



美國華聯商會

Peninsula Chinese Business Association

50 Victoria Avenue Suite 208, Millbrae CA 94030

September 1, 2020

Dear Members and Friends:

When we are young, most of us assume that our parents are good at being parents. Unless they are dreadful, it doesn't occur to us that they don't always know what they are doing. As we mature, we notice that our friends' parents do things a bit differently. Maybe we are envious, or perhaps we think we are the lucky ones. It may even dawn on us that our parents are totally wrong.

A friend of mine often complains about how she has to take care of her mother. Her father passed away when she was just two years old. Growing up, her mother treated her brothers very differently, often giving them what they wanted while neglecting her own daughter. My friend struggled to cope with the lack of affection from her mother.

I told my friend that she can either spend her life bitterly blaming her mother for all her problems or she can move on. Her mother was the sole breadwinner for three children, and they struggled to get out of poverty. It was too big of a task. Or, perhaps her mother realized too late that she didn't want to be a mother. If my friend was required to manage a similar situation, she would likely perform poorly too.

People with good parents are often quick to identify their shortcomings. If your parents are good at the job, it is somehow tempting to blame them for not being perfect. But why should they be perfect? How can anyone be expected to not put out a wrong foot in eighteen years?

Your parents are human, and it is very likely that they made a few mistakes. That is what happens when people spend eighteen years doing a job with no help or training along the way. But, you can still help them. You can choose to stop blaming and open your heart for forgiveness. They weren't getting it wrong on purpose; they were doing their best. Plus, if you feel that someone has ruined the first eighteen years of your life, the only sensible thing to do is to make sure they don't ruin the next fifty years too.

I urged my friend to forgive her mother and move on with her life. It saved her from becoming bitter and twisted, and it enabled her to think more positively about their relationship. Blaming your parents won't make things right, but it is not too late to let it go and recognize that their

hearts were in the right place. Your parents brought you into this planet with love. You should value every moment of this creation because it only happened once and won't happen again.

Warmest regards,

Johnny DaRosa

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President

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致：美國華聯商會會員及朋友們，

當我們年青時，總是認為自己的父母都是出色的父母。除非他們犯上大錯，否則，我們不會知道，原來許多時，為人父母者亦不肯定他們所作出的選擇是否正確。當我們稍年長，更會發現好朋友的父母與自己父母的行徑，有著大不同。這可能會令你感到羨慕，或者自覺幸運。你亦可能突然發現父母，曾經作出種種不可彌補的錯誤決定，有如晴天霹靂。

我有一位朋友，她常抱怨要負起照顧母親的重擔。她兩歲時喪父，自幼就感到母親對待兄弟比她更寬容、更愛護，甚至忽略了她的感受。這不但令她耿耿於懷，還使她困苦於母女之間的一道無形圍牆。

我給這位朋友一個忠告；她可以用餘生的時間來責備母親的過錯，延續痛苦。或可以選擇放下，給自己一條新出路，重過新生活。當年她的母親是一名寡婦，不但要忍受喪偶之痛，還需獨力撫養 3 名年幼子女，在貧窮無助的情況下掙扎求存。但她仍決心為一家擺脫貧困，過上安定的生活。當時苦況實不足為外人道。這位母親，別無選擇需面對這艱巨任務，她可能也曾想過放棄，但最終還是咬緊牙關的堅持下去，將 3 名子女撫養成人。

作為女兒，試想想易地而處，她會否跟母親一樣，犯同樣的錯誤？或是會有更糟的表現？

有幸擁有良好父母的人，往往卻不懂珍惜。感到最不了解自己的人，就是自己的父母，總是感到他們不夠完美。但是，為何他們需要完美？我們又怎能期望他人，在 18 年間從不犯錯呢？

你的父母只是普通人，他們都可能會犯上一些錯誤。情況就如人們就算從事同一工作 18 年，但在缺乏支援及專業訓練下，他們還是會犯錯的。他們並非故意犯錯，他們已盡力而為。但是，你可以選擇幫助他們；停止抱怨，徹底原諒及放下。

如果你認為某人已經摧毀你寶貴的 18 年，那最明智的選擇，就是確保他不可再摧毀你往後的 50 年。

我衷心希望，這位朋友能原諒她的母親。這樣可以令她遠離心靈的苦澀及扭曲，有望敞開心扉，再次思考及修補母女之間的關係，重過積極正面的生活。心存怨恨、責備父母並不會令事情重回正軌。相反，放下怨恨、執著的重擔，就如將自己從痛苦折磨裡釋放出來。這永遠不會太遲，就給彼此一個重生的機會吧！

你的父母懷着愛將你帶到這世界，請珍惜上天恩賜的每一刻，因為，這是獨有，又是唯一的一次。

祝大家安好，

美國華聯商會 會長，

Johnny Darosa

羅世傑 謹啟

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二零二零年九月一日

中文翻譯 Doris Wong

(嘉嘉工作室創辦人)