

## **Advocacy for Zheng Sheng's relocation into Mui Wo**

Dear Hon. Mr. President of Legislative Council,

As you may have already known, the Hon. Mr. Cheung Hok Ming's handling of Zheng Sheng College relocation into Mui Wo has woken the flames of anger of numerous Hong Kong citizens, and this scent of injustice has spread to my community in Leeds, U.K. On behalf of those who speak for the motion, I would like to, in the name of a permanent Hong Kong citizen, express my utter regret and shock at this preposterous exercise of the Hon. Mr. Cheung Hok Ming.

To begin with, many people do not see a legitimate reason strong enough to back the banning of Zheng Sheng College relocating its premise into Mui Wo. There are, however, a few arguments from local Mui Wo residents which are logically unsound and even, in terms of humanity, disgraceful.

Firstly, the original school which was built on that site was forced to shut down due to primarily two reasons: the poor, inefficient management of the senior hierarchy of the school itself and the declining youth population of Mui Wo. To put it in another way of speech, the opportunity that was once given to the residents was not seized tightly by the body running the school and local residents, and necessary reforms that should have been carried out to the school were not even brought anywhere near to the vicinity of being realized. Over the period of the school's existence, parents of students had not sought a solution to this problem and this is, regretful to say, the consequence parents of Mui Wo have to bear as a result of irresponsibility of the parents of then-students and the running board. It has been mentioned on a YouTube video that Heung Yee Kuk (or whatever governing organization) has injected a large sum to aid the school's mission to nurture the local bright young leaders. It is obvious that the failing of the school is partly the fault of the funding body.

It has also drawn my attention that residents of Mui Wo cited their opposition to this motion most vocally. The residents, of course, have every right to cite their views towards whatever policy that involves the utilization of their neighbourhood for the greater good of Hong Kong. However, this was done, in a recent local residents' meeting, in the most unfeeling, inhuman and barbaric manner. It can be easily seen from some footages that the residents have shown great repulsion, disrespect and

disregard to the young ex-drug addicts who are currently going through rehabilitation. This has undoubtedly roused my innermost conscience in two different ways:

1.) The mission of Zheng Sheng is, known by every member of the public, to help youngsters who had gone astray but later repented, by reinforcing their rehabilitation through education, solid work and the teachings of the Church. The success of Zheng Sheng can easily be seen, and yet the running body did not rest on its achievements, but continued to strive for the very best for those who have once sinned and torn the hearts of their loved ones but now gone back to the right path. Much to my sorrow, their repentance was not met with acceptance of the residents but with hostility and discrimination. The residents have even rejected the counsel of citizens from other parts of Hong Kong. An important thing for them to understand is this: Mui Wo is never a self-governing area, but Hong Kong is. They are in no position to barbarically trash the advice from others. It should be understood that rehabilitation and detoxification are tedious and tough processes and should be aided at all times by genuine care and support, and that a person should not be judged by his past wrongdoings, but his present efforts to rectify what has been done wrong and contributions to the greater good. Hypocrisy is being practiced by Mui Wo citizens to the highest plane. Also, such discrimination is comparable to the apartheid policy introduced by the whites on the African black population during the Cold War, and almost half a century later, this discriminatory act is practiced by one of the most formidable, civilized cities on the face of the globe, only that it is done by people on those who share exactly the same skin colour, the same language, the same dialect, and the same culture. To what extent do the Mui Wo residents differ from the imperialists and colonists who subjected members of the same species to injustice that is never seen in human history so fell and fiendish? Everywhere in Hong Kong is so urbanized, that it is almost inevitable for the facility to be located not near to residential areas. It is most understandable that it is against the will of all to live near such facility, however obeying this unfeeling will means that the repenting ones will be geographically marginalized, which is against the fundamental aspects of humanity. At the present time, the work of aiding rehabilitation is unwanted by many and this burden of Hong Kong has been pushed away from one to another like a stale steak on the elegant dining table. The buck stops here, like what Harry Truman, war-time president of the US, had in his drawer in the Oval Office. Here and now.

2.) It can be obviously spotted, even by those who are dismally talentless in politics, that what the Hon. Mr. Cheung have spoken during the meeting is nothing but a mere political stunt to marshal his votes from his constituencies for the election four years later. He has done this at the cost of shielding them from knowing what is truly righteous. He has drowned the proposal with their voices of ignorance and discrimination by abusing 'democracy' of a gathering of 300 or so. He has equivocated an issue that needs utmost attention, that is, the rapid growth of the drug abuse problem. It is my strongest belief that it does not take an ordinary citizen to tell a councilor that the duty of a member of congress is chiefly to speak for the betterment and progress of Hong Kong, not to express merely the will of his or her constituencies. There is a duty for a congressman to educate his people of the blueprint for the development of a better place to live.

I totally understand the potential impacts the establishment of Zheng Sheng has on Mui Wo. It could adversely affect development of tourism and may bring negative influences to the neighbourhood. However two more things must be taken into consideration.

1.) The robust tourism industry is partly brought about by the international image of Hong Kong in the eyes of the foreigners. How, in your views, would Hong Kong be eyed if it comes to the attention of the tourists that Hong Kong is a place where the guardians of gridlocks are harboured, while those who sincerely seek ways to repent are not accepted?

2.) The present achievements of Hong Kong are results of unity and hard work, not discord and slackened effort. Predicaments have we Hongkongers gone through, with mutual care not discrimination or social differentiation. Banishing the repenting ones will only cause further social disintegration and resentment. Most undesirably, this wounds the pride and passion of the ex-drug addicts, and will most certainly do no good to them. This futile hostility is of no benefit to Hong Kong, but is of a harm.

I have chosen to email you, honourable Mr. President of the Legislative Council, so I can exercise my civil rights despite the fact that I am almost ten thousand miles away from my dear homeland. I am sure you, along with others, would like to see unity over discord and harmony over hatred. Speaking of civil rights and duties, the Zheng Sheng community had exercised theirs almost a year ago to voice their

concerns to the LegCo. While that of Mui Wo, perhaps too busy burying themselves with gains they got from business and paying attention to only personal interests, did not speak for the betterment of the society as a whole. They have chosen hypocrisy, differentiation and disharmony. We are on the pursuit for a civil society, and surely in this context the Zheng Sheng community has contributed far more to its forming. You, as the DAB leader, have to pull them back to the right path. The Hon. Mr. Cheung's constituencies believe they live on a higher moral plane than them and should be treated better, but they are wrong, for all are free, all are equal, and all deserve an equal chance to pursue their full measure of happiness. We hold these creeds to be always true and self-evident, and it troubles me that no one ever bothered to write it down to become a law.

The problem of drug addiction is becoming more common and is starting to evolve to be a token of Hong Kong, which is the last thing we wish to see. To stem the furtherance and widespread of this satanic influence, the ratification of establishment of Zheng Sheng is the first and most important step. This will be a gesture to Hong Kong that the government is willing to contain the aggravation of this problem, rather than pouring money into pre-emptive measures such as prevention via education, which, obvious to everyone, is failing as the number of addiction cases is soaring through the roof in the recent years. There are tangible evidences that rehabilitation facilities do help ex-drug addicts greatly, as they tend to instill the repenting ones with positive thoughts and encouragement. Rehabilitation along with school education is particularly important as the problem is starting to infest our youths to a greater extent than ever. There is only at the present stage, one such facility in Hong Kong. Refusal to relocate this only facility for a larger space will only result in complete failure in combating the spread of drug addiction, as this discourages the formation of other bodies which serve similar causes. We have to sacrifice some minor things to shape the greater good. It is time to set aside childish things to stem the black tide.

Here are some sources you might like to have a look at:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L6OpzZQPbjg&feature=related>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i0BdLoDaMcE&feature=related>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V7h1oozEqRI&feature=related>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YvVyh2ToIQ&feature=related>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0aawjAjP4Lo&feature=related>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QNCLax3hpBU&feature=related>

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y1b\\_UmiUunI&feature=related](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y1b_UmiUunI&feature=related)

<http://hk.news.yahoo.com/article/090614/4/cosk.html>

<http://hk.music.yahoo.com/magazine-news-article.html?uid=593125>

Please convey these thoughts to the Hon. Mr. Cheung and to the members of the Legislative Council. Here is a final food for thought for them: What does a person gain if he wins the whole world but loses his conscientious inner angel?

I am 18 years old this year. In spite of being in the UK for almost a year from the day I departed Hong Kong, I still pay high attention to local news. I know there are moral absolutes which should prevail over earthly human wishes.

I cannot tell by mere words how I am appalled and revolted by this ruthless disregard the Mui Wo community has shown. My fellow kinsman in Leeds have also shown great revulsion and grief. I hope you do finish reading this email as I know I have used my leisure time to type this up. This email will be sent to some district councilors of the Outlying Islands in short order. And I urge, in my strongest possible terms, that you advise the Hon. Mr. Cheung to forfeit his grounds against the repenting ones.

Yours sincerely,  
Sunny HO