化的其中一個主要媒介，除了授業解惑外，其本職便是傳道，不單要教導知識，更要教化學生，讓學生學會明辨是非黑白，不會盲從，因此在談及甚麼事情「應做不應做」時，校方必須寬嚴得當，解釋背後原因，才能讓學生有所得著。在談到校方應該如何處理學生發表「異見」的情況時，陳教授認為「有效溝通」方為良策。何謂「有效溝通」？有效溝通便是尊重異見，即使雙方立場不一致，亦能平心靜氣聆聽對方的想法，進行平等而開放的交流，而不是一味逃避或打壓，製造「同而不和」的假象，正所謂「兼聽則明，偏信則暗」，唯有透過聆聽不同聲音，才能明白到產生分歧的核心原因，從而作出改善，改變現時情況。

「你說的話我一句也不同意，但我堅決捍衛你發表言論的自由。」言論自由之所以可貴，在於它給予了人民權利去發聲，建構有效的、雙向溝通的渠道，促進彼此的交流和進步，讓社會繼續往前邁進，讓能發聲的發聲，能做事的做事。政府和我們都有義務尊重每一把聲音，保障言論自由，只有敢於正視和聆聽每項言論，作出改變，這才是一個真正擁有言論、思想、自由的進步開明社會。



用生命延續生命

器官捐贈



羅靜宜 4C

探討現時香港器官捐贈之情況

本年四月初，香港發生一宗牽動市民情緒的醫療事件。一位已為人母的好媽媽鄧桂思，因急性肝衰竭需要進行肝臟移植手術，她的長女 Michelle 希望捐肝給媽媽，但因未滿 18 歲被拒絕，其後 26 歲女文員鄭凱甄自願捐出六成右肝延續其生命。雖然病人於手術後因情況仍然危殆，需進行第二次手術，但若無第一次的活肝移植，她便爭取不到時間等候合適的屍肝續命。

立法會秘書處於去年 7 月發布的「香港的器官捐贈情況」研究報告指出，2015 年香港每百萬人中僅有 5.8 人會在死後捐出器官，屬世界上器官捐贈比率較低的地區之一。港人捐贈器官的比率偏低，但整體的需求卻不斷上升。在 2015 年移植需求量最大的器官是腎臟，等候人數高達 1941 人，遠超於腎臟捐贈宗數，兩者的比例為 24 比 1，病人輪候換腎的平均等候時間長達 51 個月。至於肝臟移植，輪候人數亦有 89 人，病人輪候換肝的平均等候時間亦長達 43 個月。

輪候病人數目持續上升，平均輪候時間亦愈來愈長，這不但延誤了病人治療的最佳時機，部分病人更於等候期間死亡。以肝臟移植為例，立法會 2015-16 年度第 5 期研究簡報指出，2015 年在 89 位輪候換肝的病人中，31 人於等候期間病逝；在 36 位輪候移植心臟的病人中，7 人於輪候期間死亡。

從此可見，本港器官捐贈的需求甚大，器官捐贈數字遠遠追不上需求。衛生署資料顯示，截至 2017 年 4 月 21 日，中央器官捐贈登記名冊的已登記人數為 250,036，在全港約七百萬的人口只佔約 3%。人體器官移植委員會副主席黃幸怡曾在電台節目中表示，香港每年約有 4 萬 4 千人去世，但該委員會在 2015 年至 2016 年卻只收到 334 人在去世後捐出器官的資料，2017 年第一季屍肝捐贈數目僅 7 宗，數字明顯偏低。

遺體器官捐贈完全出於個人意願，在器官捐贈需求不斷提升的今天，如果市民有意於死後捐出器官，除可填寫及遞交器官捐贈的登記表格外，亦可在網上登記，但更重要的是要向家人明確表明意願，使家人日後可作出配合。

無論如何，所有捐贈者都是社會大眾的好榜樣。面對家人初時的反對，阿甄仍決定捐肝。雖然鄧桂思接受了阿甄的部分肝臟後身體情況欠佳，需進行第二次手術換上屍肝，但阿甄仍然對自己的決定無悔，她更表示：「用我的肝換一星期生命非常值得。」這種捨己助人的精神，正是香港社會上所有人士的模範，也是學校教育在傳授知識以外的教學重點——加強同學對社會及整個世界的人文關懷。



器官捐贈

愛心永在

資料來源：

https://www.google.com.hk/url?sa=t&source=web&rct=j&url=http://www.legco.gov.hk/research-publications/chinese/1516rb05-organ-donation-in-hong-kong-20160714-c.pdf&ved=0ahUKEwiUz9G01M_XAhXLEpQKHdF8CLQQFgghMAA&usq=AOvVaw1NTIJBBgV8BvIZt4BVMPvk

圖片來源：

https://hk.images.search.yahoo.com/search/images;_ylt=A2oKmJTBYXJau3YAFgizygt;_ylu=X3oDMTB0N2p0MXRwBGNvbG8Dc2czBHBvcwMxBHZA0aWQDBHNIYwNwaXZz?p=%E5%99%A8%E5%AE%98%E6%8D%90%E8%B4%88&fr2=piv-web&fr=yfp-search-sa#id=2&iurl=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.kidsnews.com.tw%2Fwp-content%2Fuploads%2F2013%2F08%2F8015.jpg&action=click

新學會知多點

訪問日本文化學會

陳寧 4B
彭寶怡 4C

今年，我校成立了一個全新的學會——日本文化學會，該學會的所有幹事都是來自中四級同學，她們懷著堅定清晰的目標創立了這個學會，為同學本已豐富的校園生活又增一分色彩。然而，是什麼令她們如此努力去爭取成立這個學會呢？為了令大家更加瞭解這個新學會，我們邀請了日本文化學會的主席連同一眾幹事接受訪問，向大家詳述這個學會的成立目的和過程。

問：日本文化學會成立的宗旨和目的是什麼呢？

答：原因是我們想令更多人認識日本的文化，無論是飲食方面還是藝術方面，我們希望學校裏不同的同學可以多接觸一些其他國家的文化。我們學校也有韓國文化學會，於是我們就想，為什麼不能成立一個日本文化學會呢？我們也發現學校其實有很多同學都熱衷於日本文化的。我們希望通過日本文化學會，推動日本文化，加深同學對日本文化的認識，同時，日本文化其實也符合我們同學的主流興趣，也有很高的「人氣」，所以我們便提供一個渠道給同學們去認識日本文化，讓同學在繁忙的學習中得到樂趣。

問：可否講述一下日本文化學會成立的過程呢？

答：一開始其實是我另外一個同學有成立日本文化學會的構思，恰巧我們的老師——張國謙老師也想幫助同學成立一個全新的學會，於是我們便找了張老師幫忙處理一些行政上的事務，我們就負責回去擬定計劃書，之後便交給張老師。在籌辦過程中，我們發現原來學校很支持我們成立新學會，所以我們成立學會的過程可以說是非常順利。

我們認為如果同學有興趣去成立一個新學會，可以勇敢地去學校的老師尋求幫助，不需要擔心太多，只要積極地去尋求協助，校方及一眾老師都會很願意幫助我們的。

問：你們希望通過些什麼活動令同學對日本文化加深認識呢？

答：我們今年的活動有很多。首先，我們之前舉行了迎新日，我們向同學介紹了學會的特色，也帶領同學玩了一些活動，活動內容是考驗同學對日文的認識。我們考問同學們一些基本的日文，譬如「你好」，「多謝」，「再見」這樣的短語怎樣說。在迎新日結束的時候，我們其實很開心，因為我們發現原來同學們很熱衷日本文化，對答如流，我們也贈送了一些日本的美食給同學們以作鼓勵。我們的學藝也製作了一些書籤送給同學，成品十分精美，希望得到同學的欣賞和支持！本學會還會舉辦很多不同的活動，接下來我們也會有一些參觀活動，會帶領同學去香港的一間日資的企業參觀和認識一些日本文化，但是詳情還不能公佈，要保持神秘！

問：日本文化有什麼地方值得我們真光的同學學習呢？

答：其實日本人很有禮貌，他們謙遜、謙卑的態度十分值得我們學習。他們的敬語十分多樣化，平日的的生活也很講究禮儀。作為真光女兒，我們應作世上的光，應該有一個真光女兒應有的品德，例如我們要有儀態，謙遜有禮，在社會上更要表現出我們真光女兒的風範，在這方面我們可學習日本人的美德。

問：如果同學有興趣在來年加入日本文化學會，你們對他們有什麼要求或者期望呢？

答：首先，同學當然要比較熟悉日本不同方面的文化，同時，希望加入我們學會的同學也可以積極參與我們的活動，因為我們也想多些同學認識日本文化，所以希望曾參加有關活動的同學可以積極地和別人分享，令更多人瞭解日本文化。

日本文化學會成立的過程雖然順利，但是背後卻是一群懷揣著熱忱的同學和老師的辛勞和汗水，他們為這個新學會付出，只是為了讓同學們可以參加更多的課外活動，讓校園生活更多姿多彩。日本文化學會嶄新獨特，希望同學們來年也可以踴躍參加該學會舉辦的活動，對日本的文化、日本人的禮儀有更深入的了解，從他們身上學習，裝備自己！



鮮為人知的懷舊士多

林泳欣 5B

近年，「復古」已成了一種潮流。大框眼鏡、英倫系的格仔衫都是年輕人時尚穿搭的首選。但你有沒有細想過既然復古的衣着都能掀起一番熱潮，那懷舊士多為何就不能替代隨處可見的連鎖便利店，讓香港人重拾那份有說有笑的鄰里情？

舊時的士多多屹立於屋村旁，內裏空間闊寬，士多的中央足以容納一張麻雀枱、一部黃色的出咭式磅重機，甚至可在士多店的盡頭設立遊戲機室。士多內擺放麻雀枱，無疑是為家庭主婦們提供宣洩壓力的途徑及排遣苦悶的地方。四人圍成一桌，大家一邊忙着排麻雀牌，一邊不忘八卦別家的生活趣事，好不熱鬧。有時就連士多老闆也會參一腳，共享麻雀之樂。正是這張破舊的麻雀枱，讓那些沒有血緣關係，卻「志同道合」的主婦，能藉着每天的談天說地，變得惺惺相惜、不分你我。

士多中除了麻雀枱，還有你我最感興趣的出咭式磅重機和遊戲機室。磅重機並不像電子磅般輕巧，反而是像一個澄黃色的郵箱。出咭式磅重機的使用方法並不繁複：只要站上黑色的磅重台，再投入五元硬幣，磅重機便會印出以公斤為單位的體重咭。人們可將體重咭當作現金使用，繼續在店內消費，一舉兩得。而遊戲機室則多設於士多的盡頭。由於以往只有獲取牌照的士多才能在店內擺放遊戲機，老闆們只能偷偷地經營遊戲機生意，將小孩的玩樂天地藏起來。儘管當時遊戲機的流暢度及速度都遠遠不及現今電腦，卻足以安撫舊時小孩的玩心。不論坐在遊戲機前，操控着遊戲鍵的人是不是自己，其他小孩仍會在遊戲機旁圍成一圈，一邊觀摩，一邊大聲指揮。就這樣，每個孩子都結交了三五個「機友」，一起度過美好的童年。

懷舊士多沒有昂貴的租金，卻有業主的體諒、鄰居的光顧；那時的士多遍布大街小巷，現在的士多卻已成為舊區獨有的「寶物」。即使你千辛萬苦，在舊區的角落找到一間得以倖存的士多，但它們早已與舊時的士多截然不同了。

現時的士多為了節省營運成本，不是縮小規模，就是經濟轉型。店主們都絞盡腦汁地想要保存自家招牌，無形中卻抹去了士多最耀眼的特色。儘管現時的士多還是以售買報紙、零食、飲品為主，但店內的空間卻變得狹窄，最多只能同時容納兩三位客人，令人有種莫名的壓迫感。而另一些老闆更不惜一擲千金，為士多進行大翻新以吸引新顧客。然而他們並不了解顧客的心理，不明白再華麗裝潢的地板、燈光，也敵不過那幅佈滿歲月痕跡的舊牆。

有人說士多的式微是因為社會變遷，屬大勢所趨、別無他法。我卻認為士多的絕跡是因為社會的人情味變淡，人與人之間的距離疏遠了。經濟發展的確加重了老闆的營運負擔。但若業主能多一些瞭解和寬容；少一些刻薄與催促，減少租金的升幅；若顧客能多一些身體力行的支持，多光顧小本經營的店鋪；少一些不耐煩或因貪求「快捷」而光顧連鎖便利店，這樣，我相信士多就永遠不會成為歷史的遺跡。



各國結婚風俗

陳寧 4B 葉詠儀 4C

俗語有謂「十里不同俗」，說起中國的婚禮習俗，也許我們並不會感到很陌生，但提到其他國家的婚俗，人們除了想到婚紗，教堂、牧師之外，就好像沒有太多的認知了。不信？以下國家的婚禮習俗，你又了解多少呢？

俄羅斯婚禮



新郎夏天會乘坐用三匹馬拉的大車來迎親，冬天則乘坐用三匹馬拉的雪橇，更會用彩帶、鮮花、花環等裝飾車身，從車身到車轆還要繫上車鈴鐺。新郎的男友們一路上彈著結他，拉著手風琴，在歡樂愉悅的樂曲聲下，迎親車隊載歌載舞，向新娘家出發。在迎親路上，新娘家會在預定路線上設置一些小障礙。每遇到一處障礙，車上的伴郎就要用葡萄酒或各種各樣的小禮物來為這些小障礙買「通行證」。到達新娘家門外時，贖買「通行證」的熱鬧場面會再次出現。新郎進入新娘的家後，還有「贖買新郎座位」的活動。在雙方的父母向新人獻上祝福之後，新人就要去教堂舉行正式婚禮。

世界聞名的「皇冠婚禮」就是從這裏演變出來的，之所以叫「皇冠婚禮」是因為新娘在結婚當日，必須戴上漂亮的皇冠。婚禮歡慶隊伍要經過一個拱門到達婚禮現場，新娘和新郎會在一個天篷下宣布相愛的誓言。當婚禮到達高潮時，人們開始狂歡、跳舞、唱歌，直到精疲力竭。婚禮最後一個環節是拋花束，但卻常常因為扔得太近或太遠，或方向失準等等原因，而惹得那些未婚女孩子不高興。因此，芬蘭人把這一傳統加以變化，把拋花束改為花冠舞。伴娘先把一只花冠戴到新娘頭上，同時蒙住她的眼睛，讓她轉圈。伴娘和那些單身的女友們便會圍在她旁邊，新娘停下來後，便會把花冠戴到眼前的女孩頭上。

芬蘭婚禮



德國婚禮



與德國人一直崇尚的理智與冷靜不同，他們的婚禮更多的是呈現出德國人瘋狂的一面。應邀前來參加婚禮的客人，每人都帶著破碗、破碟、破盤、破瓶之類的物品，然後他們便會在婚禮現場拼命地猛砸猛摔一通，把帶來的東西都砸碎。他們認為這樣做可以幫助新婚夫婦除去昔日的煩惱、迎來甜蜜的開端，讓他們在漫長的人生道路上，始終保持火熱的愛情，終身形影相伴、白頭偕老。德國人的婚禮會由牧師主持，雙方的父母、家人以及親朋好友都會參加，整個過程大約一個小時。在教堂舉行的婚禮大多是在下午 2 時開始，3 時賓客就會開始吃下午茶、蛋糕、餅乾等點心。晚上雙方家人會準備許多表演節目，大約慶祝到第二天凌晨 4 時左右，婚禮才算是正式完成。

馬來西亞婚禮



新郎贈送給新娘的禮物會由盛裝打扮的孩子們組成的熱鬧隊伍送過去，孩子們捧著許多盛有食物和用錢折疊成的，有動物和花卉形狀的托盤。參加婚禮的賓客都可以得到一份禮物，以往送的一般是一個盛著米飯和紅雞蛋的杯子和漂亮的紙花。雞蛋象徵著新娘健康，為家族添人口，米飯則喻意豐衣足食和生活美滿，而現在一般都會改為贈送巧克力、果凍和蛋糕等食物。馬來人很願意邀請親朋好友參加婚禮，即使是過路的行人看熱鬧，也會受到主人的熱情款待。馬來人認為雙數是凶神的化身，不吉利，因此在婚禮上最忌雙數，無論是參加婚禮的人數或所送禮品，都必須是單數。

中西文化差異很大，結婚風俗終歸不同，不少地方的婚禮習俗和中國人南轅北轍。而正正是由於民族、文化的差異，使得各地的婚俗都顯得別具特色。

資料來源：

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<https://bigfatweddingsite.wordpress.com/2017/01/10/the-traditional-malay-wedding/> 馬來西亞婚禮

書評



書名：穆斯林的葬禮

作者：霍達

出版社：北京十月文藝出版社

穆斯林的葬禮

葉詠儀 4D

《穆斯林的葬禮》，這是一個有力的書名，勾勒出宗教的神秘色彩，亦帶點肅穆的氣氛；並不聳動的標題，卻讓人想要一窺究竟。可是閱畢全書之後，我發現此書的內容跟我想像中的大相逕庭，這個書名於我的意味也截然不同。

這本書分別以中國傳統「玉」和「月」的兩個意象，代表主角韓子奇和韓新月，故事貫穿了三代人的浮沉身世。作者賦予了主角韓新月美好的一切：她長得漂亮、冰雪聰明，連最優秀的人也為她傾慕。作者在她身邊安排了一個叫謝秋思的女生來襯托她，叫人覺得冠軍和亞軍之間儘管只有一名之差，距離卻是如此遙遠。比如說謝秋思也有漂亮的臉蛋，可是新月的美貌更為粲然；謝秋思成績卓著，也得屈居全班第二；謝秋思也想演話劇主角，可是新月的氣質更為合適。可是這樣塑造出來的人物太不真切。不是說因為韓新月「完美」而顯得她不真切，坦白說，在現實裡也並不是沒有此般「完美」的人（雖然非常稀有），只是作者只著墨於她外在的優點，卻忽略了描繪她精神層面的美好，彷彿這個角色沒靈魂，使韓新月的人物形象顯得單薄。

書中還有另一個讓我不解的地方，那就是韓子奇和梁冰玉的愛情。也許有關時代變遷的小說都需要有分別代表新舊思想的人物吧！而作者大概把這「重任」交託到梁冰玉和她姐姐的身上。梁冰玉象徵新時代的女性，她有先進的思想、有自由自我的意識；而梁冰玉的姐姐代表舊時代的女性，守舊又落後。對立的新舊思想固然會產生衝突，而作者顯然支持進步的新思想，故此在小說裡偏心梁冰玉。可是作者在支持更開放的思想的同時，卻忽略了道德問題。梁冰玉受過高等教育，認為不應受封建禮教影響，故此她毫不顧忌穆斯林一些繁文縟節的束縛，竟和姐夫談戀愛，成為了第三者，介入了自己親生姐姐的婚姻，掠奪了姐姐的丈夫。把自己「先進的思想」建立在別人的痛苦之上，這種做法在道德基礎上顯然是站不住腳的。梁冰玉不尊重別人，並對自己自私殘酷的行為有強烈的優越感，但作者似乎對此十分贊成。另外，如果一個人真的具有了更先進成熟的思想，即使不贊同落後的想法，都會懂得去理解，這才算是真正的開明。如果書中的梁冰玉不認同時代的局限性，也應該能夠理解姐姐和韓子奇的選擇，而不是只能從單一的角度思考，這樣我才會覺得她的思想比起大時代有進步，不然她也只是另一種故步自封而已。

《穆斯林的葬禮》這部書還是挺震撼人心的，它有感人的故事情節和令人心碎的語言文字。一本好的書，會使你閱畢的時候，仍會在思考，仍會去探索。真正動人的文學就是這樣，它總能引領我們思考人生的種種課題。

一輩子的 作業

張彤 2016 年畢業生

人到了某些時刻總愛回顧往昔，我亦無法免俗，正好趁真光 45 週年生辰聊表心意。老實說，這些年來學過的知識早已七零八落地還給老師，唯有一事始終不敢忘：爾乃世之光。中學六年，眼見不少老師榮休，他們每每上台發表感言時，對同學只有一種類似的寄語——要做一個好人。

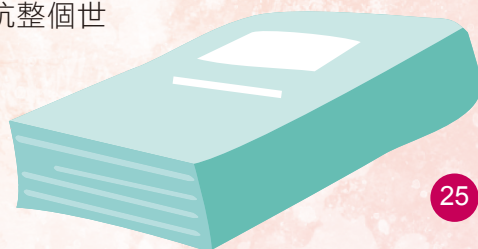
這不是極其簡單的事嗎？原以為很簡單的事，畢業後才開始參悟這份作業當中的五味雜陳。唯恐辜負恩師的面命耳提，亦不忍教他們失望，所以只好硬着頭皮繼續走，一直走得戰戰兢兢、如履薄冰。

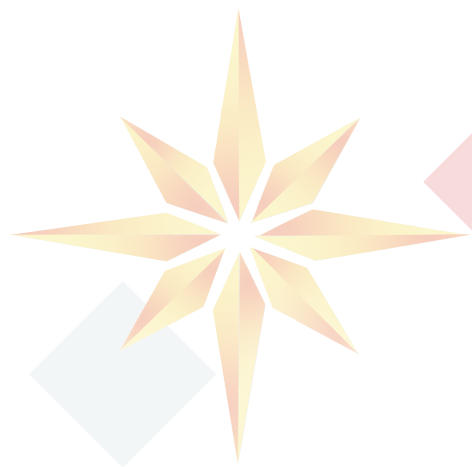
我們前二十年的「好」是有跡可循的，只要專心上課、尊師重道、友愛同學，你大概會是一個好學生——但往後的日子卻沒那麼簡單。成人的世界廣袤遼闊，正所謂天高海闊任鳥飛，再沒有誰告訴你往後的日子該怎麼走，只有法律是社會最後的道德防線。這可以是自由的開端，也能是令人迷失的分岔口，沒有方向的飛鳥便成為遺失指南針的舵手，不知何去何從。當人的價值判斷佔上風時，甚麼是所謂的「好人」？

他們沒犯下甚麼大錯，但也不見得做每一件事都問心無愧——這是絕大多數的人的寫照。工作中虛與委蛇，對人說違心的話，這是錯嗎？不損害他人利益，但也不為社會公利發聲，這是錯嗎？對錯難分，善惡難辨，在杯觥交錯間，甚至連人心中的道德標準也越加模糊——原來一切都敗給了生活。中學時期我最鄙視的是為五斗米折腰的人；畢業後卻漸漸理解一文錢難倒英雄漢的困境——原來我們也可能變成自己最討厭的那種大人。

還記得中五那年，學校請來資深傳媒工作者到校，就親子關係為家長舉辦講座。時值佔中行動，講者在講座中加入了不少自己對佔領行動的批評。有老師在問答環節中提出質疑，字字鏗鏘、擲地有聲，旁人聽來確實理據俱全。講者最後揮袖而去，不歡而散，場面一度尷尬。有人為老師的舉動拍手叫好，紛紛上前與他握手；但亦有微言指責他不顧身分、不分場合、不識大體。公說公有理，婆說婆有理——當時懵懂的我，也慢慢地接觸到成人世界的複雜。

此刻才真正讀懂老師留下來的作業。法律從不受理這種無形的是非對錯，個人心中的道德法庭才能作最終的裁決。偏偏世界不全然是非黑即白，善惡對錯也有程度之分。作答沒有標準答案的考卷已不是易事，能擇善固執則更難。擇善固執，不一定迎來鮮花與掌聲。學習做一個不體面的人，以自己的力量，對抗整個世界，何嘗不是在荊棘與謾罵中種出希望？願所有真光女兒出走半生，歸來仍是少年，溫柔而堅定地守護當初老師的殷切寄語。





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