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范徐丽泰女士

I am a native of Hong Kong, and I frequent this birthplace of mine often even though I now reside in the United States. The welfare of the Hong Kong people is a great concern to me. I am writing to convey my reason and opposition to the legislation article-23.

The cons of arguments already circulated are numerous, and its merit and reasons are undeniably valid and no need for my reiteration. Let me speak from a different angle.

"Pearl of the East" a name given to Hong Kong for the greater half of a century will definitely be no more if article-23 is enacted. And this place that I love will become a place of great sorrow because of the lost of "freedom," which is in the heart and joy of its people, and have enable Hong Kong to be vibrant and flourishing to this day.

Freedom is a privilege and a right inalienable to every human being. No one wants to forfeit one's own freedom and rights, or have it denied. The deprivation of someone's freedom is deplorable, especially when it impose with force, and is often born out of selfish intent. On an individual level, it is reflected as good and evil. In nations, it is the same, but manifests as democracy and tyranny.

Why did the world abolish slavery? Wasn't it also a deprivation of individual's freedom and rights? Isn't autocracy another form of slavery? No matter how you slice it, the deprivation of freedom is immoral.

Your action and decision may be meritorious on the side of the presiding regime, but it does not sit on the side of higher judgment, as the former is based on human fallacy. Good is rewarded with good, and evil will be accorded likewise.

You are in a position to preside over the fate of millions of people; your merit or demerit will endure accordingly. The immediate enticement or pressure is enormous, whether to act in-line with the ruling regime and avert implication, or stand in righteousness is no easy feat. But one's deed, either good or bad inevitably carries consequence. I implore you to act with wisdom and the highest of standards.

With utmost Sincerity,

  
Michael Dong