

Article 23

I am an American Citizen and have lived in HK for the past 24 years. I live in Hong Kong out of choice. I do not do business as such in Hong Kong. I live here because I Love to live here. Hong Kong is a safe and secure place.

I recently started following the "Proposals to implement Article 23 of the basic law." I have read all the literature I could find about this proposal. Further to this I decided to carry my own small survey among friends and acquaintances. Of course no one really know what it is. They know some of the misconceptions written by the press or voiced out by some politicians that at the expense of getting the only 15 minutes attention they can drum up, they speak against the proposals. Sometimes you can only get your 15 minutes of fame if you speak against something.

Consequently the people I have spoken to know that it's that freedom of speech thing. The punch line is always China. Well thank you China for all that you have provided for Hong Kong and for me and my family. Everyone that I have talked too has a China related business. Leaving my personal thanks to China out of this, I hope I can be heard for being Pro the implementation of Article 23.

My survey only proved that no one out there really knows what Article 23 is really about. We need to implement this. When is everyone going to wake up to the fact that we are in fact HONG KONG, CHINA? At the time when the word Terrorism has gained momentum we need laws to keep our Hong Kong safe and secure. To protect ourselves here in Hong Kong we have to mention the Central Government of China. There should be no misconception about this. Actually this is very well worded in the proposals because the laws of China do not extend to Hong Kong. This article is to protect Hong Kong from foreign elements coming here and starting political parties and waggling war. Ho would you like it if the likes of Osama Bin Ladden showed up in your backyard asking for signatures to start a political party. I would not like that at all. So okay Osama came to my doorstep and he got the signatures and now he is causing a subversion that threatens my way of life. Who will stop him? Well my friends and fellow country men. Article 23 will stop him. It is most certainly not going to be Ghost Busters. Osama would endanger the stability of the HKSAR. If we have article 23 we might catch him before he can blow us all up.

What if Saddam Hussein came over and stole some State secrets, a few papers showing him how to build a few missiles. Lets say he stole them and got them while leisurely staying at a 5 Star Hotel in Hong Kong. Who and what is going to stop him, Article 23 will stop him. He is stealing State Secrets! Oh by the way, the judges were sleeping and no one could find someone to write a warrant to go into the 5 Star Hotel at 5AM. So the police barged in. They used the power of entry, I am happy in two counts; they caught Saddam Hussein (the bad guy) trying to seal State secrets and the police exercised the power of entry which by the way can only be used in case of great emergency. Which

means if they don't go and catch the bad guy immediately the bad guy will run away with all the good stuff. In usual circumstance the police would need a warrant.

And at the end of the day I can still stand anywhere in this town and say whatever I like about whatever it is; because my right of freedom of speech is guaranteed by Chapter III of the basic law. And no Article 23 can stop me from saying whatever I want because if they do and they are wrongly doing so, I will take drag them to a court of law. I have freedom of speech, I have the Freedom of association, of assembly, of procession and of demonstration and last but not least I have so many Freedoms I don't know what to do with them. And they are all guaranteed by the Basic Law Chapter III, Article 27 and Article 39. I had the freedom to read the proposals of Article 23 and I read them. What did you do? I know what you did...you were misinformed...you went out there like Don Quijote and wagged a war against Article 23. My friend I have good news for you. Those are the great Giants of Misconception and Fear, but truly look again, they are windmills and what you feel is just the winds of change blowing your way. Lets get this Article 23 done so we can get on with our lives and continue to feel safe and secure in our homes. Keep the bad guys out!

Article 23 has transparency, it is clear, guarantees all my freedoms because if not I can take them to court, the Article says so. My human rights are also protected. If you don't like it you can read it and say so. I am all for it! The sooner they get this done the better it is for ALL OF US. Wake up call!!!!!!
I am talking and writing, what are you doing?
I wan to live in my safe and secure environment...where do you want to live?

Sincerely,
Anavel Caparros R.