

### **Pros and Cons of Introducing the Subject of Moral and National Education**

The government is thinking of implementing the subject of Moral and National Education into all Hong Kong schools. Just as the saying goes, 'Every coin has its two sides.' We can see that there are some pros and cons on this topic. Let me discuss both of them and express my view.

First, for pros, it can widen the horizon of students. In Hong Kong, many students don't know much about China, even though they are Chinese. As a Chinese, they have responsibility to learn the knowledge about China, such as history, traditional culture, environment of China and so on. This subject can build a bridge for Hong Kong students to connect China. It becomes an eye-opener for students and enriches the students' knowledge. Therefore, it is a pro for this measure.

Second, the sense of belongings can be improved by studying this subject. After learning the knowledge about China, they may feel proud to become a Chinese because of the achievement of China nowadays and the past. Psychologically, they will start to accept to become a Chinese, won't they? It may be good for the long-term development of both Chinese government and Hong Kong government. Therefore, it may be an advantage of this measure.

Although there are pros, it can be seen that the cons exist on introducing the subject of Moral and National Education.

First of all, it will increase the stress of students. As we know, all students in Hong Kong have to face the public examination in Secondary 6 and Primary 6. Therefore, they have already gotten a great deal of pressure. However, if the government adds this new subject, I can't imagine how painful they will be after the implementation. The more subjects they need to learn, the higher pressure they have. It is not good for students' growth because of the bad psychological quality. Therefore, it causes worries on this measure.

Secondly, the new subject is the proposed topics which can be covered in Liberal Studies. The subject of Liberal Studies includes the topic of China. Therefore, the information and knowledge can be added into this topic. It not only saves the money of the government, but also the money of parents, especially the family live below the poverty line. Being too expensive for them to support, the text book which they don't need to buy can save a lot of valuable money. Therefore, it causes the discussion in

the society.

Last but not least, many people worry that the subject is a brainwashing machine. From the instruction of the Moral and National Education which is released by the government a few months ago, people find that some of the materials only focus on the positive sides of the Chinese government and rejected the negative sides. They worry that after their children study this subject, they will only know about the good sides of Chinese government. It is not good for their children. Some people argue that the Chinese government and Hong Kong government want to control their own personal thinking and mind.

To conclude, we find that there are both pros and cons in discussing this topic. However, on balance, I think the cons outweigh the pros. Therefore, I don't agree to the implementation of the subject of Moral and National Education because of the worries about students' stress and brainwashing.