



美國華聯商會

Peninsula Chinese Business Association

50 Victoria Avenue Suite 208, Millbrae CA 94030

July 1, 2020

Dear Members and Friends,

Six months ago, before the coronavirus disrupted our lives, I was at a reunion with high school classmates in Macau. It has been forty-two years since we graduated, and our discussions were all about the good old days. No one took conversations too seriously; we teased each other, shouting and laughing, noises filling the air in the restaurant. After everyone cleaned up their dessert plates, glasses were raised and we toasted to forty years of achievements.

I asked everyone to share one essential personality trait for success. The group came up with many different ones: passion, compassion, self-motivation, self-esteem, self-discipline, vision, integrity, and so on. I agree they all are the vital traits, but I think they missed one essential trait: humility. I am not saying my classmates don't have that trait. They, however, might underestimate humility as being the cornerstone that connects all traits to build personality.

I believe a lack of self-belief and humility can quickly limit one's potential. Experience has taught me that without humility, we may easily become arrogant and complacent, which are grounds for failure. We have to be careful and well manage our journey to success.

Humility is not about placing oneself down. It's merely a recognition that no single person knows everything that's needed to deal with problems that we face as a society. As Pastor Rick Warren wrote:

"Humility is not thinking less about yourself, it's thinking about yourself less."

To prevent ourselves from falling into arrogance and complacency traps, we open up in willingness to accept new ideas and a desire for life-long learning.

Here are two behaviors that will keep you humble and prevent arrogance and complacency that can lead down a dangerous path.

Always be a student; education is not finished after school. No matter how qualified we are, we must ensure that we continue learning. Who knows what we might discover tomorrow? Stay curious, and you'll be surprised at what you can learn.

Seek support; you have the potential to achieve more if you have the humility to ask for assistance. Seeking help is never a sign of weakness. It's a sign of wisdom.

Next time when you are at a reunion, raise the same question and see what you learn from the group.

Best regards,

Johnny DaRosa

President

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致：美國華聯商會會員及朋友們，

6個月前，我在澳門參加高中舊生聯歡會，當時新冠肺炎還未肆虐。在高中畢業42年後再重聚，舊同學的話題，總是離不開過去的美好時光。我們高談闊論，互相嘲笑，氣氛愉快又熱鬧。在大家享用甜品之後，我們舉杯互相祝酒，一同慶祝及見證，各人奮鬥40年的成就。

席間，我提出一個問題，要求所有人，分享一個可以達至成功的基本性格特質。他們提供了很多不同的答案：熱情、同情心、自我鼓勵、自尊、自律、有遠見及正直等等。我也同意上述均是至關重要的特質，但他們似乎忽略了一個最基本的特質：謙卑。我並不表示同學們都欠缺此特質，只是，可能他們都低估了謙卑。因為謙卑，可以融合所有特質，是建立個性的基石。

我相信缺乏自信及謙卑，都會妨礙個人潛能的發揮。經驗亦告訴我，缺乏謙卑，更容易令人變得傲慢、自滿，因而導致失敗。所以我們要成功，便要步步為營，更要三思而後行。

謙卑，並不表示要看輕自己。只是大家亦需承認，世上沒有一個全能的人，可以獨自解決社會上的各種難題。正如里克·沃倫牧師寫道：「謙卑，並不是自卑，而是，不要自我為中心。」

為免墮入傲慢、自滿的陷阱，我們應持開放態度，勇於接受新事物、新思維，及實行終身學習。

以下兩種行為，可以令大家保持謙遜，更可避免將自己陷入傲慢、自滿的危險境地：

終身學習；成為一位永久學生。離開校園並不等於完成教育航程，所以，無論你擁有何等學歷，或專業能力，我們都應該持續學習。更要保持好奇心，誰知道明天，世界有何新發現？而且學習，可以帶來無限驚喜。

尋求支持；謙卑的尋求協助，將會提高你成功的機會。尋求協助，並不代表你是弱者，而是具有智慧的表現。

下次，當你參加舊生聯歡會，不妨提出同樣的問題，可能從人群中，會獲得值得你學習的課題。

祝福大家，

美國華聯商會 會長，

羅世傑 謹啟

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二零二零年七月一日

中文翻譯 Doris Wong

(嘉嘉工作室創辦人)