

# PAPAYA POST



*Where Ideas Grow*



## Issues:

### Should the Death Penalty be Abolished?

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The death penalty is the oldest punishment in the world. It is used to punish those who committed high crimes, especially for murder. However, it has been a controversial issue for several generations. Some people think the criminals have the human right and we should give them a chance to reform. Consequently, many countries such as England, France and Canada have abolished the death penalty. Even so, some people still think that death penalty is necessary.

First of all, scientific research proves that the death penalty has crime deterrence. An economics professor at Colorado State University announced that each execution could decrease five murder cases. Another professor at Emory University also brought up the same points. In his countrywide research, he found that every

execution could deter about 18 murder cases. These studies show that the death penalty can lower the serious crime rate, because most people are afraid of death.

Second, the criminals should be responsible for what they have done. Some people may think the criminals also have the right to live, and we should give them an opportunity to correct their errors. However, no one has the right to deprive the life from somebody. When criminals commit the murder, do they think of the victims' human right?

Last but not least, to the victims' family, the death penalty is the best consolation. They are the living victims who suffer from strong sorrow for losing their beloved family members. The sorrow is so huge that they may never get over it. Perhaps some of

them will try to forgive, but I think most people will have deep hatred for the criminals. The execution can't bring the victims to life and the sorrow for losing a family member will last forever, but it can make them feel better.

However, some executions may come from wrongful conviction. The way to improve the kind of the phenomenon is reinforcing the quality of the investigation and the judgment. I think we can imitate the punishment of Singapore. They use the whip to punish those who rob, rape or murder. Therefore, the public security in Singapore is very good. The rate of murder is under one percent. If we can replace death penalty with the whip penalty, I think our public security will become better and it may decrease the events of the wrongful conviction.

How does family affect personal growth? To survive in our daily life, learning is a must. Starting from being a baby, we need to learn how to communicate to express ourselves; when we grow up, we obtain knowledge of different subjects from schools, working environments, and even from personal experiences. Family is the first place where humans start their learning process. During the growing stages, the family education methods will have a great effect on the quantity and quality of the child's learning. This essay will focus on how the family affects personal growth from the stage of a baby to adolescence.

Firstly, when we are still babies, we learn from observing and mimicking others' behaviors. We are not able to identify if everything is correct or not, but only following what we observe. It is important to teach our children from the baby stage for telling the difference between right and wrong. Other than teaching the child, the parents also need to demonstrate good behaviors and let the babies follow. Because of the children's curiosity, they will ask their parents many questions and learn. The family is the first place where the child can observe the

parents' behaviors and learn.

Secondly, because babies are taught by their parents, the teaching style is very important because it will affect the child drastically when they grow up. If the parents are very stringent during educating, the child will be shy from the amount of punishment they received. A person who is always punished by others will have a low self-esteem and underestimate their ability. On the other hand, if the parents decided to spoil their children, they will be more aggressive and bossy to their parents and usually want their wishes to be fulfilled immediately. This kind of education to the children will greatly affect their personality and relationships with others in the future. They will expect others to treat them exactly like their parents and will become self-centered, and have many disputes with people. Ultimately, they will have only a few friends and considerably bad social skills.

Thirdly, the children who were raised by their parents instead of the domestic helpers or grandparents, are generally more considerate than the others. The fact is that the children are not raised by their parents and they are very bossy and need

others to serve them. If the children were raised by the parents, they needed to share part of the house chores and compromise to some house rules, making them more considerate. The helpers or the grandparents would like to show the children love by taking their load of the house chores, and even shelter them from the parent's punishments. In other words, the children were never allowed to do anything, which they were not given any chance to learn. When they become adults, they were still be served by others, and are less capable to manage themselves.

Furthermore, the children who were not raised in a single parent family, will have a clearer gender role, and understand themselves and their expectations in a family more. However, those who were raised in the single parent family do not understand their parents as well. They usually worry about their future and usually hide the fact that they did not have a complete family; making the children have a low self-esteem and confidence. Some of them wanted attention from their family members, which makes them pay less attention on their career, social life, and even daily life.

Moreover, the children's

life style can affect them when they are growing. When the children continue with their own habits, it will affect how others think. So, everything they do will affect their impressions from others, because of this, how the children were raised is important. The children's life style will affect their interactions with the others and this will affect them in the future. We develop our personality through learning and from our

experiences. It will then be tested in the social interaction.

To continue on the teenagers' life planning stages, they will ask the parents for opinions. Since the parents are important in the children's eyes, the parent's opinions will weigh heavily on their choices. It is true that people are affected by their surroundings, especially the family.

To conclude, the growth of children is affected by their

family, especially their parents. Since we were born, we learn from the surroundings and observe other's behaviors. After learning from our observations, we begin to create our own habits and these habits ultimately affect our personality. The interaction between the children and the family member and how they were educated will affect how they think and act in the future.

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## Local Life

### Night Market

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When the night market comes to your mind, you may think of shopping, delicious foods, and entertainment. It's a place in Taiwan where everyone must go. It can also make us feel relaxed and joyful. For me, a night market is a place which is full of numerous precious memories with my family. When I was a little girl, my family and I often went to a night market to kill time. I still remember that it

was crowded with people. Also, we could see a great number of vender's stalls. My dad and mom always walked in front of my younger sister and me. We would follow my parents carefully for fear that we would get lost. At that time we could enjoy our night. We heard the loud voices from the venders, tasted some tasty snacks and played games for fun. It was really a delightful time with my family members.

Yet, as I grew up, my family and I had less and less time to get together. Therefore, we hardly go to a night market together now. That's why it is a place which is filled with valuable memories. All in all, a night market is a space which is able to make your life relaxed and you can create your own story with important people.

### The Three Reasons Why Foreigners Love Taiwan

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Taiwan is a small and rich island and there are many scenic spots where many foreigners like to visit. It is humid and warm all

around. Nowadays, more and more people take a trip to Taiwan. According to the report "Five Reasons to Love Taiwan,"

which was posted on a website on May 28 in 2014 by foreign sanctuary, it showed that the common reasons why foreigners

love Taiwan so much. It also showed that foreigners love to visit Taiwan for many reasons, such as the special culture, the friendly people, the delicious food and the convenient environment in Taiwan.

Have you ever thought about why many foreigners love Taiwan? Although Taiwan is small, there are still many interesting things to explore. For many foreigners, Taiwan is a good place to explore. Now I am going to show you the three common aspects why foreigners love Taiwan.

The first reason is the people. Most of the Taiwanese are very friendly and they will always help foreigners without expecting anything in return. Foreigners do not need to worry about the language problems very much. Many old men and women will try to communicate with foreigners by using hand gestures and body language. Taiwanese are always willing to offer a smile and teach

foreigners some simple Chinese sentences. Even though you lose your way, most of the Taiwanese people will help you to find the correct place. All in all, for the foreigners, Taiwanese people are very friendly and enthusiastic. That is one of the main reasons why foreigners love Taiwan so much.

The second one is the culture. There are two reasons why foreigners love the Taiwanese culture. The first reason is the amazing night market life. No matter what kinds of food that foreigners want to eat, they can find them in the night market. You can try some strange food in the night market, such as snake soup. There are also many interesting small games for people to play. The second reason is that the KTV culture is attractive to foreigners. In many foreign countries, the stores are always closed after six or seven at night, but the KTV stores in Taiwan often run 24 hours a day. That is,

foreigners can experience a special night life in Taiwan.

The last one is the convenience. There are two main reasons. The first reason is that the convenience stores are located on almost every corner. You can do many things in convenience stores. For example, you can buy tickets or pay for your bills. The second reason is the convenient transportation in Taiwan. There are bus systems and a train system in every city, and a subway system in Taipei and Kaohsiung. It won't take much time to travel from Taipei to Kaohsiung.

These are the three reasons why foreigners love Taiwan. First, Taiwanese people are friendly to foreigners. Second, the night market and KTV are the two main cultural aspects that foreign people like very much. Last, the convenience stores and transportation in Taiwan are very convenient for foreign people.

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## **Taste of Pingtung**

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I am not a local of Pingtung, but I fell in love with the food in this area. I have to say that the food

here is sweeter than the food in my hometown, Yunlin. However, when I read the stories behind the

delicious food, I always think that the food and the culture are well connected. The delicious food has a bittersweet story in the taste. So, I launched a Fan Page on Facebook to introduce the food in Pingtung City.

I am a food lover and every weekend, I try to get on my scooter and try to look for delicious food in every corner of the street, at the end of an alley, or a diner. I enjoy the food, I take a photo, and I write a comment on my fan page. In the beginning, nobody cared about this fan page. Only a few of my friends would follow what I wrote on there.



However, I didn't stop writing and looking for a restaurant or snack that I hadn't

discovered. Therefore,

food reporting became my interest. I was enjoying spreading the message about Pingtung food.

However, I stopped for 3 months.

I stopped writing because I couldn't come up with any good idea about Pingtung food. However,

I came back again with a bowl of ice (bao-bing).

That was a newly opened ice store. The owner said that he is just trying to make everyone feel happy when they are eating the ice. The owner was generous and the bowl of ice was full of fruit. This made me feel quite moved. I found out that people in Pingtung are really nice and generous. They give the customer all they can



give. Almost every owner sees the all customers as friends. However, there is an owner of bento shop who once said to me that he considered the kids at the NPTU as his children, I can't let all you guys go hungry. This was moving and because of the generosity of the people here, I started to write stories again in my fan page.

I love to share food with everyone. What's more, I would like to introduce the culture of the food to, making everyone understand that the food here isn't just boring, but cultural.

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# Halloween Special

## Halloween

As we all know, Halloween is around the corner. It is one of the biggest celebration days in not only the United States but also the rest of the world on October 31. Halloween is my favorite holiday because of the many incredible elements that surround it, the exciting events that are carried out, and the delight on every kid's face while trick or treating. It is the perfect day for everyone to relax and

enjoy the excitement it brings. No matter if you are an adult or a kid, there is always an assortment of activities to do on Halloween. As a college student, parties play an indispensable and irreplaceable role in my leisure time. In the similar way, when it comes to Halloween, a party is also a fundamental element.

It goes without saying that one of the most interesting parts of Halloween is to dress up in

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creepy costumes. To me, costume dress up is a fun, creative and sometimes quite competitive game. Every year a few weeks before the holiday, people prepare for Halloween parties and talk about what they are going to be this year. My mother used to help me decide which character I was to be, but now I'm an adult. I can pick my own outfit. I have tried a lot of styles in the past few years, such

as a princess, witch, Harry Potter, and also Top Gun. All of the costumes were fantastic and I recall great memories when I catch up with my friends.

To sum up, Halloween is

more than just a holiday; it is a celebration that brings joy to those who celebrate it around you. In addition, Halloween is a festive and enjoyable holiday for anyone of all ages and in

different countries with various cultures to dress up, carve pumpkins, attend parties, and tell spooky ghost stories.

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## Summer Times

### *Surprise in Summer Vacation*

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I watched a movie called “Sophia Grace and Rosie’s Royal adventure” during summer vacation. It was a fairy tale style movie about 2 little girls who like to play dress up and suddenly have a chance to visit the palace. During their visit they help a self-doubted princess to become a perfect queen. I like the princess in particular.

Since it has always been my hobby to write someone an actual letter and send it out, I decided to write the princess a letter. Her name is Margaret, a British model and actress. I told her my favorite parts of the movie when the little girls encouraged her to be brave and the moment they met again, they hugged each other. I also said I wish people

would give more hugs to others because people around me don’t. I finished the letter and sent it to the United Kingdom, where she lives. I was not expecting any reply as I know people like her would be very busy and would probably not reply to any fan mails. Surprisingly, one night in August, I received a mail from her! I was super thrilled! It was a dark green envelope that matches the color of one of the dresses she wore in the movie. Inside the envelope was a lovely card. She said she was really happy I liked the movie and she would like to send me tons of hugs! It was such a unique experience that I would never forget.

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## Movie Review

### Movie Review: Bram Stoker’s Dracula (1992)

CX100132 楊惠婷

### The Original Pain — The Heart was Made to be Broken

The subtitle above is from Oscar Wilde and I’d like to explain the title first. I wanted the title to be The Original Scar at first and yet I think the expression is not strong enough and the definition is vague. If we are severely hurt and do not recover, why do we only have scar? In addition, what kind of scar? Hence, I choose the word “pain” in the end. Love, guilt consciousness, forbidden sex, and time (or so-called mortality) all bring us pain. We are born to suffer from these things just like original sin. That’s the point of horror: It’s

painful, but no one could escape. If one wants to suppress something, it will eventually come out in another way.

Horror is difficult for me because I was born in an entertaining time. I am exposed to very few things that require thinking. The deeper the meaning of a movie or work of fiction is, the less people will buy it. In order to earn money, the media or publishing companies have changed their style into the recreation mode. I am exactly a child of this era.

Nowadays, there are thousands of vampire books and films. Few of them; however, are outstanding. Bram Stoker's *Dracula* is the most classical and successful one. In my opinion, the themes of *Dracula* include love, sex, science, and time.

#### ✓ **Love**

Though the film fits into a lot of themes, to show my respect, I would like to discuss "love" first. This is actually a love story, pure and beautiful.

Most teenagers dream of love, but they don't know what true love is. In this story, upon learning the false news of *Dracula*, Elizabeth flung herself into the river. She said, "All is lost without him." Elizabeth only wanted to live with *Dracula*. She loved so much that she could only see *Dracula* although the world was so big, so colorful. So did *Dracula*. His heart was dead when he saw the body of Elizabeth. I couldn't describe how painful it was for him in just a few words. He was laughing painfully and almost about to shed tears but he didn't. Afterwards, he couldn't live like a human. Instead, he was just a "living thing". The most impressive line was "I renounce God." He was dedicated to the church, but they didn't protect his lover. For him, Elizabeth is the most important person on earth. However, suicide is a sin according to Christian belief. *Dracula* was going to betray God, but all that was for love. *Dracula* did find Elizabeth after four centuries. In that time, her name was Mina. He loved Mina so much that every time he wanted to bite her, he stopped himself from doing that. He already knew how hard life was if one becomes a vampire. Therefore, he didn't want Mina to have the same agony.

As for Johnathan Harker, he loved Mina so much. When he was trapped in the castle, Mina was the motivation that let him struggle to survive. In the end, Mina loved *Dracula* again, he stopped his friends from killing them, and let Mina hug *Dracula* entering the castle.

#### ✓ **Sex**

I didn't know that vampires were associated with sex until seeing one scene. When a beautiful woman showed up between Johnathan's legs, my breath stopped. She was so pretty.

I think Mina wanted to have sex but she didn't dare admit it. If Mina had no interest, how could she read *The Arabian Nights*? She turned to that page and said, "Disgusting awful." That does not make sense.

There is one scene I can't determine between sex or love. When Lucy became sick, Jack went to visit her. Jack kissed Lucy after she said, "Jack, kiss me." Does Jack love Lucy or he was just fascinated with her body?

#### ✓ **Science**

"Astounding! There are no limits to science." *Dracula* said this when he arrived at modern London, and watched a movie. Mina replied, "How can you call this science? Do you think Madame Currie would invite such comparisons?" I didn't know why Mina thought that the cinema was not a product of technology. It surely was.

As to Van Helsing, a metaphysician philosopher said that civilization and syhilation grew up at the same time. I agree. Now that we have Internet, numerous people find "partners" to have a love affair via the



Internet. More people have a messy private life, more people become ill.

✓ **Time**

Renfield said that” I've done everything you asked, master. I await your command, for I know that when the rewards are given, I will be one of those who benefits from your generosity.” Later in the movie Renfield mentioned that what he wanted was immortality. A lot of people have been attempting to prolong life from past to present. What they hope is to become immortal. Poets have expressed in certain poems the desire to remain as they are with their beloved despite time and death. In Bram Stoker’s *Dracula*, the Count crossed time (400 years) to find his lover. He did make Mina “RELOVE” him again, but her fiancé Johnathan became alone. Dracula hurt the innocent man. In this case, immortality does nothing good. But what if both the couples are immortal? I suppose it is still not good. The strong emotion will fade, absolutely. We won’t cherish every beautiful moment until we know life is not a bed of roses at first. It’s human nature. For a simple instance, just like how we feel about the four seasons. We know spring is comfortable and cozy because we just weathered through chilly winter.

Nothing can defeat time. Even true love cannot fight against the time. That’s why this film is beautiful. It reveals the truth. They conceive love but cannot have a happy ending. They know the consequence, but they still choose to suffer from it, love deeply.

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