



美國華聯商會

Peninsula Chinese Business Association

50 Victoria Avenue Suite #208, Millbrae, CA 94030

April 1, 2021

Dear Members and Friends,

In January's letter, I encouraged you to not teach your children to be rich but instead to teach them to be happy so that they will consider value over price. The careers our children pursue also play a critical part to really understand this principle.

Many young people dream of working for lead corporations like Facebook, Google, Goldman Sachs, JP Morgan, and more. These organizations offer golden opportunities to secure comfortable finances in return for hard work and loyalty. Sounds reasonable and promising! Nevertheless, is it the best choice?

For early job decisions, many young people focus too much on money and prestige. Not enough attention is placed on the value of time. They often invest many hours in their jobs but spare little to none to shape their lives outside work. They do this because they overestimate the extent to which money will make their lives better. Taking a stressful job for cash in return is like quicksand - the harder you try to get out, the deeper you get in. Ask yourselves, is it fair to sacrifice time for money? Your answer might be "yes" because you think you can catch up later after the money comes. The logic makes sense, only as long as "later" actually happens.

If instead they choose to have a time-centric focus on career development and set a long-term path to grow into a meaningful role, they will be allowing themselves time to pursue happiness. Why are the young people who value time more than money happier? It's because they work at a job they "want to do" as opposed to a job they "have to do." Working for a money-centric job is not necessary to give them a happy life.

There is a cost to prioritizing money over time. When I was at my first job, society taught me that leisure is lazy. To race with society's pulse, I worked long hours and pushed my efforts to the limit. And when I got home, I felt unhappy that I was not making enough money. In my eyes, I saw that there was so much money to grab but not enough hands to hold it all. Unfortunately, making money did not bring me joy - I was *just* satisfied. The consequences of living that way resulted in obesity, loneliness, depression, and selfishness. As I grew older, I reset my thinking about the real value of time. I started seeking time affluence and it changed my mindset completely. Once I knew who I was and understood why I was doing what I wanted to do, it shaped my time such that I acted to align with my values. Gradually, I built quality of living.



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Some people say, "Time is Money." We should realize that our time is worth more than money. When the job choice is in front of you, and when you face a critical juncture in life, it is crucial to think about the happiness you might lose throughout your life if you choose to have more money over having more time. Money is a need that takes over our attention. In contrast, time is a currency that's hard to grasp and easily ignored.

Best regards,

Johnny DaRosa

Johnny DaRosa

President

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P.S. If you agree with me please forward to those you may know are planning for their career and to this year graduating students.



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致：美國華聯商會會員及朋友們，

我在一月份的信函中，曾鼓勵大家，不要教導孩子只著重金錢而忽略快樂，使他們能真正理解及考慮事物的價值，而不是價錢。這一個大原則，對他們日後選擇工作亦起着重要作用。

許多年青人，都渴望可以為社會上一些商業鉅頭工作，如 Facebook、Google、Goldman Sachs、JP Morgan 等。這些大企業，為應徵者提出高薪厚職、完善福利及退休計劃等，以可供員工擁有安穩生活，及日後的財務自由。許多人都認為這是難得的黃金機會，且大有前途。甚至有人期望，如能加入高薪行列，便可在 40 歲之年，過著優哉游哉的退休生活。公司以優厚條件，以換取員工為公司辛勤工作及忠誠服務，看似合理不過。但是，這是最佳選擇嗎？

許多初期投身社會的年青人，在選擇工作時，都過於著重薪金及公司的名氣，而低估時間的價值。他們對繁重的工作全情投入，晨昏顛倒，工作之後，還是工作，根本無暇，亦無精力照顧或享受工作以外的生活。就似是身處於無形的牢房，失卻自由而不自知。他們之所以願意如此付出，是因為他們高估了金錢的能力。他們確信它可以將生活變得更好、更理想。但現實是，如長期為金錢而賣命，在巨大壓力下工作，情況就如你陷入泥沼，你越是費力想離開，你就陷得越深。請問問自己，犧牲時間以換取金錢，值得嗎？可能你的答案是....值得。因為我還年輕，尚有精力、健康可耗。拼搏一段日子，待口袋有豐厚金錢，之後，便可以改善現時的生活，修補缺失，也可將生活變得更美好。一切也在我掌握之中。這想法看似合乎邏輯，但要實行，則要看你的所謂“之後”，要如你所願發生才有意義。人生中最難掌握的，往往就是“之後”的境況。

相反，在選擇工作時，如果大家能相信時間的價值，不是奉行金錢至上，你應有更多、更合適自己的選擇。選擇一份有意義，有時間可以平衡生活的工作，你才可以擴闊自己的視野，遇到更多機會，追尋更好的幸福。為什麼珍惜時間多於金錢的年青人會更快樂？因為他們是為「想要」的工作而工作，而非為「需要」的工作而工作。拒絕以金錢為中心的工作，選擇一份自己喜愛的工作，你將獲得意想不到的滿足感。



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偏重金錢，輕視時間，也讓我付出代價。我剛踏入職場，當時的社會風氣告訴我，有餘暇就等於懶惰、浪費人生。我為了配合社會的步伐，我長時間工作，為工作耗盡心力，將我的專業能力發揮到極致，更認為這是理所當然。當我心力交瘁的回到家，我並沒有因為自己的努力而感到快樂，反而為自己未能賺取更多的金錢而不滿。在我眼中，大量金錢就擺在面前，痛恨自己只得一雙手，未能捧走所有金錢。生活就只有工作這模式，持續了一段長時間之後，我對自己的賺錢能力終於感到滿意，但我並不快樂。更不幸的是，這種生活令我變得肥胖、孤獨、沮喪和自私，生理及心理健康也有所缺損。隨著年齡增長，我重新思考時間的真正價值。我想追求更多的，不再是金錢，而是時間。這個想法徹底改變了我的心態，也讓我更加了解自己，更清晰自己所追求的目標。原來身邊有很多事物比金錢來得更更有價值，也可令身心更富足。但此等富足，均需要動用時間來追求。在自我頓悟中，令我學會好好的運用時間，及如何保持生活平衡，漸漸地使生活變得更有質素。

常人道“時間就是金錢”。我們應該意識到，時間比金錢更有價值。大家在選擇工作，或面臨人生重大抉擇時，如果奉行金錢至上，這可能會令你失去更多的幸福。金錢，是我們必需，又顯而易見的貨幣。時間，卻是一種難以掌握，且容易被忽視的無形貨幣。

祝福大家，

美國華聯商會 會長，

Johnny Darosa

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二零二一年四月一日

中文翻譯 Doris Wong

(嘉嘉工作室創辦人)

P.S. 如果你同意我的意見，請你轉發這篇文章給你所認識的畢業生，及計劃投身職場的人士。