

新聞評述比賽得獎作品



談醫委會改革方案



近日，港府向醫務委員會提出改革方案，是次改革方案引起醫學界和病人組織出現爭議。雙方各有其反對及支持的原因，當中都涉及改革方案的內容。醫學界則捍衛專業自主及其權益，病人組織則希望受公平對待並加快醫委會處理投訴等等，改革方案內容更能反映出本來存有多方面的問題。

改革方案的內容

首先，現時醫委會的組成是由行政長官親自委任十位醫生及四位業外人士，政府委任的委員分別代表兩所醫學院、醫管局、醫專和衛生署，為組織發聲。然後會在業內舉行選出十四位醫生代表，合共二十八人。當中有四人是業外人士，受委任的十位醫生便是維護公眾權益，在業內選出的十四位醫生便是支持醫生利益的。在政府改革的方案中，醫委會內將增加四名受委任的業外委員，並增加病人組織和消費者權益的組織代表，以平衡業界和業外的話語權，使決策和裁決更持平，平衡兩者的利益。避免業界包庇犯錯及避免侵佔病人及公眾利益。

其次，現時紀律研訊會由五名醫務委員會委員組成，但在政府新的方案下，建議增加初級偵訊委員會，並將五名醫務委員會改為至少一名、增添十及業外審裁顧問，以加快醫務聆訊程序、並可達至公平公正和

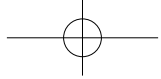
平衡雙方利益。

然而，在港工作的海外醫生的註冊期建議將會由一年延長至三年，海外醫生在港執業更要通過醫委會的執業試及駐院實習，港府認為這建議能夠吸引外地醫生來港執業，以舒緩公院人手不足的情況。

改革政策對主要持份者的影響

第一，針對病人組織而言。病人組織是支持這一個改革方案的。對病人組織而言，增加多位業外人士，能平衡利益，減少爭議，令病人的權益不會被取奪，並能減少「醫醫相衛」的情況出現，認受性亦會提高；加快處理投訴案件，能為病人在短時間內求取真相和對醫生相關的裁決，亦避免積壓太多投訴案件；隨著人口老化的增長，市民對於醫療服務的需求亦有增無減，放寬引入海外醫生的政策，便能夠舒緩人手，平均分配各醫生的工作量，減少因醫生工作壓力大而出現醫療事故，並能加快公院病人的輪候時間，避免病人求醫無助的情況出現。

第二，針對醫學業界而言。即使增加業外人士於委員會，但都指出在處理醫療失誤或醫生職業操守時，都應該由業界去評估，能按業界實情去判決醫生的行為；增加四位業外人士並不能加快大量涉及醫學專業



知識的投訴。然而業界大部分人士都反對放寬引入海外醫生政策，海外醫生的素質，恐會影響香港的醫療體系和市民的健康，帶來反效果，並指出政府無視在二零一八年後的醫科畢業生會大概有四百二十位，比現時情況多出百多位的醫科畢業生。

整個改革方案都引起了業界的反應，上一次醫務委員會的改革便是二零零一年，故方案的內容受到業界的關注之餘，更引起外界對方案內容的關注。業界組織如杏林覺醒質疑，委員會達致平衡，容易令醫委會受到操控達致各種政治目的，更有外界人士指出，改變架構是為了引入海外醫生作奠基，放寬海外醫生來港的政策更是為將來一帶一路作鋪墊，加強中港兩地的聯繫。

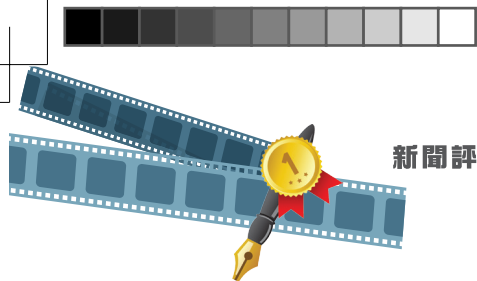
改革方案的利與弊

我認為這個改革方案有利亦有弊。但究竟是利大於弊抑或弊大於利呢？

首先，我覺得增添業外委員方面是有需要的，

但若然是受委任，即是傾向於政府政策的支持者會成為這四位業外委員，這個做法未必能令最終的裁決達致持平，這樣與原本的架構相去無幾。如果要平衡各方的話語權，應該以選舉的形式選出代表，而不是透過行政長官直接委任成為委員會之一。透過選舉產生的代表，認受性和代表性都高於直接委任，這樣亦能讓社會公眾和醫生共同監察並維持本港醫療的專業水平，增加透明度。若然以現時的機制，又如何能確保平衡兩者的權益呢？

其次，在紀律聆訊方面，在原本的機制下，醫務委員會處理投訴案件進度緩慢，積壓投訴的案件過多，未能在短時間內回應病人的訴求。我認為條例方案是有助改善投訴機制，加快處理醫療失誤投訴的速度，亦可由多個顧問給予適當的意見，作出適當的裁決，並可以避免「醫醫相衛」的情況出現。近年最矚目的事例，是藝人張崇德和劉美娟夫婦，為夭折的初生長子討回公道，足足花了九年時間，才獲醫委會裁定為其接生的女醫生專業失德要停牌兩年。可見，在原有的投訴機制下，處理投訴案件需時長，未能對相關醫

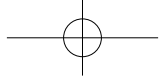


生作出即時的裁決，一宗醫療失誤的事件，便要採取長達數年的時間去處理，現時積壓的投訴有九百多宗，增加人手盡快解決是最好的解決辦法，能夠分工處理投訴，以還病人一個公道。

然而，在放寬外地醫生在港執業方面，我對於此政策有所保留，將外地醫生引入香港以舒緩人手不足是可理解的。但是，這是一個治標不治本的做法，只能針對短期的需要。隨著人口老化的上升，將來對於醫療的需求量亦會顯著上升。若若要改善人手不足的情況，就應該在大學提供更多醫療及護理課程或放寬收生條件，以應付將來人手不足的情況。而且，醫管局應盡快增設其他專科門診，例如北大嶼山醫院，現時正提供有限度的服務，以內科、外科等專科門診都

未能為北大嶼山市民提供服務，不能分散病人，導致某些醫院出現病人輪候時間長和醫院人手不足的情況出現。

故此，我認為改善方案有部分方案是可應用的，但在面對人手不足的解決方案，應以長遠發展去考慮，我希望是此改革能平衡業界和病人組織權益和能解決雙方現時的爭議，避免各持份者以個人利益為主，應該考慮其他人的權益，否則改革方案會遲遲未能推行。



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「香港後花園」與「全民新空間」——論大嶼山發展計劃的利弊



「香港後花園」與「全民新空間」——論大嶼山發展計劃的利弊。

在本年一月，大嶼山發展諮詢委員會發表了第一份工作報告，訂出了四個大嶼山發展方向，包括北大嶼山走廊、東北大嶼山匯點、東大嶼都會、大嶼山大部分地區。計劃目的是將大嶼山發展成一個「全民新空間」，並促進香港社會及經濟的長遠發展，但計劃提出後，社會上卻立即出現許多反對聲音，他們認為發展計劃會破壞大嶼山的自然生態，令香港人失去了引以為傲的「香港後花園」。究竟這個大嶼山發展計劃是利還是弊呢？政府又應否發展大嶼山？

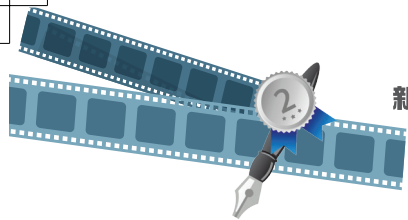
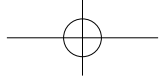
發展大嶼大主要帶來以外兩項正面影響：首先，在社會方面，發展大嶼山有助增加公私營房供應量。香港現時極度缺乏興建房屋的土地，而計劃建議在北大嶼山走廊區域建設大量房屋，及在東大嶼都會區域發展新市鎮。由此可見，大嶼山有大幅未發展的土地可供政府使用，政府可以此來興建大量公私營房屋，以增加房屋供應量，減低樓價。

第二，在經濟方面，發展大嶼山作旅遊玩樂景點能帶動香港的旅遊業，刺激經濟增長。計劃提到在大嶼山興建水上活動中心、戶外探險樂園和水療及休

閒度假村等旅遊玩樂景點，這些景點是香港從前沒有的，所以即使是曾到訪香港或從未來過香港的旅客都會感到十分新鮮，願意到香港旅遊。旅遊業的良好發展能提升訪港旅客人數，也能帶動酒店業、零售業、餐飲業的發展，有助提升香港的本地生產總值，刺激經濟增長。

除正面影響外，發展大嶼山亦主要帶來以下幾項負面影響：首先，在環境方面，發展大嶼山會破壞當地的海洋生態環境。以發展東大嶼都會為例，建造「中部水域人工島」需要填海 1,200 至 2,400 公頃，面積相等於 24 個坪洲。而填海前需先挖走海床的淤泥，污染物如重金屬、二噁英等因而有機會擴散，這些污染物將會污染水質，海洋生物吸入後便會死亡。

另外，發展大嶼山會減低香港物種的多元化。大嶼山是香港不少物種的棲息地，根據漁護署的資料，香港境內約七成兩棲及爬行動物、六成蜻蜓品種及逾半蝴蝶品種都在大嶼山生活；被列入「具特殊科學價值地點」的水口亦有超過百多種泥灘生物物種；建議興建的西南大嶼山海岸公園覆蓋的 657 公頃的海面區，更是中華白海豚的重要生境。毫無疑問，大型發展必然對環境造成破壞，山川地貌的巨大轉變令



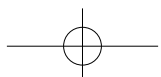
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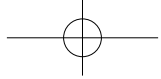


物種的棲息地變得不再宜居，原來住在大嶼山海域的海洋生物可能因填海造成的污染需遷徙到其他海域、原來住在泥灘的角眼切腹蟹、溝紋筍光螺更可能喪失棲息地。發展大嶼山造成對棲息地的破壞，物種自然會離開大嶼山並遷移到其他更適合居住的生境，香港物種的多元化因而減低。

其次，在經濟方面，發展大嶼山的開支龐大，但計劃落成後，一般小市民也無法分享到經濟發展的成果。以興建東大嶼都會為例，以填海興建一個 650 公頃的三跑工程所需成本 1,415 億推算，興建一個

1,200 公頃的東大嶼都會大概需要 3,000 億，相等於每名市民要支付 42,000 元。納稅人付出龐大的金錢支持發展大嶼山計劃，但當計劃落成後，他們卻不會獲得金錢回報，只有付出而沒有收獲。由於大嶼山的發展以商業主導，又以旅遊景點、酒店為主，大財團和地產商能從遊客身上大賺一筆，預料是發展的大贏家。相反，普羅大眾不會直接從訪港遊客身上獲得金錢回報，能分享到的經濟成果有限；他們亦不一定會到訪這些玩樂景點，故未能受惠於大嶼山發展帶來的成果。





從上文可見，發展大嶼山似乎是利弊相當，即使發展亦好像沒有不妥之處。其實不然。上文提到發展大嶼山的好處包括有助經濟增長及增加公私營房屋供應量，但這兩個好處皆有其他方法可以達到，即使不發展大嶼山也能從其他途徑獲得這兩個好處，發展大嶼山並非唯一的辦法。相反，發展大嶼山對環境造成的破壞無法逆轉，而市民付出支持發展大嶼山計劃的金錢亦無法取回。因此，我認為發展大嶼山是弊多於利，政府不應推行發展大嶼山的計劃。

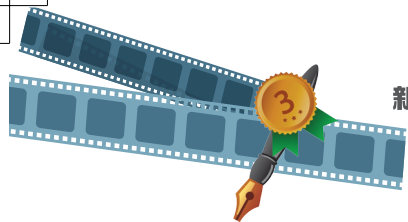
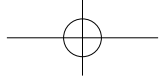
以發展大嶼山計劃達致經濟增長的目的為例，港府一向有舉辦不同活動如「香港新春節慶」、「香港美酒佳餚巡禮」、「香港龍舟嘉年華」等來吸引旅客訪港，這些活動向來獲旅客盛讚，他們都表示會因這些活動而再度訪港。由此可見，發展大嶼山並非推動旅遊業發展的唯一辦法，港府尚有其他途徑來達致經濟增長的目的。再以發展大嶼山計劃達致增加公私營房屋供應量的目的為例，港府現在已有古洞北和粉嶺北新發展區、東湧新市鎮擴展、洪水橋新發展區，以及元朗南發展數項計劃來增加房屋供應，預計可提供 197,000 個單位，並可在 2023 年起陸續入夥。由此可見，政府現時已有大量政策增加房屋供應，不一定要發展大嶼山來興建房屋。即使政府認為房屋供應仍然不足，政府可循發展棕地、舊區重建、將污水處理廠搬往岩洞以騰空土地、將部分原先非住宅用地改變成為房屋土地等方法來增加土地供應，以便興建房屋。由此可見，發展大嶼山並非增加房屋供應的唯一辦法，港府可循其他途徑來達致增加房屋供應的目的。總括而言，發展大嶼山並非必要，政府應透過其他方法來獲得發展大嶼山帶來的好處。

發展大嶼山的目的是可透過其他方法達到，但發展大嶼山對環境造成的破壞則無法避免。填海過後，土地不能變回海洋；受污染的海水不能變回清澈；物種遷移到其他生境便不會再回來……這種破壞是永久的，因為大自然一經破壞便無法逆轉，賺再多的金錢也不能彌補大自然受到的傷害。因此，發展大嶼山必定會對環境造成不能磨滅的破壞。另外，納稅人付出辛苦賺來的金錢支持發展大嶼山計劃，但在計劃落成後，他們不但未能受惠於計劃帶來的成果，到訪那些玩樂景點更要付費。由此可見，市民付出的金錢無

法以任何形式取回，對他們有著永久的損失。總括而言，發展大嶼山造成弊處是無法補償的，影響深遠，故政府不應發展大嶼山。

其實，大嶼山一直是香港人引以為傲的「香港後花園」，她的美麗海濱和廣闊草地正正是她最獨特的景觀、我們最寶貴的資源。若政府執意要推行大嶼山發展計劃，豈不是要把一個天然島建造成一個人工島？我們又何苦要花上 3,000 億去發展一個會破壞自然環境的人工島？對於是否仍繼續推行大嶼山發展計劃，還請政府再三考慮，以免把這個「香港後花園」摧毀成所謂的「全民新空間」。





新聞評述比賽得獎作品



院舍質素參差惹爭議 多管齊下合力求改善

繼去年五月下旬，於大埔劍橋養老院被揭發安排長者在露天平台脫光衣服輪候洗澡事件後，今年一月初本港再爆出有關院舍照料服務質素惡劣的醜聞。鄰舍輔導會怡欣山莊四名職員涉嫌欺凌兩名智障男院友，分別把紅色膠紙貼在智障男院友的乳頭上，繼而用手機拍照，以及將膠紙貼在另一名智障院友手腳上。同類事件再度發生引起公眾對養老及特殊需要人士的院舍服務質素關注。

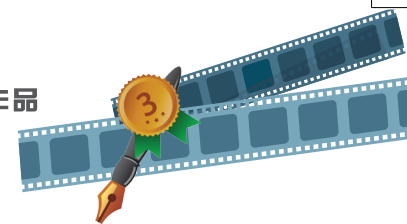
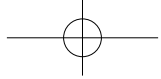
兩宗事件中的受害者均為弱勢社群，本理應得到社會各界更多的關懷和照料。暴露出置長者和殘障人士的人權和尊嚴於不顧的惡劣行為，實在令人髮指。此等偏差行為的背後，存在着怎樣的漏洞和不足呢？我們又可以如何避免類似行為再度發生呢？

首先，如此偏差的行為背後，反映的實是道德倫理的敗壞和淪喪。中國自古以來有着「尊老愛幼」的傳統美德，孟子的「老吾老，以及人之老；幼吾幼，以及人之幼」中所就的，便是推崇尊敬長輩，愛護幼小的同輩，晚輩的道理。然而，現今科技日新月異，我們繼承先輩多年以來各項的科技成果，研究調查得知的奧秘，為人類開創出一個數碼，科技的便利時代。但在一切追求利益的同時，卻沒有把祖先的教訓、道



德規範延續傳承下來。公民／德育教育的欠缺，間接造成個別價值觀偏差之人，將魔爪伸向那一位位手無寸鐵的弱勢人士，讓那一宗宗漠視長者，智障人士等違反人權的事件發生。

其次，提供該類照料服務的機構的監管方法不善，監管力度不足，亦是造成此類悲劇的原因之一。據統計，本港已有超過三十萬人患上抑鬱症。世界衛生組織的資料顯示，全球抑鬱症患者超過一億人，但少於 25% 的患者會尋求有效的治療。而估計到 2020 年，抑鬱症會成為全球疾病排行榜的第二位，發病率僅次於心臟病。於香港這個繁榮的國際大都會，工作、生活的節奏急促，心理疾病隱患不容忽視。根據社區及院舍照顧員總工會和香港工作人健康中心合作進行的《社區及院舍照顧員職業健康行動研究》，發現有超過六成社區及院舍照顧員曾在工作間遭受肢體暴力對待，而當中更有接近六成人因此而感到精神困擾。調查研究更發現，為免影響該機構的公眾形象，管理層一般勸喻員工不要呈報工作間暴力事件。受暴力對待的員工心理壓力上升，精神負擔加大，且無處可傾訴及緩解壓力，以致更容易造成工作壓力「爆煲」而作出偏差行為。



此外，相關服務機構亦缺乏員工心理疏通機制，忽視員工可能因工作壓力過大而存在的心理問題，以及員工定期需接受心理健康狀況測試評估的硬性規定等。缺乏完善的監管和通報機制，才讓負責人聲稱對員工虐待兩名智障兒童的事件「毫不知情」的荒誕事件發生。

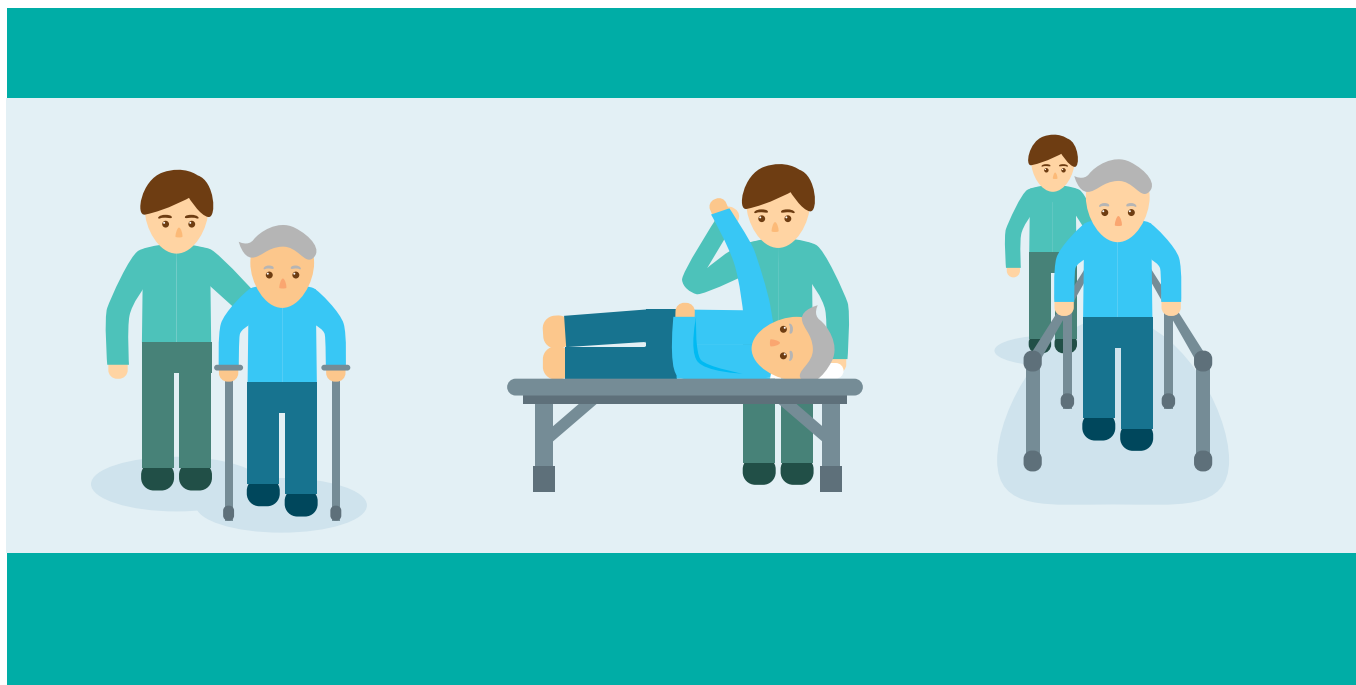
院舍服務改善迫在眉 各方急需協同作改善

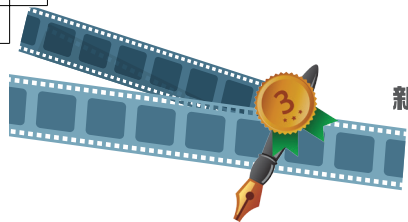
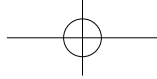
根據 2015 年政府統計處數據顯示，香港現有約 110 萬人口為 65 歲及以上人士，即佔總人口百分之 15 以上皆為長者。且推算到 2066 年，香港約有 260 萬名長者，數目倍增至佔據總人口中的百分之 33，即每三位香港市民中，便有一名為長者。而據 2013 年統計，全港共有約 58 萬殘疾人士，比起 03 年增加近六成。而這些殘疾人士當中，約有四成人士需要他人長期照顧。而對日漸嚴重的老化趨勢，本港對院舍服務需求只增不減，但現今院舍床位嚴重不足，服務質素參差的問題令人堪憂，大減市民對此信心。

對此，政府宜全面檢討及修改《安老院及照顧特殊需要人士院舍條例》，以法律形式硬性規定該類院

舍需配備相關專業設施及器材，如無障礙通道、走廊及衛生間扶手等，以及定時檢討人手專業資格，人力編排要求等，從而最大程度上確保進住該類院舍的院友能在安全的環境下，得到專業的照顧。與此同時，政府宜加大對該類院舍的服務改善項目的資金投入，如津貼私人疏舍的員工定期接受心理評估及專業培訓，提升其服務專業程度及確保其能保持健康積極心境，繼續投入養老及特殊需要人士照料的服務。除了推動員工培訓之外，政府亦宜於條例中清晰列明對院舍定時巡官，監督次數及事故通報機制等規定，並釐清及明確社會福利署不定期抽查，勒令院舍作檢討改善的權責，以推進院舍服務質素有效改善。

此外，推動道德教育以培育市民建立起正確的價值觀念及道德規範意識亦是刻不容緩。於學生而言，正處於價值觀形成的他們，在求學時期得到德化教育，對其往後的人生觀及處事態度十分關鍵。因此，學校及相關教育機構應在政府的推動及配合下，積極優化現有德化教育課程，如增設更多探訪長者院舍的公益活動。而於公眾推廣活動中，政府宜投入更多於公益活動宣傳或拍攝深入民心的公益宣傳短片。透過各類



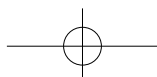


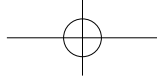
新聞評述比賽得獎作品



公益愛心活動，讓平等、尊老愛幼的道德觀念深深地紮根於每個人心中，避免因道德缺失問題再讓同類事件發生。

期望在社會政策和院舍照料服務的日漸完善，以及社會各界各方共同努力之下，不論長者或是特殊需要人士，均能在院舍精心、專心、細心的照料服務下，真正能夠「安居樂活」。





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**Winning Articles of
News Commentary Competition**

Junior | English Section

★ **Champion** ★

Chan Chin Tung

St. Mary's Canossian College

**TRUMP
2016**



US President Election- Is Trump qualified to be the leader of USA?

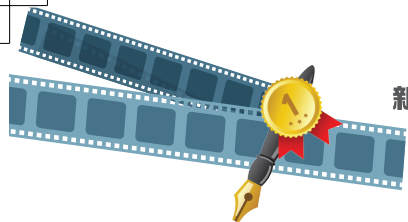
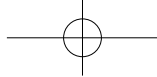
Nowadays, the United States of America is taking the lead in different global issues, such as the economy, environmental protection, etc. The president of the United States doesn't only bring changes to the country itself, but also to the world. The election of president of the United States is approaching in November. Hilary Clinton from the Democratic group and Donald Trump from the Republicans are now neck to neck. However, some people are disgusted with the nonsense that Trump talks. Some Republicans even stated that they oppose Trump to be the nominee of their political party. At this moment, we may question ourselves: Does Trump really qualify to become the president of the United States?

First of all, a leader should treat everyone with respect. Nevertheless, Trump calls Mexicans as "criminals and drug dealers" and he thinks that Mexicans only bring problems to the USA. Therefore, he plans to deport millions of undocumented people and build a wall on the border

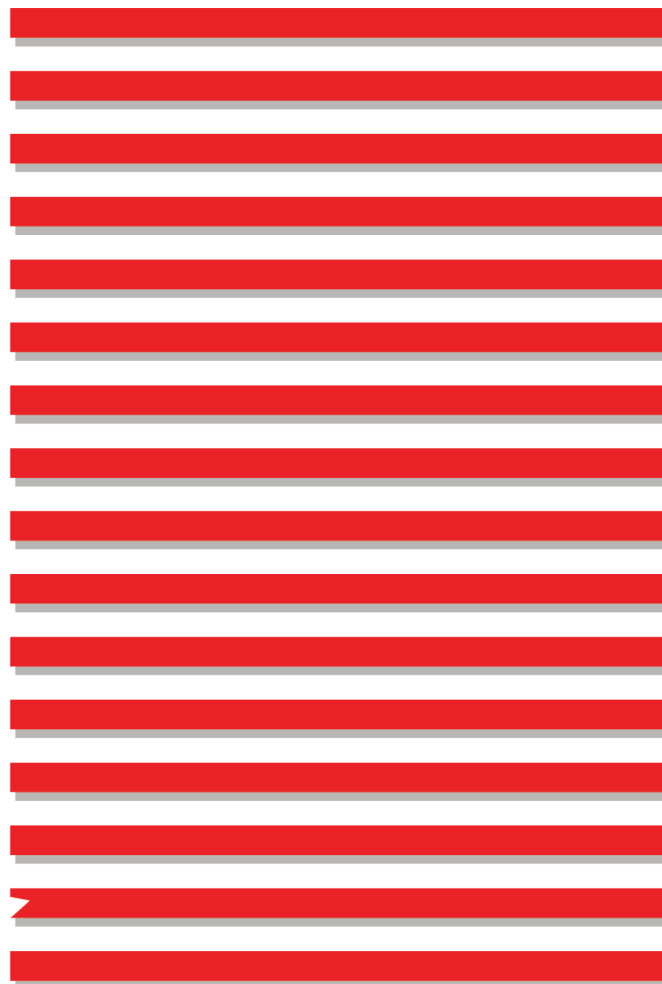
with Mexico to stop refugees coming to the US. He asked Mexico to pay for the border as well. Moreover, he wants to ban anyone that is not Christian and white from living in America. He neglects and disrespects the other countries, people from different religions and races. How can an out-and-out racist and religious discriminator become the president of the United States?

Also, a leader should be cautious. He or she should balance the rights of people from different aspects before implementing. Yet, Trump only cares about America in doing anything. As an example, he stated that he would ban all the Muslims from entering the states in order to prevent the terrorist attacks in early December, but he never thought of the consequences on economy, tourism, etc. Though he added that the banning Muslims are just an idea in May, this shows how he brings distrust to the Americans and how subjective he is.

Last but not least, a leader should be responsible.



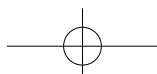
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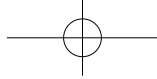


However, Trump likes to say or do whatever he wants as he thinks that he doesn't need to back it up. In 2005, a video revealed Trump's disrespectful words to the women. He also discriminated against women by calling a Miss Universe as “Miss Piggy. A leader or even a normal person should think twice before saying offensive statements to anyone. A number of allegations of misconduct against women by Donald Trump show how irresponsible he is.

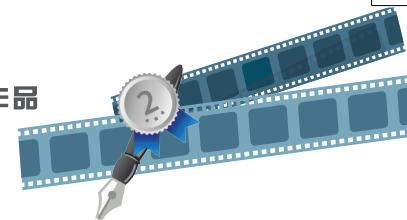
A leader should be respectful, cautious and responsible. While most Trump supporters are dying for a change, is Trump the right person who will really make

a change, a positive one, to America'? Trump always mentions, Together we can make America great again! Are implementing radical policies to attack other countries or the people of a particular race or religion, only caring about the areas in his own interest, and using mean words to someone Trump disrespects the ways that Trump tries to make America great again? If Trump becomes the president of US, how will America become? And how will the world become?

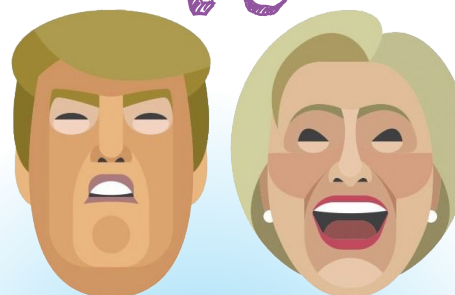




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Trump VS Clinton



Trump and Clinton: Who is losing?

The US presidential election has been gaining a lot of attention since summer this year. The major parties have their final candidate confirmed in the period of May to July 2016. The Democratic Party being Hillary Clinton and the Republicans being Donald Trump. Some argue that this election is the best drama of the year. Why?

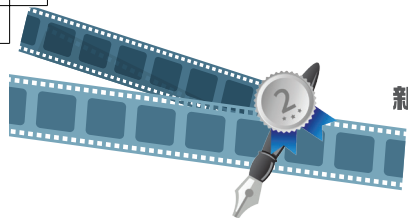
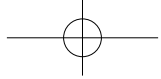
Hillary Clinton first gained public attention as the role of the First Lady. Being the First Lady, she was actively involved in politics, including National Health Care Reform, which is still controversial until now. Most notably the Whitewater scandal and the Lewinsky scandal. The former was the first time in American history that a First Lady being investigated in a scandal, while the latter included a shocking sex scandal occurred between Bill Clinton and the then White House intern Monica Lewinsky. Strangely, she did not divorce with Bill Clinton. Seemingly contradicted with Hillary's feminism, it might just be a compromise.

Donald John Trump is a businessman and a TV personality before his presidential campaign. Strangely, he has once been in the Democratic Party for 8 years. As

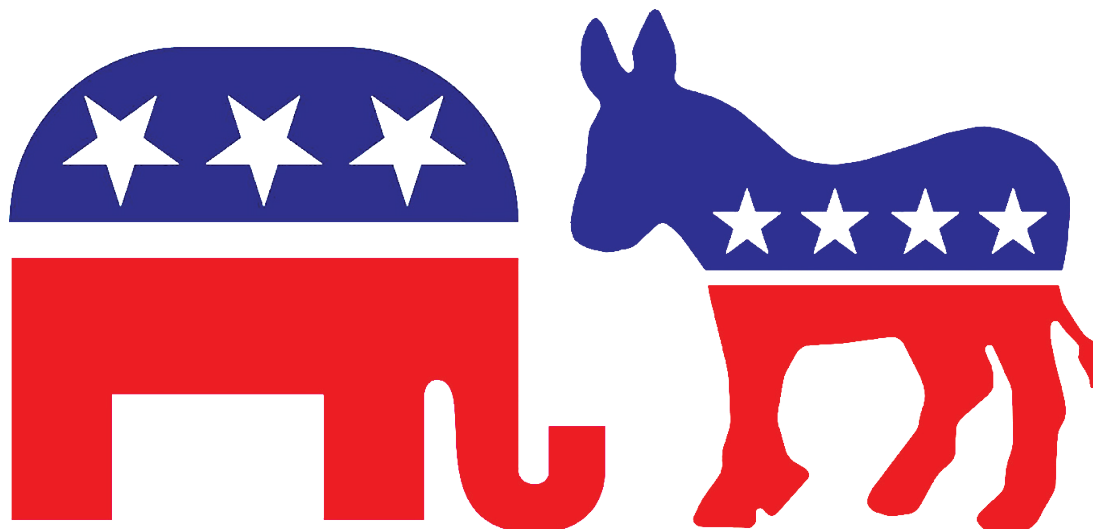
a host of The Apprentice, he is infamous for his hairstyle and the line "You're fired." During the campaign, many controversial comments were made, including building the wall between Mexico and America and the blockage of immigration of Muslims.

The rise of Donald Trump shows the image of extreme right-wing ideology. Providing that he won the election and those policies were all enacted, would America be, in his words, "great again"? The world has seemed to enter the post-capitalism period, with extreme right-wing parties blossoming everywhere. Not only in the USA, but also in France, such as the National Front. Globalization has resulted in these parties blooming, raging for protectionism and deglobalization.

What virtue should a good leader possess? Should it be inappropriate privacy management of mails? Extra care must be taken for any private emails, any leakage will result in big trouble. Should it be blocking the Muslims from entering a country? Should it be building a wall to prohibit illegal immigrants? No! Religious freedom should be



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enjoyed by everyone. No discrimination are to be observed in any context. Should it be supporting a war towards an innocent country? Obviously not either.

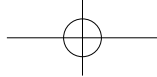
A good leader should manage one's privacy well, along with adequate transparency towards people. A leader should be subtle and determined. A leader should be absolutely honest with the people and also open-minded, accepting opinions from all. Do Trump and Clinton possess the above quality?

In my opinion, if Hillary won the election, the economy are not expected to change much, Furthermore, there will be more and more regulation enacted which is said to be weakening the economy. For the foreign policies, the ISIS grew so large just because of the foreign policies of the USA in last 50 years. For this Pandora's Box, there seems to be no easy solution. For Russia, no obvious change should be observed unless Russia becomes provocative. How will their social issues change? Deduced from above, it should be worse as similar issues still exist in the reign from Obama to Hillary.

How about Trump, then? Mainly two paths. The first

is tax reform. It is likely the first thing he'd do if he won. For long-term, it's beneficial to the USA. For the second path, some predicted that he will start a trade war and divide the nation, thus worsens the economy. This could greatly jeopardize Republicans 2018 Midterm election. The choice is in his hand. For the foreign policy, he is much determined to combat ISIS. First it may seem tense, but in long-term it is a big achievement, in turn further emphasized the USA's role as a "World Police". Though, the multilateral relationship of the USA, Russia and Iran could be a big task for him. As the Syrian civil war is a battleground for the USA and Russia competing for ideology and weapons, Trump will have to pay extra efforts in driving out the impression of America in eyes of Middle East countries since the post-Cold War period.

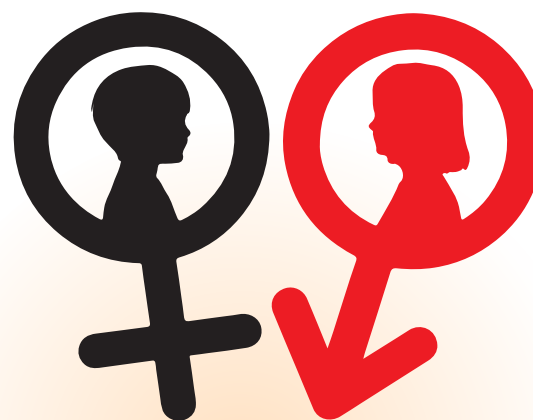
Whether this is the best drama of the year or not, the leader of the USA, the well-reckoned World Police, should always have such virtues to manage a nation well. The election will be held on November 2016. It's either Trump or Clinton. Who will lose? Neither Donald Trump nor Hillary Clinton, but the America.



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Gender Equity



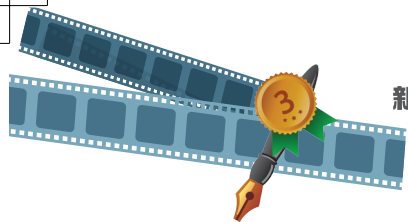
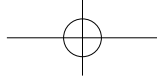
Gender equity & gender equality are two separate things. Equity is giving everyone what they need in order to be successful. Equality, on the other hand, aims to promote fairness, which can only work when everyone starts from the same origins and has the same needs. Though at the same time, both come hand in hand.

Recently, daily newspaper “The Wall Street Journal” came out with an article, named “it’s Time for companies to try a New Gender – Equality Playbook.” This article describes how companies struggle to keep gender equality a priority, and now many workers feel about the progress being made.

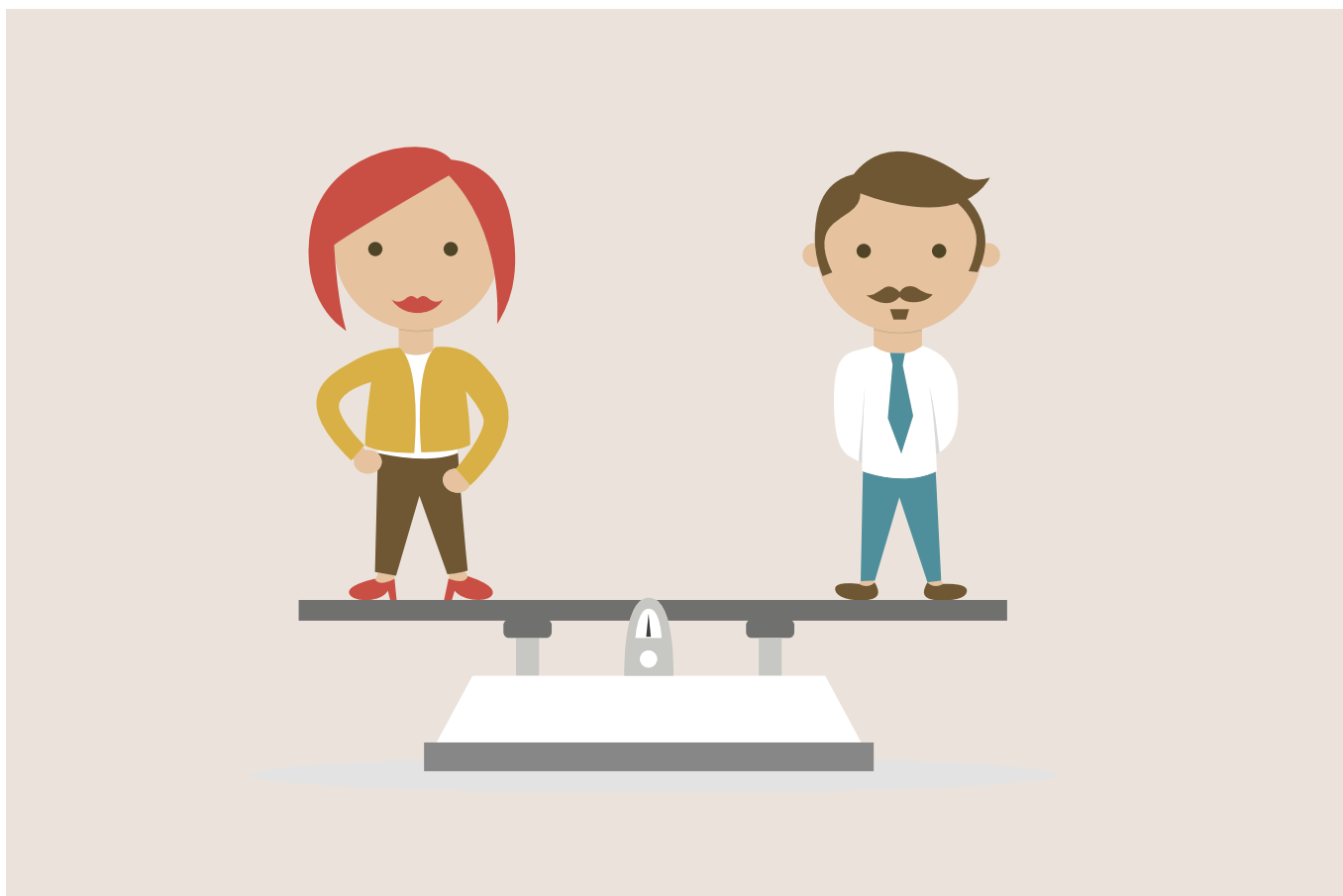
Mentioned in the article, a survey was concluded, including more than 130 companies and over 34,000 men & women. Findings in the survey show that only 45% of employees think that their companies are making the right decisions to improve diversity outcomes. More importantly, as stated, over 90% of companies report using clear, objective criteria for hiring and promotions, yet only about

half of women believe they have equal opportunities for growth at their companies.

Nowadays, I’m sure you’ve heard the term “Feminism”. In terms of gender equity and equality these days, feminism plays a big role. As shown above, women do not have the upper hand when it comes to getting the same opportunities as men. I believe that it is in fact, unfair for women, as we do the same amount of work as men, but aren’t rewarded the “prize” we earned. In turn, feminists have started to gain more popularity. Even celebrities have admitted to being feminists and / or are supporting feminism, such as the singer Beyoncé and actress Jennifer Lawrence. Feminism even dates back to the 18th century, when women’s rights weren’t as prioritized as men’s. Advocates to gain women’s rights. An activist called Alice Paul was also active in gaining women’s rights. Even after getting imprisoned numerous times, she went on, establishing the congressional union for women suffrage in 1913, which played a major role in winning women the



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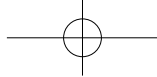
right to vote.

Simply put, women have been fighting gender equality and equity for ages, but more action is needed to be done. Companies say they're gender-drivers and still have issues promoting jobs of women? I believe the only reason gender equity and equality doesn't often have little problems is because of the belief that males have "always" had more power than ladies, in which ladies have had the stereotype of doing housework.

Now in the 21st century, genders have become more fluid and recognized, bringing the LGBTQ + family to the limelight, and feminism has been promoted in a more positive and effective way, as opposed to being criticized for taking a stand. Even the UN has been making more stands,

with Emma Watson, famous actress and UN ambassador, speaking up for women in the Middle East to Malala Yousafzai, 19, a Pakistani activist for female education, and the youngest ever Noble Price laureate.

Yes, many men also support gender equity and equality, but I still believe there is a long road ahead, from improving women's pay in Hollywood, to family rest/maternity leave, to the LGBTQ + Family who are religious, bacu to the stereotypical "you're a girl, you're not strong enough" line.



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Deep inside a rigged game



On the 5th of October this year, an operation was commenced by ICAC to arrest six people for alleged match fixing in the Premier Soccer League of Hong Kong. The suspects included five Pegasus Football Club members and one bookmaker. The reported amount of bribes involved was more than HK\$90,000 for a series of four rigged matches.

Although this particular incident may sound indifferent for the whole soccer business of Hong Kong, it was needless to say that Hong Kong has a long and notorious history of match fixing in sports domain. Dated back as far from now as the time before year 2000, when Hong Kong's soccer industry flourished. Numerous cases of bribery in the effort to fix match results were exposed to the public; many elite players were charged and brought to justice by anti-corruption agencies.

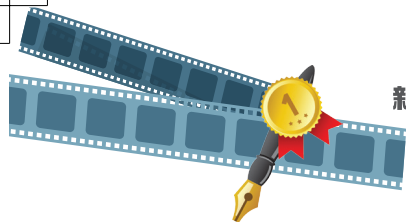
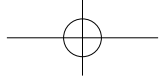
It was doubtless that the soccer business of Hong Kong had entered a desolate era. Compared to the past when football is on everyone's lips and stadiums were cramped with spectators, nowadays only sports fans will pay attention to related news. Many may see game rigging and corruption as the root causes of this tragedy, however, deep below, such behaviors are actually a phenomenon

contributed by the SAR government.

Before explaining how our local government lynched this sports industry, we must know why those people participated in match fixing, had chosen this path which led them to their fate.

Since game rigging cannot grant those involved victory or fame, as one can only lose a game intentionally but not vice versa, the only incentive that drives so many professional players into misery was money. With fewer fans, cheaper broadcasting fees, and less advertisement, private football clubs in Hong Kong cannot offer much salary to their players; even top players were only paid around HK\$30,000 a month, considering the huge expenditure for training, site management and match promotions. Having to survive from their own living costs, players were acutely tempted to accept bribes from bookmakers in order to fight for a better, or at least, a more respectable life.

This appalling scenario was subtly shaped by ignorant government policies. Even though we always heard officials saying local sports industry will be endorsed by the government, what happened in reality was the exact



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opposite. Due to the lack of housing supply, sports venues for soccer are usually the most preferred location for demolition, as they usually occupy a significant size of urban land slots, which provide a location for only a small proportion of citizens who enjoyed this sport. With less and less venues for practice and competitions, it was no surprise that soccer was fading out in Hong Kong.

Additionally, funding for soccer events was severely insufficient; it was well known to the public that maintaining football industry was never one of the government's concerns. Even the Chief Executive of Hong Kong once made a remark saying "Religious and sports sectors did not contribute to the economy. Having such attitude, the government obviously will not actively sponsor soccer events, which was another blow to the football business of Hong Kong.

After acknowledging the problem, measures have to be taken in the sake of eliminating it. Even though the sports industry of Hong Kong might not shine like a star as it was in the past, something can still be carried out to save it from eradicating in the place we belong,

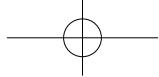
First of all, halting the removal of soccer venues can be a good start in tackling the depression of sporting events

of Hong Kong. It might be convenient to bulldoze a football stadium and turn it into apartments, but it was unworkable to do it the other way around. For the government, there are still a lot of alternatives of providing housings, such as redevelopment and creating suburban areas. By retaining the available spots at this moment, citizens still can play the sports, and help spread the influence of football. With more soccer lovers, the sales of venue tickets can certainly benefit from it.

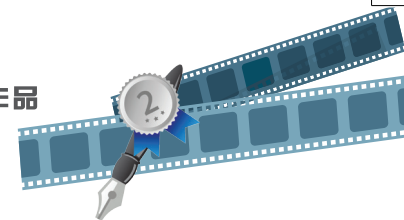
Secondly, granting additional subsidies to top players of the league who can meet certain criteria can help combating match fixing. On one hand, professionals can receive a direct aid for their income, and they are less encouraged to game rigging. On the other hand, players will be motivated to win matches in order to gain achievements and become eligible claimants of those subsidies. At the end, soccer players will be less allured towards match fixing since the reward become insignificant to their earnings.

Last but not least, enforcing against illegal bookmakers is another measure that ought to be taken. If unauthorized bookmakers were arrested, the bridge between players and gamblers will collapse, and contacting stakeholders to rig a competition will become much more difficult since gamblers seldom have enough connections in the league to organize this kind of complicated activities. Without any approach to rig a football game, a fixed match will not appear in the first place.

To sum up, with all measures taken by the government and enforcement agencies, match fixing will be out of the picture sooner or later. And the soccer industry in Hong Kong can earn back its trust and popularity from the citizens in the near future.



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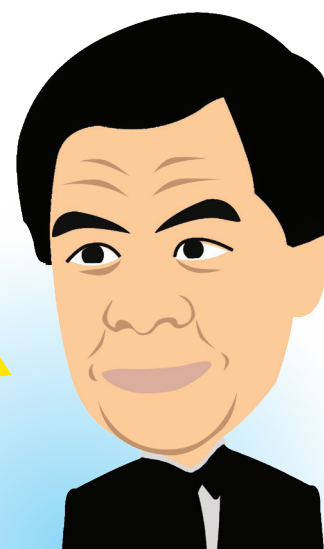
Senior | English Section

★ 1nd Runner Up ★

Ryan Lam

Munsang College

Can 'soft-lobbying' improve the effectiveness of governance - A case study of the Wang Chau Saga

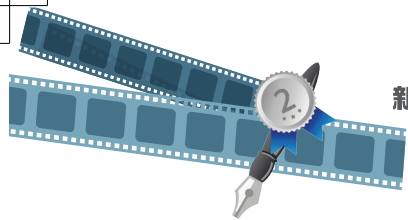
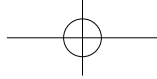


The Wang Chau Housing Development Plan has stirred up public debates after the government decided to set aside a plan to develop public housing on environmentally damaged brownfield sites and instead prioritized a green belt site nearby, simultaneously scaling down the number of flats provided from 17,000 to 4,000. The government was also accused of succumbing to rural landlords enjoying vested interest in brownfield sites after four unofficial meetings with the Yuen Long District Council and the Rural Committee. This type of unofficial meetings with chosen stakeholders prior to public consultation is known as 'soft-lobbying'. "Soft-lobbying is a necessary part of politics. It is just an informal way to find out what can be negotiated. It is a common practice in US and UK politics," Executive Councilor Cheung Chi Kong said. Nevertheless, can 'soft-lobbying' necessarily improve the effectiveness of governance? I have reservations about it as shown by the Wang Chau Saga.

First and foremost, 'soft-lobbying' may weaken the credibility of the government. While 'soft-lobbying' is

conducted in a secret manner with selected stakeholder, it lacks transparency and is detrimental to the right to know of the public. This may in turn lead to public suspicion on the government. For instance, in the Wang Chau development project, not until the media revealed the fact that the government has conducted 'soft-lobbying' by the media made the public suspect the government of collusion with rural leaders. Subsequently, citizens' degree of trust in government is weakened as the government was unable to justify their act of altering the Wang Chau Development Plan. This creates difficulties for the government to gain public support regarding the development plan. In short, 'soft-lobbying' cannot improve the effectiveness of governance owing to the fact that it lowers the credibility of the government.

Secondly, 'soft-lobbying' may weaken the comprehensiveness of the government's policies and lead to public opposition. 'Soft-lobbying' usually involves the meeting of government officials with selected stakeholder only. After 'soft-lobbying', the government may take some



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special stakeholders' point of view into account and amend the policy in a bid to meet the expectations of that particular group of people. This may undermine the interests of other stakeholders as a result. In the Wang Chau Development Plan, after conducting 'soft-lobbying' with rural leaders, the government received oppositions from them on developing brownfield sites as they enjoyed vested interest in making businesses like car parks or warehouses on those sites. The government then put their oppositions into consideration and scaled down the Wang Chau Development Plan. Catering the interest of rural leaders sacrificed the public interest of building more public flats. The legitimacy of the government is weakened and the citizens may feel that their opinions are not important in the government's eyes. Consequently, they objected to the new development plan. Therefore, 'soft-lobbying' cannot necessarily improve the effectiveness of governance as policies tend to become less comprehensive.

Some may claim that 'soft-lobbying' can help the government understand the concerns of major stakeholders, so that the government can consider amending or even abolishing the policy. As a result, during the stage of public consultation, it can therefore face less oppositions and little resistance. Just like in the Wang Chau Development Plan, the government was informed about the oppositions of rural leaders to the development plan after 'soft-lobbying'. It therefore scaled down the development plan so that it won't receive oppositions from rural leaders during the stage of public consultation later. This in turn enhances the effectiveness of governance.

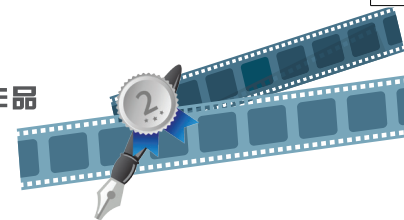
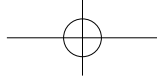
However, the above argument is not entirely correct. While the nature and goal of 'soft-lobbying' are understandable, the problem lies in the way it was conducted. As the aim of 'soft-lobbying' is to listen to the opinions of major stakeholders prior to public consultation so that the government can alter the policy to cater the



needs of different stakeholders, it makes no sense to just conduct 'soft-lobbying' to one stakeholder only. A striking illustration of the point would be the Wang Chau Development Plan. The government just conducted 'soft-lobbying' with one stakeholder, that is rural leaders only, while neglecting other important stakeholders like the villagers of greenbelt areas. This implies a screening of the stakeholders involved in 'soft-lobbying', probably due to their power. This way of 'soft-lobbying' is obviously undesirable as the ultimate goal of 'soft-lobbying' cannot be achieved.

To conclude, 'soft lobbying' cannot necessarily improve the effectiveness of governance as shown in the Wang Chau case. In my opinion, the Wang Chau development should be halted for now until the government was able to explain everything clearly to the public. The Legislative Council ought to perform check-and-balance by using the Powers and Privileges Ordinance, so as to understand and let the public the course of the Wang Chau Saga.

In the wake of the Wang Chau Saga, the government should improve the effectiveness of public consultation. Here are some of the solutions that could be undertaken by the government.



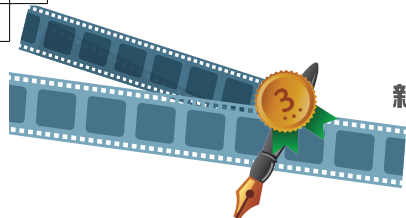
Firstly, different stakeholders should be involved in the consultation process so as to improve the representativeness of the consultation. ‘Soft-lobbying of particular stakeholder is undesirable and the government should take initiative to invite different stakeholders to contribute in the consultation process so that the public opinions collected are not biased to a particular stakeholder and can broadly represent the whole society. This reduces the chance for the government to cater for stakeholders enjoying vested interest only and neglecting public interest.

Secondly, the transparency of discussions within the government and public consultation should be improved. It can be achieved for allowing public access to all the related

materials such as meeting agendas and minutes during government meetings and the consultation meetings. This allows citizens to grasp a sound understanding on the issue and facilitates the public participation into the consultation process.

In fact, public consultation is of paramount importance in every policy designed by the government. Thanks to the Wang Chau Saga, the public is now questioning whether the public consultation system adopted by the government is appropriate. Perhaps only by reforming the consultation system can the government gain back the trust from Hong Kong citizens.





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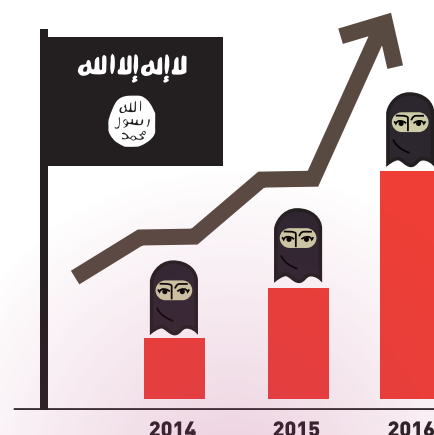
Senior | English Section

★ 2nd Runner Up ★

Angela Xifeng Liang

St. Mary's Canossian College

Terrorism : Causes and Solutions



On 15th October, 2016, a suicide bomber detonated an explosive vest in the middle of a Shi'ite gathering in Baghdad, Iraq. The terrorist attack killed at least 41 people and wounded 33. Islamic State claimed responsibility for the attack in an online statement.

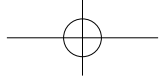
Terrorism has been a global issue for decades. As it causes economic loss and casualties, and arouses anxiety and instability among the community, governments all over the world have been paying effort to deal with it. With the rise of the ISIS, the number of terrorist attacks seems to have skyrocketed. The 2015 Global Terrorism Index highlights that the total number of deaths from terrorism in 2014 reached 32,685, constituting an 80 per cent increase from 18,111 the previous year. This is the highest level ever recorded. The number of countries which have been under terrorist attacks is also increasing. In 2014, terrorism impacted more countries than ever before. Attacks were recorded in 93 countries, up from 88 in 2013. It is statistically undeniable that terrorist violence is on the rise. We cannot stop ourselves from asking: what conditions provoke terrorism to take place?

One push factor of terrorist acts is injustice. Political

terrorists are those who are offended by the justice system, suffering from poverty, discrimination or unequal treatments. These victims have no directions or targets in life. They feel excluded from the community and have no sense of belonging to it. They have struggled to survive but in vain. These hopeless and helpless people are likely to fall prey to and brainwashed by extremist groups which provides them with daily necessities. In fact, a lot of terrorists are choosing violence because they believe it is the most effective way to usher a change.

Another circumstance causing terrorism is illiteracy. People living in poverty or developing countries, such as Afghanistan and India, are usually deprived of education, and are therefore lack of logical thinking and moral rectitude. These people are more easily misguided by radical and violent ideas.

Recent reports of terrorism news all point to religious fanaticism as a common cause. Terrorists are brainwashed by indoctrinations of extremists. They develop wrong understanding of religion, having the concept that it is justifiable to resort to violence to achieve their ends in the name of their religious belief. This case usually applies to



people living in Islamic or other religious countries such as Iraq, Pakistan, Syria, etc.

Besides, the incompetency in some corrupted governments makes it possible for terrorists to collect funds by illegal means. The actions of terrorist groups actually have to be driven by a large amount of funds and a huge manpower. Whilst the manpower is obtained through recruiting the disadvantaged Social groups, the terrorist groups are financed by donations of charities which raise funds in the name of various causes, as well as black money from criminal Sources, such as drug trade, Smuggling, fraud, kidnapping, extortion, etc.

What are the ultimate solutions to terrorism? Some may suggest killing and attacking the extremists in return. However, they are only short term solutions and are in fact also a kind of violence. Blindly cutting off branches or leaves which are growing and extending in every second of a tree is useless. To eliminate terrorism ultimately, we should start from the roots, employing peaceful and just means. In the end, violence stimulates more hatred only. Hatred can only be conquered by love.

Firstly, the governments in countries with great disparity between the rich and the poor or discrimination problems, such as the U.S and France, should provide more economic opportunities to the minority and the disadvantaged through policy making. She should care for them and listen to their voices. Those suffering should not be left directionless. With more economic opportunities given to them, they can integrate into the Society and improve their living standard. This can reduce injustice in the Society.

Secondly, proper and balanced education should be provided in countries which follow very strictly their religious teaching. In fact, extremists always exist and it may be difficult to change their thoughts. However, we can prevent the others from being convinced or taken advantage by them. Faith without knowledge is what causes religious fanaticism. If people only blindly follow their religion, they are vulnerable to the brainwashing of extremists and are more easily convinced. Therefore, the governments in religious countries should take the responsibility to educate

citizens about the true meaning of their religion and the correct moralities. Nonetheless, some religious countries may not have enough resources for education because they are underdeveloped, so the more developed countries should lend a helping hand to them.

Last but not least, governments have to stop the flow of terrorist funds. They have to play a more active role on prohibiting illegal and underground business activities. Besides, foundation of charities and religious schools should be funded only after proper verification and background checks. Without these sources of money, terrorist groups will no longer be able to buy weapons and lure followers for terrorist attacks.

If terrorism is mainly caused by injustice, illiteracy and religious fanaticism, and is made possible because of the inadequate monitoring of illegal business activities, the solutions can only be to provide more economic opportunities for the disadvantaged, proper religious education and stricter censorship on underground business activities.

