

### LETTERS FROM THE EDITORS

I'm excited to invite you to read a new issue of *Translingual: The Journal of International Voices.* My message this issue involves more housekeeping and less of the philosophizing I so enjoy slathering these sorts of things with, but alas! It must be done.



I want to alert our readership to our new publication schedule, which allows us to spend more time on the journal without disrupting our production volume. Henceforth, issues will be published bi-annually in late January and September. Authors and artists may submit at any time through our <a href="submissions link">submissions link</a> on our webpage, but each issue will have a submission deadline, after which submissions will be considered for the subsequent issue.

Exciting job opportunity alert! We are seeking at least one Federal Work Study, especially for autumn 2025, but we'd welcome assistance this semester. When the job is live, it will be posted on <u>our webpage</u>. Apply or share it with a friend who might be interested.

Our editorial team has been working hard perfecting our mission statement. We're very exciting to share it with you, as we realize the real reasons we started this journal may elude some folks, especially considering the multigenre nature and specificity of our submitter demographic requirements. Please take a gander in the following pages, and feel free to let us know what you think! You can always contact us at translingual@osu.edu with comments, questions, and feedback. Please reserve submissions for the aforementioned link on our webpage.

Thank you for supporting us! Every click and share matters, expanding the circle of influence our multilingual and multicultural writers and artists encompass. Their perspectives matter now more than ever, and without you, dear readers, we could not do it!

Emerson McMurray Editor of *Translingual* 



This journal exists to celebrate the multilingual and multicultural community that is here on Ohio State's campus. To celebrate the brilliance, creativity, and perspective that each person brings into our classrooms and labs and dorms. We

are extremely lucky to be in a place where people from diverse locations, backgrounds, and experiences come together to learn from, challenge, and open new windows for each other. We are all better for it.

Translingual is just a piece of that, and I thank all of the readers, writers, and cretives who make it possible. We have been doing this for over two years, and every issue brings new points of interest and extends the reach of the submitters. I am excited to share our fifth issue with you; I hope that you enjoy it as much as we do.

Elizabeth Osbourne Editor of *Translingual* 



As an international PhD student and advocate for translingual writing, I'm truly honored to be part of the Translingual team. It's a joy to have played a part in bringing together this vibrant and inclusive collection that Emerson and

Elizabeth have been meticulously building over four issues. *Translingual* is a testament to how we celebrate linguistic and cultural diversity as a valuable resource at IELP. It provides a genuine platform for international voices to shine. I'm excited to see even more submissions come in as we keep exploring and celebrating our rich linguistic landscapes.

Onur Ozkaynak Translingual Editorial Board

Additional thanks to Hanqi Xu, the third member of the *Translingual* Editorial Board.

Hello, I am Sree Ramya Krishna Govardhan, I am a third-year majoring in Korean Language and Literature with a Pre-Med Track at The Ohio State University. I am an International Student from Hyderabad, India. I am a



linguist and can speak about 7 languages. I am the first Student from India to major in Korean in the United States of America. I have been serving as a leader for over a decade to two organizations in India namely Hyderabad Kpoppers (Est. 2013) and India's first registered society related to Korean culture – Korean Culture Society (Est. 2018) which aim to promote and strengthen Indo-Korean relations. I am passionate about diplomatic, cultural, and international relations. I hope to 'Be the change and Bring the change' to our world.

I believe the *Translingual* Magazine is an amazing source for learning about various cultures and read about topics that are close to all International and Domestic Students at The Ohio State University. Each published article in this magazine is special and unique. While *Translingual* is informational it is also fun. I am very honored to be a part of this wonderful team, to get the opportunity to work on the magazine and publish my own article as well. I hope you enjoy reading and learning from *Translingual* as much as I do!! Thank you.

Sree Ramya Krishna Govardhan *Translingual* Editorial Board

## Submit to *Translingual*

### Rolling submissions- submit here at any time

Autumn issue submissions deadline **August 1st, 2025** 

#### Submissions can include:

**Academic**: short research reports and academic work from courses

Creative: poems and stories

**Informative**: experiences, reviews, and advice

Reflective: opinion pieces

Varied Artistic Mediums: photography, sculpture, painting, music, and dance

Questions about *Translingual?*Contact us at translingual@osu.edu.



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Translingual Volume 3 | Issue 1

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The mission of Translingual: the Journal of International Voices is to serve as a space for multilingual writers, poets, academics, and artists to showcase their work and share their unique voice and perspectives.

Translingual advocates for the legitimacy of the dynamic, complex, and "nonstandard" expression of Ohio State students, faculty, and staff, fighting against native-speakerism and celebrating multilingual and multicultural writers' unique utterances and modes of expression. We are invested in giving dedicated space to the exceptional contributions of multilingual and multicultural writers.

Furthermore, we want to be a bridge to the academy when publishing can seem out of reach. We want to occupy a space within university publications that empowers agentive use of language in its many forms, highlights multicultural perspectives, and contributes to critical discourse. We commit ourselves to inclusion, the decolonization of English, and community exposure to the perspectives of Translingual's creatives and academics.

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# SEAN TSAI

Puppet Show 2

These were the days I once fantasized about, traveling around in a big truck, performing shows on tour.



## COVER

Anti gravity water chandelier

Having dinner at a cool restaurant.





Social interactions can vary greatly depending on where you are in the world. As a person who arrived in the United States two months ago, I have noticed a significant difference between how people socialize in the two countries. When I first arrived in America, I quickly realized that socializing here was very different from my experience in China. From the way people talk to each other to what they value in relationships, these two cultures approach socializing in distinct ways. In this essay, I will compare social structures, communication styles, and social skills in both the United States and China, showing how each country's culture shapes its social habits. These differences are influenced by their unique histories and values, which shape how individuals in each country interact with one another.

The first major difference in socializing is in the area of social structure. Both China and the United States have complex social structures; however, they function in totally different ways. In China, social hierarchy is highly valued, and this is reflected in daily interactions. People show more respect

to those with higher status, such as elders or superiors, and this respect usually affects behavior in both professional and social settings. For instance, during my time studying in China, it was common practice to carefully listen to our upperclassmen without questioning their decisions openly. Junior students rarely challenged their upperclassmen in public, as doing o would be seen as disrespectful. In contrast, the United States has a more egalitarian social structure. Authority is respected, but there is also a strong emphasis on equality. In the U.S., it's common for people, regardless of their rank or age. to share their ideas and opinions freely. For example, in a team meeting at work, I once observed a junior staff member giving feedback to a senior manager, which would be considered unusual in China, where



such directness might be perceived as impolite. "According to Hofstede's cultural dimensions, China scores high in power distance, meaning that people accept hierarchical order without needing justification, whereas the U.S. scores lower in this aspect, reflecting a more democratic and equal society" (sites.psu.edu/global/2020/11/01/comparing-china-to-unitedstates-using-hofstedes-six-cultural-dimensions/). The difference in social structures shows that Chinese society places more



attention on rank compared to the U.S., where equality and openness are more common.

In addition, the communication styles in China and the United States contrast significantly. In China, people tend to use indirect language, focusing on preserving harmony and avoiding confrontation. When engaged in conversation, they often choose to use subtle hints or euphemisms to express their thoughts, particularly in sensitive situations. For example, during my experience living in China, when someone wanted to refuse an offer, they would do so politely, often saying something ambiguous like "I'll think about it" rather than directly saying no. In contrast, Americans

typically communicate more openly and directly. They place importance on clearly expressing their ideas and opinions, even if that might lead to conflict. When I first arrived here, I noticed that many of my roommates and American friends were not afraid to express their thoughts or opinions clearly, even if it could lead to disagreements. For example, during a team discussion, one of my American teammates disagreed with my idea but explained their reasoning directly without hesitation. This directness can sometimes be mistaken for rudeness in Chinese culture, where people prefer more tactful and reserved communication. "A study comparing China and the United States through Hofstede's cultural dimensions further supports this, showing that the U.S. scores much higher in individualism, which emphasizes selfexpression, while China, with its focus on collectivism, values group harmony"

(www.nature.com/articles/s41599-024-02744-9). These contrasting communication styles show that while Chinese interactions are centered around maintaining group harmony, Americans prioritize clear, direct communication to achieve results.

There is also a big difference between Chinese and American social skills. which reflect each country's cultural values. In China, people generally emphasize modesty and humility. It is common for individuals to downplay their achievements in social situations, as boasting about one's success is often seen as inappropriate. For example, when I won a very valuable and competitive competition, I did not tell many people because talking about it with others would have made me feel uncomfortable. However, in America, self-promotion is often encouraged, and people are more comfortable sharing their accomplishments with others. For



example, at social events in the U.S., people frequently discuss their achievements, such as recent promotions or personal milestones, to connect with others. The differences in social skills between China and the U.S. demonstrate how cultural values shape interpersonal interactions, with the Chinese approach favoring humility and caution, while Americans are more likely to celebrate their achievements openly.

In conclusion, socializing in China and the United States differs in several key ways, including social structure, communication style, and social skills. The hierarchical nature of Chinese society contrasts with the more egalitarian approach in the U.S. Similarly, communication in China emphasizes maintaining harmony, while Americans value directness and clarity. Finally, Chinese social skills favor modesty and humility, while Americans are more comfortable showing their successes confidently. All of these differences stem from each country's distinct cultural values, which significantly affect how individuals communicate in their personal and professional lives. By understanding these cultural differences, we can build better relationships with people from diverse areas and communicate more effectively with those from different parts of the world. In reflecting on these issues, I realized that I needed to make some changes to be happier in the United States. Now, I no longer reserve my opinions when speaking to my team members but express my ideas fully, which has increased my work efficiency. In daily life, I no longer hesitate to share my past experiences and strengths, such as my excellent table tennis skills, which has helped me make more friends. Therefore, I believe this comparative study is of great value to me.

For this assignment, I was tasked with writing an essay and then using ChatGPT to help edit and improve the clarity, grammar, and sentence structure of my writing. The prompt I used with ChatGPT was: "Identify and fix grammatical punctuation and sentence structure errors. Keep as much of the original language as possible."



## 雪夜忆往事 Memories of the past on snowy nights

Yiran Wang

雪夜忆往事

腊月冬日碧水流, 白烟缕缕景如旧。雪衣披山百侣游, 三杯浊酒忆春秋。绵绵细雨化作愁, 难回首, 朦胧佳人回眸。北风拂过芽枝头, 终不似, 少年游。

In the last month of the year, the clear water flows, and the white smoke wisps the same scenery as before.

A hundred tourists travel in the mountains with snow-covered clothes, and three cups of muddy wine recall their memories.

The soft rain turns into sorrow,

and it is hard to look back, but move forward.

The north wind blows over the buds and branches, and an old man feels completely different to his youth.

### Feelings on Mid-Autumn Festival

Yiran Wang

月有离兮,金秋斩荆棘。

十七载,圆月在千秋,空留千层云。

蜀道哉,青天不可及,远道之人何以攀天梯。

月有圆兮,十五破惊雷。

三十载, 高楼欲冲霄, 摘得星与辰。

山道哉,绝顶不得知,惊雷破天直到冷月西。

不知年年月欲见何人, 江上空留乡音待故人。

追兮, 憾兮, 空留江月守。

The moon is far away, cutting through the thorns in the golden autumn.

Seventeen years, the full moon is in the past, leaving thousands of layers of clouds.

Shu Road, the blue sky is unreachable, how can people from afar climb the ladder to heaven.

The moon is full, and the fifteenth day is thunderous.

Thirty years, the high building wants to reach the sky, picking the stars and the stars.

Mountain Road, the top is unknown, thunder breaks the sky until the cold moon is in the west.

I don't know who I want to see every year, and the river leaves the hometown voice waiting for the old friend.

Chasing, regretful, leaving the river moon alone.



### The Continuation of Conventional Pesticide Application in Agriculture

Xinyang Xiong

The majority of the population nowadays often hold negative attitudes towards pesticide use and are in strong belief that a more environmentally friendly replacement of conventional pesticide(CP) should be manufactured. The main reason being CP's well-known drawbacks, such as severe and lifethreatening cases of pesticide contamination and poisoning. This affects the ecosystem, residents, and the consumers of the products. The term pesticide generally describes products which aim to prevent, kill, or reduce the effect of any pests. Not limited to pest removal only, plant regulator, defoliant and desiccant are also accounted as pesticides, according to the US Pesticide Law. Traditional pesticide(TP), or CP is often used to indicate those which consist of synthetic compounds only.

The main argument regarding CP is around its content, the synthetic chemicals used are usually highly toxic and deadly, a notable example being organophosphates, which were used as a chemical weapon in warfare. Whilst most hold concern about the impact of CP on themselves and the nature, studies have shown that the residues do not have any effect on the human body. Additionally, some agricultural products even have no remains by the time they are harvested. Regulated application of CP also ensures the minimization of residues entering the nature, preventing contamination to

environment and other species. Although some suggested and proposed to develop a safer version of CPs, the effort of scientists and companies so far are comparably ineffective and lack in adaptability to satisfy different conditions compared to CP. Moreover, it is time consuming to advertise and allow customers to gain trust on the environmentally friendly products themselves, as their living relies on their crops growing successfully. I strongly argue that the efficiency and benefit of traditional pesticides outweighs the potential drawbacks and existing replacements, hence its use should be continued. First, some claim that the chemical contents within pesticides may induce deadly and horrendous diseases. The synthetic compounds easily consumed and absorbed via the residues on the agricultural products. As the main component of traditional pesticide, the synthetic compounds are often harmful or even lethal to the human body, which results in multiple negative outcomes. Examples include respiratory, neurological, and chronic diseases. However, the residues were proved to have no effect on the human body upon consumption. After carrying out examination of dried tea leaves from various Belgium stores, Stzernfeld et al. (2022) discovered that whilst the maximum residue level(MRL) is exceeded by 38.2% of the chosen sample. The research team carried out acute hazard risk index assessment, obtaining the conclusion that none of

the sample obtained a score beyond 100%. This result indicates no associated acute risk with the examined tea leaves containing CP residue; it implies that the remains does not increase any health-related risk(pp. 61; 64). Hence, the concern and rejection upon CP application is unnecessary, as even products containing residues beyond maximum residue level does not result in any serious health concern mentioned previously. The safety is proven further by the 2020 European Union report on pesticide residues in food, published by European Food Safety Authority(ESFA). ESFA(2022) analyzed the following:

Overall, 94.9% of the 88,141 samples analyzed in 2020 fell within the legal limits (83,666 samples) (96.1% in 2019); of these, 48,181 samples (54.7%) did not contain quantifiable residues (results below the limit of quantification for all pesticides analyzed) while 40.3% of the samples analyzed contained quantified residues not exceeding the legal limits (35,485 samples). (p. 12)

The given analysis demonstrates the low concentration of CP residue on most products, following the previous discovery, exceeding the MRL does not induce any significant health concern - the drawback and harm of CP is exaggerated. Additionally, since CP is mostly applied via spraying, the structure and location of specific fruit even decreases the residue amount further due to how it is absorbed, as some areas do not directly interact with CP. For instance, the fruit of root vegetables contains significantly less CP residue compared to the leaves, whereas the root-shoot section produced an intermediate reading – all the captured data were below Japan's MRL (Yajima et al., 2017, p.122).

Secondly, some seek nature-friendly replacements such as biopesticides, alternative farming strategy and some genetically modified food that has pest resistance. Although the given instances are a valid replacement to conventional pesticides, as they minimize the chances of damaging the environment or humans. The well-known replacement biopesticides – has insufficient performance. Common biopesticides focuses on one of the major pests which farmers and organizations suffer from, which were even more specific before the 21st century, resulting in a highly restricted market. In addition, the activity of those biopesticides – consists of microbes – is often short to protect the environment and non-targets, which limits the efficiency. Also, biopesticides require expensive trials to prove its safety, often making it non-profitable regarding the market size; thus it is difficult to be commercialized(as cited in Glare et al., 2012, pp. 250; 255). Another alternative being essential oil(EO), it has reduced efficiency under varying conditions, resulting in low adaptability. Assadpour et al. (2023) discovered the dependency on high concentration to ensure the efficiency of EO as pesticides, resulting in more persisting residue and changing the taste of products. EO itself stand-alone is considerably ineffective, requiring a combination with other products to reach the satisfactory outcome. As a newly rising counterpart to CP, the uncertainty in regulation and standardization of EO in agricultural products also poses challenges to availability in countries(pp. 6490-6491). Moreover, methods depending on the food chain were attempted also, which pest-related problems were tackled with their natural predator the variation in prey availability and nutritional value - thus require further investigation in the predators'



behavior to effectively mitigate the uncertainty it proposes (as cited in Ghosh et al., 2022, p. 190). The changing behavior of natural predators is challenging to manage as it differs from time to time. Therefore, isolated application to prevent damage towards non-target species is necessary but the overall applicability of this approach becomes limited.

Lastly, some argue that the application of conventional pesticides pollutes the environment and contaminates water sources, harming the animals in addition. It can be often heard from news or seen on articles raising the issue where local biodiversity has been rapidly declining – as a result of the pesticides they used in their farmlands. The excessive use of CP could directly become a source of all those examples above, as people tend to have limited knowledge regarding CP application and proceed to spray extra for an overkill. Any chemical can become lethal and damaging when high concentration of the instance is involved. It is essential that correct and sufficient training are established, so effects of pesticide residues is contained and minimized. Through carrying out awareness programs provided to local full-time farmers, according to Rijulal et al.(2024), "72 soil samples were collected two weeks after the application of pesticides. 70 of the samples did not detect any pesticide residues, and none of the samples contained residues of organochlorine pesticides" (p. 522). The result implies that the residue level will unlikely cause any health hazards to the local ecosystem as it is maintained below the given limits. Furthermore, research carried out in Pakistan indicated that the majority of farmers are illiterate, having minimal or no knowledge of the proper CP application – pesticides according to them are a type of medicine that will maintain the

health of the crops if they apply them at the right time, regardless the concentration and volume. It was shown that only a minimal of 17% had taken a singular training on pesticide use (AL-Zaidi et al., 2019, p. 1719). Though from a singular country, most follow a similar trend – it is essential to implement the necessary training that farmers require for a safe and healthy operation of CP, not only for the farmers themselves, also the environment.

As listed in the previous paragraphs, conventional pesticides have a solid stand as it is currently the most ideal method to prevent pests mass destroying crops and damaging our food supply. Its residue's effect on the human body is proven to be insignificant, and that the residual level has been decreasing over the years, with most products falling below the MRL, ensuring CP's safety. Besides, the differing structure of fruits reduces the residue further. The availability and the current developing stages of biopesticides, EOs and natural predator pest control greatly reduced their competitivity, also that they are often niche and difficult to be commercialized. Additionally, the expenses to obtain those alternative and produce them are financially inefficient compared to CP, hence why it is objectively more ideal and appealing to the farmer community. Environmental effects can be maximally minimized via introducing mandatory program on CP concentration and instructions on application, educating about the harm of overusing pesticides. Overall, CP is proven to be effective and has little drawback that would counter its benefits if applied correctly. Its use should be continued as its leading effect makes it unreplaceable.



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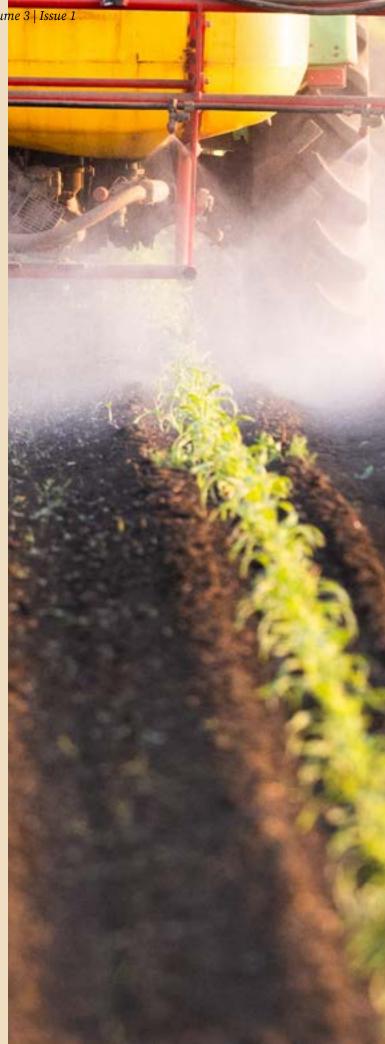
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Yuehan Shao

Environmental problems have become increasingly serious. Global warming is one of the biggest environmental problems. According to Hughes et al. (2018), global warming leads to ocean acidification, and large areas of coral reefs die. This phenomenon has destroyed the ecosystems and biodiversity of marine, it may lead to bad effects among communities of people, like fishing communities. As these kinds of challenges grow, individuals and organizations know they have to take action against environmental problems and try to push the development of renewable energy. Some think renewable energy development should focus on heat and electricity, the data find from the World Resources Institute (2020) states it occupies 31.8% of total greenhouse gas emissions. However, others argue that renewable energy development focuses on the logistics industry because it also occupies a significant part of emissions. European Union data (2013-2020) suggests that greenhouse gas emissions from the transport part will continue to rise. If people do nothing, then the whole ecosystem will be affected. Logistics plays a significant role in solving environmental problems and creating a more sustainable future, the most important heavily influenced by the transportation methods and practices of companies.

#### Logistics can support renewable energy product transport

Logistics is a key link between the consumer and the industries, it is not only about transporting goods, but also related to whether the supply chain can improve the efficiency or not. The article written by Khan et al. (2021) shows that advanced logistics infrastructure can promote the transport of renewable energy, helping carbon-free economic development in the whole country. By using robust logistic networks to implement complex new technologies, people can enhance the speed of renewable energy transportation, ensuring all resources are available when they are needed. In this process, for example, green logistics can use electric vehicle fleets which can largely reduce carbon emissions during transportation. If countries around the world use green logistics, they can enhance the efficiency of transportation and reduce pollution. In addition to ground transportation, innovations in air transport are also making a huge contribution to reducing emissions. McKinsey & Company (2022) shows airlines are developing hybrid-electric, battery-electric, and hydrogenfuel-cell-electric options for short-haul flights. This move has increased the efficiency of the logistics industries and at the same time decreased the emissions. Therefore, these technologies contribute



to a more sustainable future for the logistics field. Another example of a company that has successfully implemented greenlogistics is Cainiao, a Chinese logistics company that belongs to Alibaba, which contracts most of the logistics around the country. Based on its own digital ability, Cainiao's official website shows that in 2023, Cainiao achieved package recycling of over 24.1 million. Cainiao also designs green logistics solutions with their partners, which cover the whole logistics part, such as transportation and recycling. (Cainao, n.d.).

Besides China, there is a company which internationally famous, called "Dalsey, Hillblom and Lynn" (DHL). This company focuses on the transport of renewable energy, and it has reduced 1.3 million emissions in 2023 (DHL, n.d.). DHLuses its electric delivery vans, optimizing delivery to reduce the waste of fuel and investing the renewable energy sources. These steps helped the DHL set a benchmark for the logistics industries, also creating a new road for all companies in the market.

#### Existing solutions development of renewable energy

Cainiao is setting an example in the logistics industry by providing a perfect solution to promote sustainability and reduce environmental in their overall business practices. Cainiao aligns with China's environmental goals with a Carton Recycling Campaign (Cainiao Network, 2023), rewarding customers with "green points" for returning used boxes. This cost-effective initiative is set to reduce emissions and promote sustainability in the logistics industry, considering China's market dynamics, Cainiao's operations, stakeholder roles, and potential campaign impacts. Aligned with China's environmental goals and striving to pioneer in sustainable logistics, Cainiao proposes a Carton Recycling Campaign. This plan also examines the logistics sector's impact, Cainiao's sustainability efforts, and the campaign's potential environmental benefits and challenges, suggesting a significant step towards a greener future. This company also launched the "Go Green Campaign" aiming at decarbonization and biodegradable packaging early in 2016.

There is another international company called NextEra Energy. Since 2001, it has helped Florida customers save about \$15 billion in avoided fuel costs and has led to the elimination of over 189 million tons of CO2 emissions. Furthermore, This company will continue

investments and innovation in wind, solar, storage, and emerging technologies, and try to push the decarbonization process quickly in the market. They also operate emissions-free nuclear facilities to help reduce emissions and invest the new technologies like the "Cavendish NextGen Hydrogen Hub" toproduce clean hydrogen. (NextEra Energy, 2023)

However, despite Cainiao and other companies contributing a lot to the development of renewable energy, some individuals counter that there are other sectors beyond logistics that also can push the development of renewable energy, especially in the fields of heat and electricity. They contend that high technologies and stable infrastructure in those areas can lead to remarkable reductions in emissions.

A piece of evidence they cite is heat and electricity constitute huge sources of greenhouse gas emissions. According to the World Resources Institute (2020), it occupies 31.8% of total greenhouse gas emissions. Furthermore, an article by Zhang, S., Liu, Z., Zhang, X., Wu, Z., & Hu, Z. (2024) states there is an innovative technology that can conversion electricity and solar energy with each other, helping to face global warming, and pushing the development of renewable energy. They claim not only contributes a lot to solving the global warming problem but also accelerates the development and adoption of renewable energy sources, using the sources more efficiently.



Although heat and electricity occupy a considerable area of renewable energy development, there is other evidence showing logistics play the supporting role of the whole system. European Union data (2013-2020) suggests that greenhouse gas emissions from the transport part will continue to rise. If people keep ignoring the effect of the logistics part, then it will lead to the whole ecosystem being destroyed. There is another study by Kumar, M., Singh, D., & Tyagi, P. (2023) shows the importance of biodiesel and UCO logistics and highlights the significance of smart technologies, which point out that efficient logistics is indispensable for a sustainable energy future. Without solving the emissions from logistics, efforts in other fields may be undervalued. The Paris Agreement (UNFCCC, 2015) emphasizes the reduction of transportation emissions, many countries promise to decrease their logistics carbon footprints by 2030. This is also a piece of strong evidence to support that logistics play a pivotal role in the development of renewable energy.

#### Conclusion

All in all, solving the carbon emission issues in the logistics industry can push renewable energy in the whole society to develop quickly. The green logistics have the power to create a revolution. In the future, if more and more logistic industries can adopt green energy solutions, they can produce green energy in short-haul flights with hybrid-electric, which can decrease carbon emissions a lot. This situation will not only benefit the environment but also point out a new way for all renewable energy companies in the market. Moreover, such initiatives can inspire the development of more and more new technologies, they also promote green economic expansion widely and advertise green logistics. Finally, the industries, government, and workers can achieve a greener future. Let us work together to achieve it!

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## Redefining Feminine Hygiene Products: From Luxury to Essential Necessity.

By Sree Ramya Krishna Govardhan

Imagine that instead of buying a new razor, you share a used one with multiple people. The horror of infection and bacteria is probably daunting to you but to many young girls around the world, this is a reality. Mire (2020) shares one such story of 17-year-old schoolgirl, Mary Asigi from Nairobi, who has become a victim of period poverty to such an extent that when she was 15, she used to share pads with her classmates until the teacher noticed and intervened. Sharing pads caused an increase in HIV patients in the outskirts of slum areas of Nairobi. Hence, Should Female Sanitary Hygiene products be distributed free of cost? should not be a question because this basic necessity is a luxury to many. Access to feminine hygiene products is becoming difficult due to the higher cost of living. The difference in prices for items specifically for women is a growing concern. This issue concerns and relates to many other societal problems related to public health, gender equality, and economic policies. Exploring the broader debates about the basic needs of people particularly specific to gender-based. The provision of free feminine sanitary products plays a vital role in decreasing economic burdens, promoting gender equality, and safeguarding public health issues such as cervical cancer and HIV while debunking the myths surrounding menstrual hygiene.

Some stakeholders contend that healthcare funding should be directed towards more pressing health crises rather than allocating resources for the provision of free sanitary products. Indeed, the healthcare sector is continuously grappling with numerous challenges that demand financial resources, from battling infectious diseases to addressing chronic health conditions. However, it's essential to recognize that menstrual health issues, often marginalized in public health discussions, have far-reaching implications that transcend the individual level. Ratcliffe (2017) underscores the systemic neglect of menstrual health and argues for its recognition as a public health priority. The maintenance of menstrual hygiene is not just a matter of personal well-being; it's a societal responsibility that, if ignored, can lead to exacerbated health disparities and perpetuate cycles of poverty and inequality. The argument here isn't merely about redistributing funds but about recognizing menstrual health as a foundational aspect of public health that deserves attention and resources.

The critique that freely distributing sanitary products is unfair to those who do not menstruate overlooks the foundational principles of gender equality while perpetuating patriarchal norms that often sideline women's health needs. This stance sparks broader debates about the equitable allocation of public resources and challenges authorities to reassess societal values and support differing health needs across genders. While striving for financial fairness is legitimate, it's crucial to contextualize the distribution of free menstrual products within the larger framework of gender equality. Bobel (2019) discusses how addressing biological realities and health needs specific to different genders is essential for promoting social justice. The provision of menstrual products

does not implicate privileging one gender over another but rather about leveling the playing field. It acknowledges that to achieve gender equality, societal systems must accommodate and support the unique health needs inherent to different biological experiences. Additionally, a related issue is the lack of care provided to women at healthcare facilities due to gender and race-based discrimination. Women have been neglected by the medical system in various instances, they faced discrimination and delayed diagnoses that can be life-threatening. An example is the autobiography story of Serene Williams (2022) where she shares her horrifying birth complication along with her demand for a CAT scan



Mary Asigi, 17, dreams of having a career in the Kenyan navy but worries that missing school when she has her period may stop her achieving that [Lameck Orina/Al Jazeera]

which helped diagnose blood clots that could have killed her. However, the scans and diagnoses only took place upon continuous demand. In her article, she further states that 'Black women are nearly three times more likely to die after childbirth than white women.' Furthermore, Manuel (2017) argues that while women use healthcare services more than men it doesn't necessarily mean that their needs are being met and features several studies that support the claim that women have a higher risk for undiagnosed health issues than men which needs to be addressed. Williams (2001) states that minority women lack access to private health insurance and often have public health insurance coverage due to their racial and ethnic background while also lacking efficient care at emergency rooms and other organized healthcare facilities. This information further strengthens that gender is becoming a factor in receiving health care which implies the need for equality. Thus, the free distribution of menstrual products can be seen as a corrective measure aimed at reducing gender-based disparities, ultimately benefiting society as a whole by fostering inclusivity and equal opportunities for all genders.

The assertion that individuals should manage their hygiene needs independently, without governmental intervention, reflects a broader libertarian viewpoint that emphasizes self-reliance and minimal state involvement in personal affairs. This perspective values personal responsibility and the freedom to make one's health choices. However, Gostin (2016) challenges this view by highlighting the societal implications of excluding essential hygiene products from public health initiatives. When the costs associated with managing personal hygiene become barriers to active societal participation, for young girls such as Mary (Mire, 2020) missing school due to the unaffordability of menstrual products then the issue transcends individual responsibility and warrants collective action. The government's role is to always ensure that no individual is disadvantaged or excluded from societal participation due to biological functions. Montano (2018) argues using the example of 'The Toilet Paper Theory' and 'Bring Your Own Tampon Policy'. Imagine that our society collectively carries toilet paper around to use whenever there is a need to answer nature's call, the thought may seem awkward and funny to many. However, this is an unfortunate reality for all women with the replacement of toilet paper as a menstrual product. The idea that women should carry their menstrual products shouldn't exist as the idea of carrying our toilet paper doesn't exist. Therefore, providing free menstrual products is a matter of public interest, aimed at removing obstacles that hinder full societal engagement while contributing to a more inclusive and equitable community.

Increasing access to free feminine hygiene products might not significantly impact cervical cancer rates, as hygiene products do not directly prevent HPV which is the virus responsible for most cervical cancers. The direct prevention of HPV and cervical cancer primarily involves vaccination along with regular screening, rather than menstrual hygiene management. However, providing free feminine hygiene products plays a crucial role in fostering a broader culture of health awareness and preventive care. It encourages discussions and education around reproductive health, including cervical cancer awareness and the importance of HPV vaccination and regular Pap tests. Clancy (2023) expressed that while she was writing her book on menstrual hygiene, she was met with lots of disgust along with some encouragement as people questioned the need to discuss menstrual hygiene publicly which showcases the level of taboo people associate with it. As a result, lack of education and discussions on these matters making them taboo also causes people to lean towards unhygienic replacements such as rags or used products. According to Plan International Organization (2022), 1 in 3 boys (37%) believe that periods should be kept secret and frequently associate it with words such as 'disgusting' 'dirty', and 'embarrassing'. Kirkegaard (2022) from the United Nations Population Fund Association (UNFPA) for the USA states that while the idea of periods being impure or sinful is prevalent, many women are discouraged from various regular activities such as going to school or maintaining hygiene in the genital areas as period water may 'contaminate' the communal water. Most taboos are made up and nonsensical as maintaining hygiene in the genital area is a vital need that when unkept can result in many health consequences. Access to these products can improve overall genital health, potentially reducing the risk of infections that could complicate cervical health. Addressing menstrual health as part of a comprehensive public health strategy can indirectly support cervical cancer prevention efforts by removing barriers to health education and resources (Weiss-Wolf, J., 2017; Taket, A., 2021).

The implication that the provision of free distribution of menstrual products would cause a financial strain to the governments due to lack of funding questions the foundational basis of public health interest, human rights, and socio-economic equality. Period Poverty is an issue faced by many females around the world. UNFPA (2022) describes Period poverty as the financial struggles of females to access menstrual hygiene products, it also refers to the economic distress that females face due to the financial burden of purchasing menstrual products. Another problem is The Pink Tax theory by gender inequality researchers wherein products marketed towards women are marked higher while compared to those products nearly similar to men. According to UNFPA (2022), The Pink Tax affects women in countries where abundant access to a wide range of female hygiene products is available yet women from lower socio-economic backgrounds in those countries lack access to the products and aren't immune to periods. Similarly, 'The Tampon Tax' is another issue which is an additional luxury tax and other taxes applied on purchasing menstrual hygiene products in the United States of America and some countries around the world. The Tampon Tax applies to 21 states in America with around 5-7% of average tax charges. It is vital to note that 5 states in the USA do not charge state-wide tax (Alliance for Period Supplies, 2024). Hence, the free distribution of menstrual products benefits all women across the world as the financial burden of purchasing them is increasing with inflation and cost of living.

The debate that financing the free distribution of menstrual hygiene products through taxation may appear a misuse of government taxes to some individuals who may also criticize the value of benefits it gives to the society or community. Many countries have constructed policy frameworks for the provision of menstrual products resulting in an overall positive public interest in improving mental health and overall wellbeing. In 2020, Scotland became the first country in the world to pass a bill for the provision of free distribution of menstrual products in all institutions which later became an Act in 2021 (Diamond, 2022). Before the establishment of the Act, Scotland's government conducted

a trial to observe the impacts of free distribution of menstrual products. According to a Young Scot follow-up survey in 2020, there was an increase of 84% positive impact due to the provision and a 23% improvement in mental health and overall wellbeing of women. (Scottish Government, 2022). In February 2018, 'X' (formerly known as Twitter) featured marketing posts for the promotion of the Indian Movie Pad-man wherein multiple Indian film celebrities used the #PadManChallenge and posted a selfie with a white period pad to show their support for the cause and break the taboo around discussions related to menstrual hygiene. The Pad-Man is a movie based on the life of Arunachalam Muruganantham, who initiated the Social Media challenge as well. Muruganantham is a celebrated inventor from Southern India who is a humble school dropout from a village in the state of Tamil Nadu. He invented a low-cost tabletop machine for making single-use pads. Instead of selling his equipment and becoming a billionaire, he created a modest business wherein he outsources the pads and patented machines to NGOs to distribute to women free of cost. Bobel (2019) states that he sold 4500 of his patented machines to as many as 19 countries and more (Baral 2018). He also sold 1300 machines in 27 Indian States along with exporting them to 'developing' countries around the world (Tink Change India 2017). Similarly, Aunt Flow Inc. is a company founded by then-16-year-old Claire Coder from Ohio, USA. She founded the company after getting her period in public without any supplies or access to any period products. The company is dedicated to bringing free menstrual products to schools, universities, and public restrooms for free. The company also accepts donations and has created a huge impact. These examples prove that the positive impact and benefit obtained from the free distribution of menstrual hygiene products is far superior. With proper tax distribution and allocation of funds, there can be significant growth in overall well-being and decrease mental health issues. By adding a minimum percentage VAT on annual tax, a country can impact and change a young girl's life.

Rep. Grace Meng, Congresswoman from the 6th District of New York said, "Without access to period products, menstruators will often turn to alternative materials...all of these options risk the physical well-being of menstruators and no one should be forced to make choices like these." Therefore, it is vital to understand that public health issues go beyond personal hygiene and impact the lives of individuals on all levels regardless of their involvement. Advocating for the non-profit distribution of feminine hygiene products can help resolve many societal issues such as reducing the financial burden, hurdles to function in society, and disease spreading while addressing the right to live and gender inequality. At the same time, it eradicates misconceptions associated with menstrual hygiene. A society can be just only if the most basic needs of people are taken care of, being inclusive and giving respect to every individual. It should also be harmonious and developing while addressing societal issues.



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Have you ever received sex education? While many people may say yes, a surprising statistic reveals that only 53% of females and 54% of males in the U.S. received sex education between 2015 and 2019 (Lindberg et al., 2022, p. 292). As a teenager who was born in China, I had received no sex education in my school, and most of my classmates and I knew about sex informally by ourselves. This self-education often led to confusion, discomfort, and even shame when discussing the topic. After I grew up, I found that the reason why China has little sex education is because many people are against it. These people claim that sex education conflicts with traditional moral values and beliefs as it teaches sex-related knowledge too soon. leading to promiscuity and having no significant outcome at the same time. These opinions are denied by the supporters of sex education. They think sex education can help teenagers to have a healthy way of looking at sex and be ready to enter a relationship with a clear, healthier set of expectations. I agree with the supporters of sex education and believe that sex education plays a

significant role in avoiding sex-related problems like unintended pregnancy, helps teenagers treat others respectfully and equally, and avoids unsystematic, unscientific sex knowledge from teenagers while ensuring the effectiveness of sex education.

First, some people say that sex education in school can only provide limited knowledge and is insufficient to cover important and in-depth topics. Thus, sex education is useless and can't stop or even reduce sex-related problems. Admittedly, sometimes sex education may not be able to cover all topics about sex, and sometimes even with wrong information in textbooks. But undeniably, it plays an important role in addressing and reducing sex-related issues like unintended pregnancy. In fact, even teaching and spreading basic correct concepts about sex can let teenagers know how they can prevent some negative occurrences, in this case, we don't need to cover all topics about sex. A research study conducted in Shanghai, China, shows that after basic community-based sex education that

covers content about why and how to treat your sexual partner respectfully and how to use contraceptives was offered, the rate of using condoms by young teenagers and the rate of negotiating to ensure no forced-sexual activity between sexual partners before intercourse increased from 65.4% and 55.1% to 98.9% and 81.0% while the rate of sexual harassment and unintended pregnancy decreased from 8.5% to 2.8% and 25.7% to 18.6%. This is a great example of even having limited knowledge of sex is useful in stopping and reducing sex-related problems (Wang et al., 2005, pp.63-72).

Second, some people claim that most schools do not emphasize limitations on sexual activities but rather focus on practicing safe sex, and thus students can't form correct moral values and this leads to promiscuity. It is undeniable that the introduction of sex-related knowledge will impress teenagers from some perspectives and it may objectively encourage some teenagers to try sexual activities. However, it is not suitable to say that teaching sex knowledge is encouraging teenagers to have sex. Unlike some people believe, sex education teaches students scientific knowledge about their bodies, and how could their potentially irresponsible sexual actions impact others negatively. It helps teenagers to treat others, especially their sexual partners, respectfully and equally and encourages adolescents not to establish sexual relations until they feel ready mentally and can take the necessary precautions against unintended pregnancy and venereal disease. Just like UNESCO (2023) mentioned, sex education aims to help young people "to develop respectful social and sexual relationships; consider how their choices affect their own well-being and that of others; and understand and ensure the protection of their rights throughout their lives" (para.2). This kind of education does not encourage people to have sex or abstinence but lets them know their responsibilities.

Last, many parents oppose sex education because they believe it is their responsibility to teach their children about sex, not the school's or government's. They argue that sex education should reflect their family's values





and personal beliefs, and the school as well as government should not step into this private space. Understandably, these parents worry that allowing schools to take the lead on sex education will lower their influence on children. However, this concern forgets that some parents cannot discuss sex topics effectively with their children. Many parents lack professional medical knowledge for certain topics like sexually transmitted infections, under this situation, children cannot receive effective sex education.

Furthermore, relying simply on parental guidance risks also creates differences in knowledge among young people. Children from different backgrounds may receive different levels of information depending on their parents' knowledge levels, personal beliefs, and understanding of sexual health, leading to unequal access to essential knowledge. However,

comprehensive sex education in schools helps fill this difference by providing all students with accurate and scientific information about healthy relationships, informed choices, and personal safety. This means that well-rounded sex education can ensure young people get the tools they need to make responsible decisions about their health situation, reducing risks such as unintended pregnancies and sexually transmitted infections. Compared to undermining parental influence, school-based sex education allows parents to continue guiding their children within the framework of the reliable knowledge they receive at school. This collaborative approach makes children benefit from both formal education and parental values, forming a healthier, more informed generation (Shtarkshall et al., 2007, pp.116-119).

Conclusively, I support the advocates of sex education and believe it plays a crucial role in preventing issues like unintended pregnancies, promoting healthy relationships in teenagers, especially between sexual partners, that encourage people to treat others respectfully and equally, and replacing unsystematic, unscientific sex knowledge with effective, accurate sex education. Sex education is useful and effective and should be supported. However, we should also admit that there are failures in sex education and today's sex education may need a more effective way to be conducted. In today's world, where teenagers have constant access to information via the internet and social media, traditional sex education may no longer be enough. We no longer need to argue whether sex education is useful or not, because it is obviously necessary as we showed above, but to remember that the challenge now is to create a more engaging approach to sex education that meets the needs of today's digitally connected youth while maintaining the core principles of teaching healthy relationships.

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## Almorzar with Women from Gullanzhapa Community, Ecuador

Yueyue (Moon) Li

On the mountaintop, we sat in a circle, all around
They brought home-raised eggs, roasted chicken, Chulpi and Fritada
I shared my packed lunch—
A tuna sandwich, box of juice, and banana
The woman gently broke that tiny sandwich
Into four pieces, offering to her companions
They took turns sipping the apple juice
Sharing the banana with a spoon
One person, one scoop

We didn't speak the same language. So, I pointed at one chicken wing

with a questioning and craving look

The woman nodded, smiled

warmly handed me that crispy gift That pair of hands

Wrinkled, cracked, and speckled

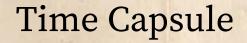
Like bare land somewhere in the valley

Where they raised the chicken, planted the crops

year after year, the land turns green

Their hands turns the color of the earth

Note: This poem was inspired by my participation in the "Sustainability and Social Justice in Ecuador" program with Global Education during Winter Break 2022.



Yueyue (Moon) Li

When I was 12
From the English textbook
I learned about time capsule

My parents offered me a cookie tin box
I carefully selected things I love
Solemnly, we closed the lid
Sealing that moment

As I grew up
I've got myriad memories
Some are too heavy to bear in heart
Some are too fragile to forget

I left them at home
I know
There is always one place
Safely keeps my secrets

Living in a foreign country now

Far away from my home

So--

Poems become my Time Capsule

### Hazy Reflection Yueyue (Moon) Li

We once walked into a rainy night.

The wooden bench soaked with drizzle, more ebony.

In the next morning, the gust swept leaves up, down, near, far, now and then, staggered at the corner of a weary building.

The dust-covered dark blue mirror reflected our silhouettes.

Our noses were red, like a patch of red on an apple.

I could hear a desperate vehicle whizzing by.

I could hear desperate vehicles whizzing by outside my window, swallowing faint darkness, in choked desolation.

We once walked into a cold rainy night like tonight.



## A Found Poem based on Kelly Barnhill: 2017 Newbery Medal Acceptance Speech

Yueyue (Moon) Li

Once upon a time
when I was
a mousy-haired, accident-prone, socially anxious,
and unbearably lonely
twelve-year-old
journeyed with three elvish companions
into a deep, dark wood—

the scrubby leftovers
of the city's once-great trolley line,
abandoned sometime in the fifties,
and which had gradually succumbed
to the will of weeds and buckthorn
scrub and cottonwood trees

My elvish companions—
the blond children down the block
I babysat every
Tuesday and Thursday—
believed me
when I told them it was special,
believed me
when I told them it was magic,
believed me
that the forest went
on for miles and miles and miles...
very tightly, we had to hold hands,
or else
we might be lost forever
in the thick canopy of trees.

They believed me, of course

The sinkhole,
the entrance
to the lair of an evil king,
who would trap us
in his underground dungeons
if you lose your breath
we had to hold our breath.

If you stared at tree bark for long enough, you'd eventually see a map— one that would give you perfect directions in a certain country that does not exist on earth.

pink quartz
the buried remains
of a dead gnome's heart
you can distract ghosts
by blowing ashes
in their faces
and—
a sudden cool breeze
was the collected
spirits of dead warriors
trying to remind you
to be brave and bold
and kind and righteous.

We believe a thing, and it is. That is the power of stories.

# Grape Vine, Winter, and Cat Meow Meow

Yueyue (Moon) Li

Cat Meow Meow
I couldn't remember how and where we got her
For a long time in my adult life
I couldn't recall I had a cat when I was six
I was just six
It's like a dormant mountain
One day the memory abruptly exploded
The ashes of childhood lives scattering
rained down

The fern green became opaque under the sun, shining
The cat slipped through the iron bar window
climbed the ladders
jumped on the brick roof
walked across the grape vines
I was imagining when the little green grape would turn into a bunch of purple and juicy grapes

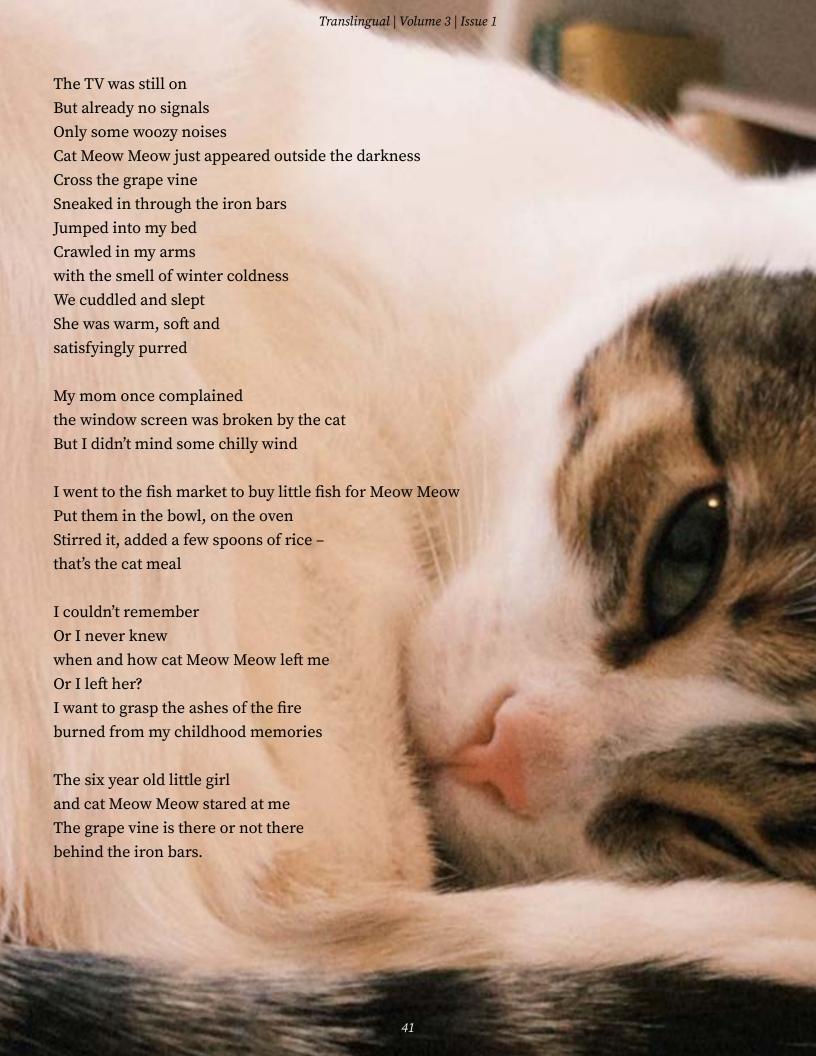
Before I had a taste of grapes Our cat had her own little cats

On one Sunday

Mom and I

brought the kittens to the market
in a basket

My mom planned to give them away for free
a church lady picked one kitten and gave me two yuan



# Three Topics of Interest

Borami Kang MFA Candiate in Design Reseach Development at Ohio State University

This paper explores my journey of completing a project for the Design 6400 class, taught by Professor Mathew Lewis from Department of Design at College of Arts and Sciences in Ohio State University. The goal of this assignment was for students to explore three different topics and find convergence among them to inspire future research topics. Students were asked to select three topics from different areas:

- 1. Emerging technology
- 2. Social issues
- 3. Any topic of personal interest

I chose "Generative AI" as my emerging technology, "Racial and Gender Bias in Visual Communication" as my social issue, and "Educational Technology" as my topic of interest.

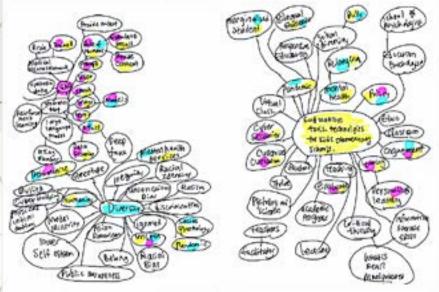
I began by researching each topic separately using Google and Google Scholar. As I delved into each area, I focused on understanding their definitions and extracting key themes that interested me. To gain deeper insights, Professor Lewis asked students to research each topics' history and related research papers. Exploring the historical context and background of each topic, examining how they originated and evolved over time. My research included a balanced perspective, looking at both the positive and negative aspects of each topic.

After exploring definitions on Wikipedia, searching articles and research papers on each topic to get basic knowledge and understanding. I first combined Generative AI and Racial and Gender Bias in Visual Communication and researched examples of gender and racial bias in generative AI within visual communication, focusing on AI bias and its challenges.

Next, I combined Racial and Gender Bias in Visual Communication with Educational Technology. I discovered that certain genders face limitations in access to and representation in educational technology compared to males.

For Generative AI in Educational Technology, I explored applications like chatbots, virtual classes, personalized learning, customized classes, and tailored curricula, as well as the future potential and challenges of these technologies.

I began synthesizing the research data from all three topics and created a mind map (Fig 1) to identify overlaps between two and three topics. I used Venn diagrams (Fig 2) and Excel sheets to categorize and organize keywords from each topic.



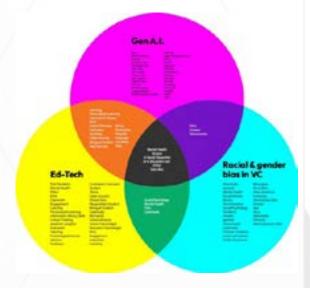


Fig 1. Mind map for each topic and finding connections of each topic by color coding

Fig 2. Van Diagram to categorize keywords for each topic

After examining all the keywords I found from the research, I could see the patterns and that I could categorize in different ways. Classifying the keywords into categories like Humanity vs. Dehumanization and Visible vs. Invisible helped me visualize the data differently. I observed that generative AI and educational technology function as tools, whereas racial and gender bias is more of an idea and societal phenomenon.

To visually represent my research data, I experimented with word clouds and tidy tree diagrams to compare findings and draw connections among the three topics.

Reflecting on the histories and evolution of each topic, I noticed that racism and gender bias have been persistent issues since the beginning of multiracial societies. As technology developed, so did educational technology, culminating in new advancements like generative AI, which now influences education. However, racial and gender bias has remained an inevitable issue throughout history.

Bias in society and data has shaped both education and technology, as they are influenced by humans operating within biased social systems. This raises the question: How can we de-bias education and technology to help create a fairer society? While biases may never be eliminated, recognizing them and striving to neutralize their effects through inclusive and diverse approaches can make a difference. For example, reframing prompts to get more diverse and inclusive visuals in generative AI could trigger a butterfly effect—small changes that could positively impact both generative AI and education for future generations. I have created a visual framework to illustrate the current relationship between three topics. The diagram on the left shows how racial and gender biases affect both education and AI, creating an additional outer boundary of bias. The framework on the right represents my vision for how these three topics should ideally interact. This diagram demonstrates that while AI continues to expand in education and beyond, education should increasingly influence both racial/gender bias and AI development to reduce overall systemic bias.

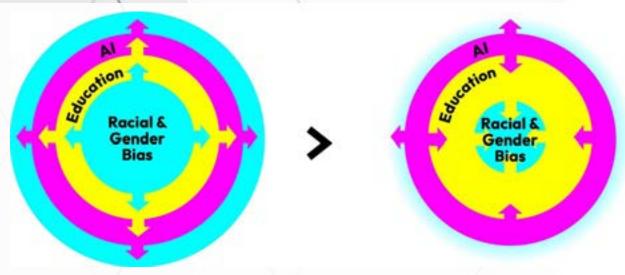


Fig 3. Visual Framework for three topics

There are many active networks and projects offering guidance for incorporating inclusivity and diversity into generative AI and educational technology. For example, the Design Justice Network and the EdTech Equity Project provide frameworks and principles to help creators and educators adopt a more equitable approach. Being aware and informed of what kind of biases generative AI would help when using it for your creative work. Following such guides can help ensure that work in these fields is more inclusive and impactful.

Through this project, I learned how to combine and compare different topics to generate new research questions. I also realized the importance of narrowing the focus to avoid losing sight of my original research intention. Organizing data and visualizing it helped me holistically understand the relationships among the three topics.

"Fix grammar" prompt. Anthropic. (2025). Claude (2.5 Sonnet). https://www.anthropic.com/claude

#### Resources:

Design Justice Network: https://designjustice.org/ EdTech Equity Project: https://www.edtechequity.org/

Borami Kang's Link to OSU profile: https://design.osu.edu/people/kang.1450

# Coupang: Despite turning into a deficit, there is still potential for long-term growth.

Coupans

CPNG
LISTED
NYSE

The future of commerce

#### Operating loss of \$25 million in Q2 2024. First loss in eight quarters [1]

Coupang's Q2 2024 operating results have been announced. The operating profit in the second quarter turned into a deficit, recording a deficit for the first time in eight quarters. Sales in the second quarter increased by +30% year-on-year to \$7.323 billion, and the operating loss turned into a deficit of about \$25 million.

However, considering the increase in operating loss of about \$30.7 million due to the acquisition of Farfetch and the estimated fine of \$118 million from the Fair Trade Commission, the operating profit is estimated to be about \$123 million. However, even including Farfetch, the operating profit was about \$94 million, showing a rapid recovery in fundamentals compared to the first quarter.

#### Can Coupang really be considered Korea's Amazon?

MANAGANA

Coupang and Amazon have emerged as e-commerce giants in Korea and the United States, respectively, and are inevitably being compared. A prime example of Amazon's diversified business model is Amazon Web Services (AWS), its IT services and cloud computing division, which is a significant revenue generator. This foundation has allowed Amazon to innovate in various aspects of its business, including projects such as drone delivery. Coupang, on the other hand, has focused on logistics and launched an ultra-fast delivery service without a cloud computing business like AWS. Coupang's fast delivery model, tailored to the urban density of Korea, offers same-day and next-day morning delivery, a feat that Amazon cannot match in the United States, largely due to geographic and infrastructure constraints.

in millions)		Three Months Ended June 30.				Six Months Ended June 30.			
		2024		2023		2024		2023	
Net revenues									
Product Commerce	5	6,431	5	5,682	5	12,925	5	11,340	
Developing Offerings		892		156		1,512		298	
Total net revenues	\$	7,323	\$	5,838	\$	14,437	\$	11,638	
Segment adjusted EBITDA									
Product Commerce	\$	530	\$	408	5	997	\$	696	
Developing Offerings		(200)		(107)		(386)		(155)	
Total segment adjusted EBITDA	3	330	3	300	3	611	\$	541	
Reconciling items:									
Depreciation and amortization	2	(106)	\$	(66)	\$	(201)	\$	(130)	
Equity-based compensation		(109)		(86)		(197)		(156)	
Acquisition and restructuring related costs		(19)		-		(77)		_	
Estimated KFTC administrative fine (see Note 10)		(121)		-		(121)		-	
Interest expense		(37)		(13)		(64)		(21)	
Interest income		53		42		108		73	
Other income (expense), net		12		(6)		3		(11	
Income before income taxes	\$	3	\$	171	\$	62	5	295	

The design and operational efficiency of its distribution centers are critical to both companies. Unlike Amazon, which maximizes efficiency through automation, Coupang's logistics costs account for a significant portion of its costs, and Coupang's fulfillment centers have not been able to fully realize cost savings due to scale. Coupang's reliance on human labor in its distribution centers increases costs, while Amazon's approach of leveraging robots to increase efficiency stands in contrast.

	coupang	amazon			
Unloading, Unloading	fork lift + Manpower	AGV + Manpower			
Unpacking	Manpower	Manpower + Robot			
Warehouse Moving	conveyor belt	conveyor belt			
Warehouse Classification	Manpower	Manpower + AGV			
Packaging	Manpower	Manpower + KIVA			
Movement	conveyor belt	conveyor belt			
Inspection	Manpower	Manpower			
Delivery	Manpower	AGV + Manpower			

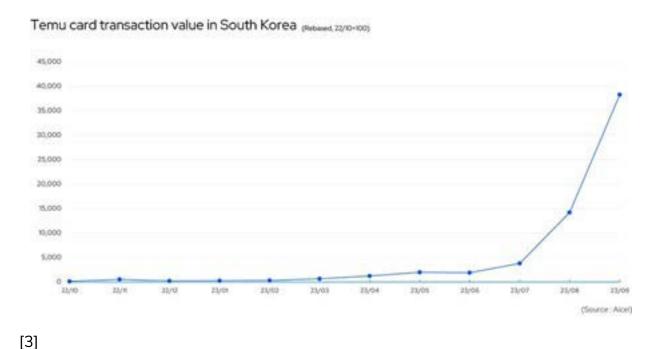
[2]

Coupang originally planned to adopt Amazon's logistics system, but faced difficulties due to Korea's geographical constraints and the high cost of building large-scale automated logistics centers.

Instead, Coupang chose a labor-intensive model to quickly build a wide logistics network and enable rapid market growth. However, this approach may increase operating costs and make it difficult to achieve economies of scale.

#### Competition is intensifying as Chinese companies enter the Korean e-commerce market.

The South Korean e-commerce landscape is undergoing significant shifts as Chinese giants such as Alibaba's AliExpress, Temu, and Shein rapidly infiltrate the market, challenging the dominance of local leader Coupang. The remarkable rise in user numbers for these platforms, doubling or even quadrupling within a year, highlights a growing consumer shift towards these Chinese e-commerce platforms, renowned for their ultra-low pricing strategy. As of recent reports, the combined user base of these three Chinese entities is nearing half of Coupang's, indicating a significant market penetration.



The success of Chinese e-commerce in South Korea can largely be attributed to several key factors. First, their ability to offer products at substantially lower prices, thanks to exemptions from customs duties for items under \$150 and non-applicability of certain regulatory requirements like the KC certification, provides them with a competitive edge. Moreover, the strategic move by AliExpress to waive entry and sales commission fees for Korean brands on its platform has attracted major domestic sellers, further strengthening its foothold in the Korean market.

#### Coupang is showing potential for success in Taiwan.

Coupang's aggressive investment strategy seems to be bearing fruit, especially with its entry into the Taiwanese market via Rocket Delivery, which came a year earlier than its initial launch in Korea. The company emphasized the potential for this expansion to become the most downloaded app in Taiwan this year, which will allow it to explore export opportunities. Leveraging the success of its WOW membership model in Korea, Coupang is looking to make this subscription-based service a growth engine in Taiwan, promising faster profitability based on Korea's technology and know-how. The launch of WOW membership in Taiwan demonstrates Coupang's intention to expand its market presence through membership programs linked to fast delivery and a variety of choices, which have

been key factors in Coupang's success. In addition, Coupang has already opened its second logistics center in Taoyuan City, northwestern Taiwan, in November last year. Equipped with AI, machine learning, and automation technologies, this center is Coupang's commitment to building a smart logistics base in Taiwan. This is an example of Coupang expanding its logistics network in Taiwan and improving service efficiency. Coupang also plans to build a third logistics center in the first half of this year.

Conclusion: For new investors, it is recommended to wait and see, while existing investors are advised to hold.

Coupang is currently in a transition phase driven by strategic investments and market challenges. While an operating loss in Q2 2024 is a concern, the company remains solid considering one-time expenses such as acquisition and regulatory fines. Growth in Taiwan and continued market leadership in Korea highlight the company's long-term potential. However, increasing competition from Chinese e-commerce platforms and the high operating costs of its logistics model pose significant risks. For new investors, we recommend adopting a "wait and see" approach as Coupang works to overcome these challenges and stabilize profitability. Existing investors, on the other hand, are advised to maintain their positions given the company's international expansion and long-term growth potential driven by ongoing logistics innovation.

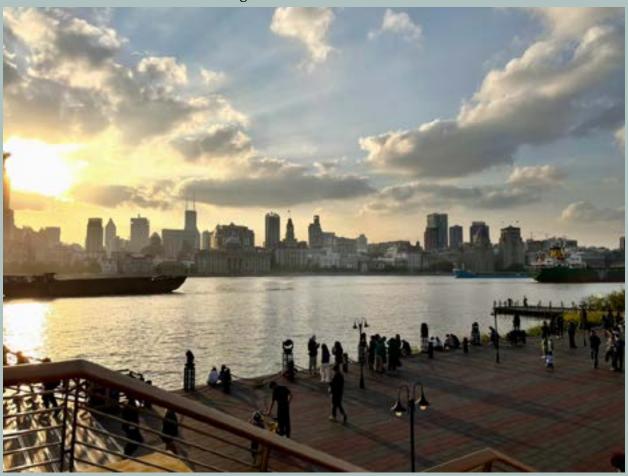


# PHOTOGRAPHY BY SHENBO XU

A Photo of Shanghai--- From Yangpu Bridge



The Beautiful Bund of Shanghai





Sunset of Lujiazui, Shanghai



# East Meets West: Different role of Sport in my hometown Yiwu and Columbus

### Zhuojin Wu

How can the role of sports play such a different part in shaping the culture of a city? This contrast is clearly seen between my hometown, Yiwu, and Columbus. When you shout "OH" at someone on the street in Columbus, they'll always respond with "IO." It's really inspiring, especially during the period of the big Football Game football season. However, when I return to my hometown Yiwu, most people would probably just think you're crazy and walk away from you. As we know, the reason people behave so differently lies in the culture of the two cities.

This article focuses on three aspects that explain the differing roles of sports in my hometown, Yiwu, and Columbus: physical education, government attention, and the benefits for economic growth.

The sum of people's thoughts determines local culture, and education plays the most foundational role in shaping those thoughts. For sports, physical education is the most significant influence. I remember when I was in high school, PE class was always taken over by other teachers. Especially near

the final exams each semester, everyone assumed that PE class should give way to other "more important" subjects like Math, Physics, and Chinese. I can assure you this happens everywhere in China, especially in high schools. However, in Columbus, students have a variety of sports to choose from, such as basketball, football, baseball, golf, and more. When I asked many people in Columbus about PE classes, they were baffled by the idea that PE could be replaced by another subject. What's more, physical education is far more accessible to the public in Columbus. There are many sports venues, making it easy to engage in different activities. However, in Yiwu, basketball courts are rare. I remember when I first arrived in Columbus, my friend picked me up from the airport, and on the way to my apartment, I saw multiple golf courses (at least two). I sighed because there isn't even one golf course in my hometown. While Chinese people are often praised for their brilliance in areas like Computer Science and Math, many of them sacrifice the potential to excel in sports. As I mentioned, even



PE class was taken over during high school. On the contrary, the United States is famous for sports like football, basketball, and others. Perhaps the roots of this difference lie in early education.

Aside from education, another significant factor is government. Local governments and organizations in Ohio fund related facilities, parks, and stadiums. What's more, they create plenty of space for residents to participate in the sports they enjoy, whether competitive or leisure. Government in Columbus also places great importance on promoting sports. During the big football games, you can even see jets and boats promoting Ohio State athletes. However, in my city, Yiwu, the government tends to be more practical, focusing on infrastructure projects like building subways. They rarely promote sporting events because there are so few, except for some CBA (Chinese Basketball Association) games. Public basketball courts and football fields are scarce in Yiwu compared to Columbus, making it difficult for residents to play certain sports. For example, I am a fan of golf, but there isn't a single golf course in my city. If I want to play, I have to take a train to

another city. In China, the government often acts as an investment institution, allocating resources to athletes only with the potential to compete in the Olympic Games. The role governments and organizations play in sports promotion differs between these two cities, with Columbus placing a much higher value on it.

Moreover, the economy often determines many things, and sports can significantly boost economic growth. Columbus is a prime example. College football is one of the biggest economic drivers for the city. The local government has strong ties with sports institutions like Ohio State University's Sports Programs. Ohio State football games bring in millions of dollars annually through ticket sales, sponsorships, and tourism (sportsepreneur.com/ohio-state-football/). The influx of visitors during big game events greatly boosts the hospitality and tourism industries. As a college student, I can personally observe the economic activity during football games. For example, many vendors sell related clothing on the streets, and most attendees

wear home jerseys. The amount of money spent on clothing alone is huge! In Yiwu, the economic benefits of sports are much lower. Various sports events often can't sustain themselves financially, so the national government only allocates funds to local governments for major competitions. From my perspective, local governments in China see sports as a way to raise the city's profile. For example, Hangzhou hosted the Asian Games in 2022, spending thirty billion dollars on construction while generating six billion dollars in revenue. Many of my friends said Hangzhou practically rebuilt the city just to host the Asian Games. Governments in China are more concerned with the reputation they gain from hosting major events rather than the economic returns. In contrast, local governments in Columbus see sports as a "cash cow."

In conclusion, while both Columbus and cities in China value sports, their approaches reflect differing societal, cultural, and political priorities. The contrasting roles of sports in Yiwu and Columbus are primarily shaped by three factors: differences in physical education, levels of government attention, and their contributions to economic growth. By recognizing these aspects, we can better understand how sports reflect and influence regional culture and societal values. Take me as an example, I rarely follow sports events, but when I study in OSU, I find myself closely keeping up with them. The vibrant sports culture and atmosphere here make it much more exciting and engaging, encouraging me to stay involved and follow the action. The overall significance of comparing the sports cultures of Yiwu and Columbus lies in highlighting how sports shape communities, influence public policies, and drive economic development. "Both the Columbus and the Ohio State football, they have similar story that started from a small part and finally became big roles in their field" (Sportse Media, 2023)1. Understanding these differences offers valuable insights into how sports can foster social cohesion, improve public health, and

contribute to economic vitality.

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1. Sportse Media: https://sportsepreneur.com/ohio-state-football/

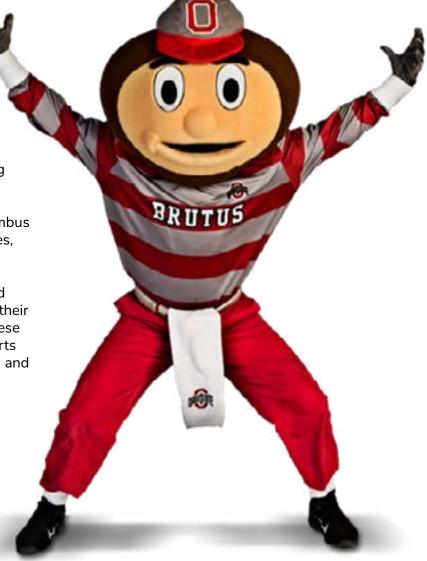
#### **Full Disclosure and Attribution Statement**

Firstly, I just used ChatGPT to change some grammar and structure error in my essay, the meaning of the essay is made by myself totally.

Secondly, the Prompt: Identify and fix grammatical, punctuation, and sentence structure errors.

Keep as much of the original language as possible: (my essay)

Lastly, our instructor allows us to do that in class



### MMA Should be Banned

#### Zofia Xu

Should a sport where athletes are meant to hurt, punch, and choke each other be sold as entertainment? "We will be a \$21+ billion live sports and entertainment powerhouse with a collective fan base of more than a billion people and an exciting growth opportunity," said **Executive Chairman of TKO Group Holdings** Vince McMahon when the UFC—the largest MMA promoter in the world—officially merged with WWE. Recently, Mixed Martial Arts has become one of the most popular sports worldwide. However, beneath the surface of prosperity lies evil and injustice, stirring up a contentious discussion and a storm of opposition against this hardcore fighting. MMA competitions cause fighters serious physical and mental injuries, lead to misaligned money relationships, and propagate violence among certain groups; thus, it should be banned.

Some aficionados insist that MMA should not be considered a dangerous sport because boxing causes even more harm than it does. However, MMA injuries covered a wide range compared to boxing. According to Daniel Neyra (2013):

In addition, strikes in MMA are directed at all parts of the body, not just the head. The grappling aspect of MMA, a significant part of many MMA bouts, allows fighters to hold and control their opponents to limit their striking. This is completely contrary to boxing, which prohibits fighters from holding their opponents to stop their striking (p.731-732).

Additionally, the injuries brought to MMA fighters not only showed on their body but also appeared in their mental health. In a 2020 interview with FHE Health, C.J. Santana stated, "When the MMA fighters stepped on their long training road to get into the octagon, they were grown in a negative fighting culture that includes information like "embrace the grind", and "love the pain"." The passive culture brings MMA fighters serious mental health and unhealthy lifestyles. After accepting the misaligned MMA culture, fighters need to face the situation that they might lose the competition, which is likely to cause mental problems, especially for some famous MMA stars. For example, the Raw Women's Champion Ronda Rousey admitted that she had been feeling suicidal after she lost a bout with Holly Holm. Long-term suffering from misguided training methods and negative MMA



culture has led fighters to uncountable injuries both physical and mental.

Some suggest that the MMA industry develops tertiary industry revenue which helps promote economic development. The MMA industry did indeed bring a high revenue, but who is actually getting the larger share of the proceeds? The world's leading mixed martial arts organization UFC netted a record annual revenue total of \$1.3

billion, but most rockbottom fighters will not earn enough to support their daily expenses. In 2017, 41 percent of UFC fighters earned less than \$45,000 per year, which is the average household income in the US (Pahlevan, 2018). The shocking data is resulting in MMA organizations' unfair contrast. According to Garner Dusa (2022), because of its juggernaut status in the industry, the UFC can impose virtually whatever

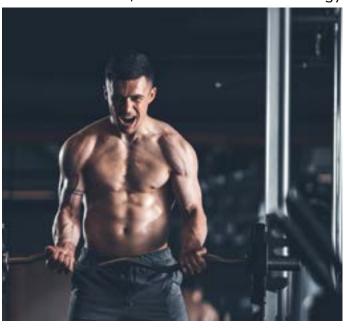
terms it wants on fighters including exclusive promoter agreements, UFC rights to accelerate. championship clauses, and options and exclusive negotiating periods. These unfair contracts made MMA fighters unable to cover their massive expenses of training equipment and employing nutritionists and coaches. Furthermore, the development of MMA increases the burden on taxpayers. Fox News (2014) reported that the money spent on MMA had cost taxpayers more than half a million dollars dating back to 2008, and critics say it should be eliminated from the Tennessee state budget. Under the situation that MMA promoters generate a huge income, taxpayers should not be involved in funding this. The misaligned money relationship of MMA makes revenue for the government and big promoters at the expense of the taxpayers and fighters.

Finally, some claims that MMA is a sport that inspires people's courage and advertises a

sporting spirit. There is no doubt that MMA gives the audience motivation, but instead of giving positive feedback, it propagates violence among certain groups. In the events leading up to the fight in the octagon, the "trash talk strategy" is used to create hype and advertise for the fight. Among MMA fighters' fan groups, the strategy is considered to show fighters determination and confidence which is to be admired. While the "trash talk strategy" is being used, fans—

including teenagers—are likely to be affected by these violent and insolent words and use them in their own daily life. Duarte Tereso (2022) stated, "Therefore. profanity from fighters during prefight press conferences emerged as an effective means of directly impacting fan behavior through PPV numbers" (p. 100), showing the strategy did negatively influence fan groups. The UFC commentator Jon Anik

said, "Even if you and I both thought Dricus Du Plessis won the fight, we try to present that information respectfully, and when I go onto X or I go to our YouTube comments it seems like a lot of these fans are just in attack mode." (Sports Illustrated) A proper sporting spirit should be expressed in a respectful way but not appear in the octagon with an indecent fighting strategy. In addition, MMA fighting also facilitates domestic abuse. For instance, Jason Miller stated that MMA promotions still hired him to fight despite knowledge of his past arrests on domestic violence (Andrew Brennan, 2016). MMA promotion chose to employ the fighters who had been accused of domestic violence and held the opinion that it was no problem because they no longer faced charges. However, letting these fighters stand in the spotlight and make huge amounts of money spreads the thinking that domestic violence can be forgiven by the public and that the victims do not matter. If the MMA industry still does not have a strict regulations



and just culture, the fans could be deeply affected and ignore domestic violence.

With the popularity of MMA, it also revealed its hidden darkness. The intense culture leads MMA fighters to diverse suffering, the imperfect system brings unfair cost and money distribution, and the industry's tolerance to violent behavior shows the reason why MMA should be banned. The disadvantages have been admitted by fighters such as Ronda Rousey and Demetrius Johnson who all suffered from this abhorrent industry. Under rigorous conditions, all parties involved with MMA should make efforts to save its precarious future. As a competition audience, controlling negative emotions and constructing a friendly environment for MMA fans to communicate is necessary. For MMA fighters who suffer from unfair contracts and improper training methods, calling for their rights to get fair treatment will benefit the MMA's development. MMA promoters should cooperate with the government to set up strict and constructive policies that push the misaligned MMA culture into the equitable road and make sure MMA fighters are able to grow potently. Only with specific actions taken, can MMA have a brighter future that match its prosperity.

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## A horrible poet and his the one

#### Yijun Wang

Frowning, I hand her the love poem I have written for so long.

Doesn't feel like it's enough.

How can love be expressed in words?

Love is in each other's breath.

To express my love in three quotes.

Like a mute describing One Thousand and One Nights.

You smile,

Better than tulips after the first spring rain in March.

You say,

'You love me? Then I have to love you."

I laugh.

It's the smile of a fool who realizes,

Also secretly proud smile.

When I touch your cheek with the tip of my nose,

I don't know what I'm going to say.

All I can feel is your eyes and mine.

There are only two people left in the world.

This is the space that is meant to exist since the moment we were born.

We don't meet the right person,

We just arrive at the right time.

Don't talk,

Listen to the bell of fate,

To see our future until the last moment,

Do you feel it?

The three-quote poem passed us by,

The sun is setting beneath our feet,

Space becomes dark and cold in our imagination,

Like a rose petal falling,

Until the first star rises again,

The universe is shining just for us at this moment.

My wandering imagination is again interrupted by your laughter as you read the poem.

I can't resist the urge to kiss your mouth,

I hear even the grass around me laugh,

I know we're all still in a long dream.

Please be the fool in the dream with me.



# Should the stalls economy survive?

Chaolin Lei



To grow the economy, people thought of many ways. Among them, there is one called stall economy. The stalls economy has a long history, tracing back to ancient civilizations when market stalls and street vendors were everywhere. In ancient Rome, for instance, vendors sold goods from clothes to food. Similarly, in medieval Europe, street selling served as a vital part of trade and commerce. Recently, the stalls economy has been used as an economic form that remits the influence brought by COVID-19, which encourages people to vend on the streets. On the opposite side of the traditional vending forms, it helps citizens sell goods at a lower cost and offers them more job opportunities, consequently increasing the economy. However, the stalls economy also has some adverse impacts, like disturbing orders and not guaranteeing the quality of the goods. This paper aims to find out should the stalls economy survives under well-managed policies and regulations and the future development of the stalls economy.

#### Information on the stalls economy

#### Features of stalls economy

"The stalls economy has three characteristics: no business license, no place of business, no fixed operating hours, and plenty of freedom, and it has low cost and low threshold" (Liu, 2023). Different from formal businesses, stalls vendors do not need a selling license or pay taxes. Key features of stalls economics include low entry requirements, minimal capital demand, and a high innovative spirit. These make citizens more easier to enter the stall business, encouraging people to find their own space. In comparison to formal economic models, stalls economies take a smaller scale and are often overlooked in economic analyses. However, they play an important role in communities, that lack community service, especially in developing countries. The stalls vendors build a bridge between supply chains and the communities, offering them daily consumables.



# Advantages and disadvantages of the stalls economy

#### Advantages of the stalls economy

The stalls economy contributes significantly to gross domestic product and employment, particularly in developing countries. In countries, like India and Brazil, the informal department occupies an enormous portion of the labor force and economic output. Street vendors provide millions of job opportunities for residents, improving the economy and strengthening society, which provide livelihoods for millions of people, often serving as the primary part of income for low-income families. The stalls economy also benefits from attracting consumers worldwide, establishing memorable streets, and promoting economic mobility. According to relevant data, the market size of the H1 stalls economy in 2023 was 16.03 trillion yuan.

Innovation is an important part of every country and can not be ignored. Stalls economies provide. The stalls economy provides adolescents, most of all, the undergraduate, chances to practice their sense of innovation (Wang, 2023). Street selling offers teenagers low-cost trial-and-error opportunities, allowing them to realize their potential thoughts. Therefore they can become more confident in future development.

Beyond their economic contributions, stalls economy also contributes to immense social and cultural significance. For instance, to meet the tourists' requirements, merchants must sell traditional goods, which helps to preserve traditional crafts. Street markets often reflect a city's diversity and vibrancy. For instance, the night markets in Taiwan and the floating markets in Thailand are not only economic centers but also cultural landmarks. These markets attract tourists and popularize the cultural heritage.

#### Disadvantages of the stalls economy

Despite its contributions, street selling also brings the city some disadvantages. Health and safety concerns are significant disadvantages in the stall economy, as many vendors do not have basic amenities. Without access to clean water and facilities, there are serious health risks. Because no licenses are required, it can not guarantee the quality of the goods, which causes differences in the quality of goods. Once there are problems, consumers can hardly ever find the merchant again because the locations where vendors appear are fluid. In particular, there is no guarantee of the quality of the food, which can seriously impact the customer's health (Li, 2023). Additionally, the physical setup of stalls, often are temporary, which may be unsafe and even cause



accidents. Improper setup will greatly increase the probability of accidents, like fire disasters. However, using policies and regulations can help avoid these problems. For example, governments can provide clean water to the stalls vendors and require them to have facilities. This way, it can soothe food health problems. Governments can also limit the location of the stall of vendors to reduce the possibility of accidents.

The street vendor economy can negatively impact social order by contributing to urban

congestion and vehicular traffic, leading to frustration and potential safety hidden trouble, especially downtown. To get room to sell their products, hostile competition arises between merchants (Zhao, 2024), potentially harming local economies and enterprise competition. To solve it, Governments can restrict the area each vendor can have to reduce the competition among vendors. The same selling area inspires them to have fair competition.

Another severe problem is pollution. Some merchants only care about the garbage if it costs them to lease stores for vending, adding to the workload of sanitation workers for sweeping and transportation. In addition to the garbage, Noise pollution and light pollution also seriously affect the lives of neighboring residents. The quality of life of residents can be severely disrupted, taking a toll on their physical health. Setting up a special supervision department to control the waste generated by vendors can help a lot. By supervising the vendors, they have to clean the pollution they make and control the noise and light they use.

#### Challenges and opportunities

Stalls economies face a myriad of challenges, including limited access to credit and resources,

and competition from formal businesses. The urbanization management often forces them to suspend their development or move elsewhere. Also, the lack of social attention brings them economic shocks and health problems.

Despite these challenges, there are many opportunities for the stalls economy to grow and develop. The development of technological advancements, such as online paying, offers people a more convenient and faster way to pay for goods. E-commerce platforms, provide new

a pattern for stalls vendors to reach a bigger market. On another hand, the scale of stalls economies is smaller than formal businesses, therefore, stalls economies can give consumers more attentive service. For instance, package goods more carefully, and provide more emotional value to consumers, attracting more customers to consume.

#### Conclusion

#### Future of the stalls economy

The stalls economy contributes significantly to our economic growth. Although some disadvantages affect the order, the advantages to citizens exceed the disadvantages. It is obvious that the stalls economy has the right to survive. However, realizing it requires a concerted effort from all stakeholders, including governments, businesses, and civil society. The future of stalls economies will be shaped by various factors and trends, such as Urbanization, technological advancements, and changing consumer preferences which are likely to influence the evolution of stalls economies. For Governments and nongovernmental organizations, can play a crucial role in fostering an enabling environment that supports the resilience and

innovation of stalls economies. For example, Governments should pay more attention to the stalls economy and set up proper and useful policies and regulations to help develop the stalls economy. Formal businesses should reduce repression to stalls vendors to create fair competition and create a more inclusive economic environment for future economic development. The stalls economy deserves the attention of everyone.





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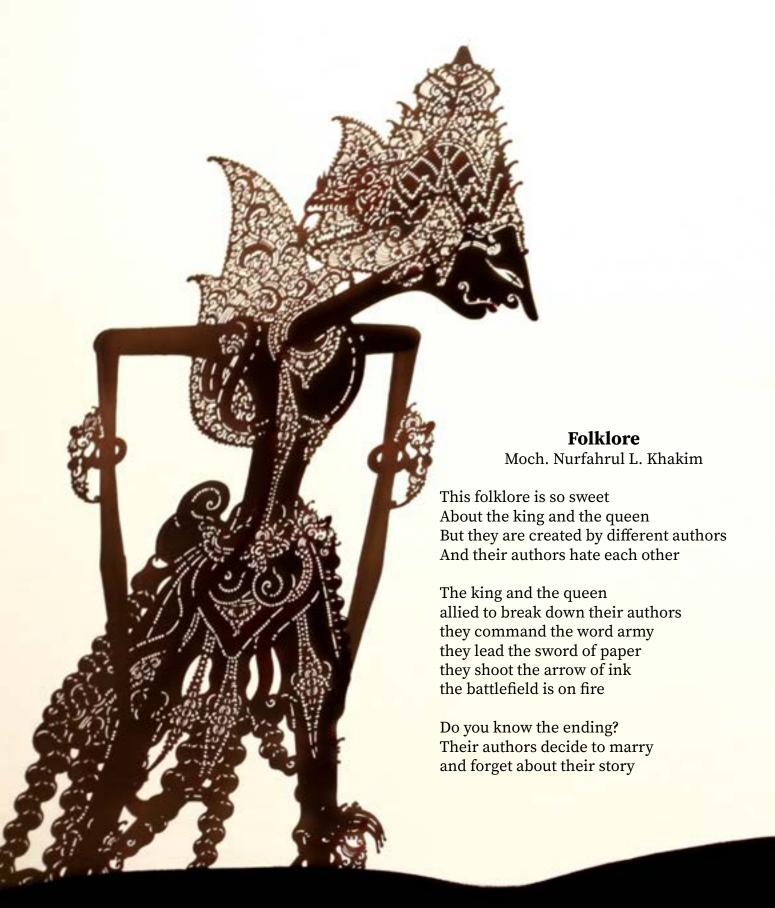
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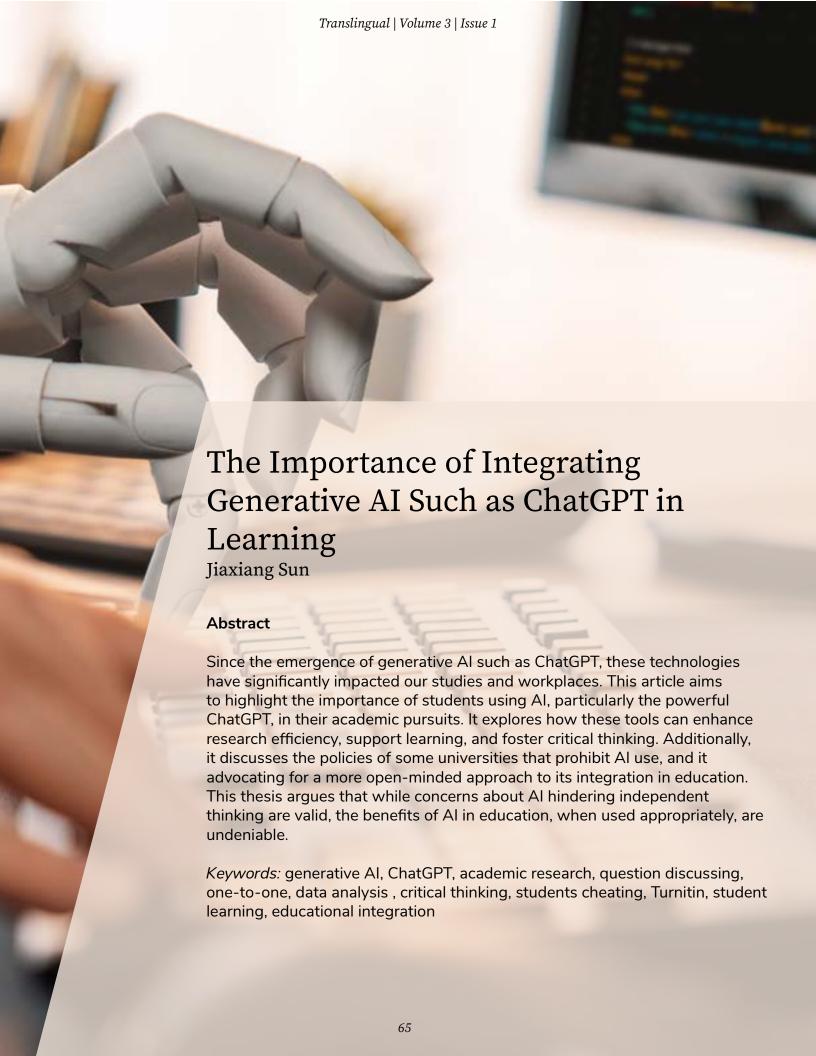
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Various Al tools such as ChatGPT have emerged, and people have discovered the significant potential for Al to assist in both work and study. ChatGPT enables students can access a wide range of online resources or generate insightful ideas for their topics and queries, thereby significantly reducing the time spending on searching for answers or other materials. According to a survey conducted by Resume Builder (2023), a growing number of enterprises request candidates proficient in using ChatGPT. The survey indicates that 91% of companies that are hiring are looking for

candidates with experience in using ChatGPT, and 30% of companies urgently need these employees (Resume Builder, 2023). These data underline the importance of AI in the workplace. Despite concerns that relying on AI may lead students to lose their capacity for independent study, the benefits of integrating Al into education are undeniable.

Therefore, students can significantly enhance their learning efficiency by utilizing ChatGPT to improve research efficiency, support learning and problem-solving, and leverage advanced data

analysis capabilities.

First and foremost, ChatGPT functions like a search engine such as Google or Baidu, but with enhanced capacities. For example, students always use ChatGPT to help me search for materials on questions or research, including data, papers, and more. ChatGPT not only helps to eliminate irrelevant content and advertisements but also automatically summarizes online resources and provides conclusions (Lund & Wang, 2023, p. 5). ChatGPT streamlines the process of online searching,

thus saving considerable time and enhancing students' efficiency. Furthermore, ChatGPT can not only summarize and extract information from the internet but also provide conclusions, which might lead some to worry that it could weaken even replace users' critical thinking abilities, I believe ChatGPT cannot replace human independent thinking in the short term. Thus, in my opinion, is precisely the strength of such assistive generative Al. For instance, sometimes ChatGPT might fabricate answers or give wrong conclusions. Regarding GPT-4's mathematical capabilities, from March to June, GPT-4's

numbers decreased from 84% to 51.1%, and its accuracy in counting happy numbers decreased from 83.6% to 35.2% (Chen, Zaharia, & Zou, 2023, pp. 5 & 8). According to these data, we know that ChatGPT's accuracy rate is not very high. What's more, compared to humans. ChatGPT still exhibits significant gaps in understanding subtle nuances of language. For instance, ChatGPT is unable to interpret human hints or body language, whereas humans can comprehend

emotional intent through these

accuracy in recognizing prime

non-verbal cues, such as tone of voice and gestures (Beyond Blue Media, 2023). Therefore, despite ChatGPT is ongoing iteration, I believe ChatGPT will remain constrained by its own capabilities, achieving a highly balanced state. It will be able to significantly assist people in their work and studies but will not replace their job positions or be used by students for cheating.

Secondly, ChatGPT can serve as an effective interlocutor for students. ChatGPT can generate numerous valuable ideas for various topics and complicated questions, particularly in the

realm of programming. ChatGPT's powerful programming capabilities can assist students in learning computer languages, such as helping us correct program mistakes. According to research

conducted by M. Popovici (2023) and his team, they used a specialized tool to extract several code snippets from 67 homework assignments completed by students in the past. The lengths of sample codes ranged from 1-2 lines to 55 lines. These samples were used to evaluate whether students were proficient in using a functional programming style. The results showed

that ChatGPT could detect errors and provide the correct answers along with correct explanations approximately 77% of the time. About 7% of the sample results were generally correct but had small mistakes that students needed to pay attention to (Popovici, 2023, p.6). Additionally, according to Mohebi (as cited in R. Yilmaz & F. G. K. Yilmaz, 2023), which indicates that ChatGPT has the capability to be a great associative professor to assist students in gaining a deeper understanding of complicated programming theory, even replacing professors in some areas where they are limited. In the essence, Professors typically conduct very thorough and in-depth research within their specialized fields, but may have relative weaknesses in other areas. In contrast, ChatGPT has an extensive range of knowledge across many subjects, even encompassing all fields, but lacks the depth of

expertise that professors possess. Therefore, I believe the two are complementary, and only by integrating them can maximize the benefits for students. Last but not least, ChatGPT provides one-to-one question-answering, generating personalized learning experiences and feedback, and providing targeted questions and problems for students to practice (Crompton & Burke, as cited in Trust, Whalen, & Mouza, 2023). Therefore, as students, we should discuss with ChatGPT to gain deeper insights into certain theories and problems.

Finally, ChatGPT has powerful data analysis capabilities that can quickly review and visualize large amounts of data to help students draw faster conclusions about trends. In biotechnology (including medical fields), ChatGPT can perform



ChatGPT can accelerate and improve drug development by dealing with large amounts of data, especially in the process of new drug clinical trials. For financial traders, ChatGPT can collect and analyze data from media to assist in evaluating the trend of securities transactions.

For instance, it can use sentiment analysis on social media posts to identify positive or negative sentiment about a particular stock or market trend. ChatGPT can combine these insights with trading strategies to help traders pinpoint potential buying or selling opportunities (Groette, 2024).

Although ChatGPT exhibits powerful features, some universities prohibit its use by students, citing concerns that it may gradually erode their capacity for independent thinking. From

my perspective, ChatGPT is an excellent searching tool for assisting students in obtaining information and generating ideas; however, it should not supplant their independent thinking. In fact, the process of discussing with ChatGPT can develop students' critical thinking skills because students need to evaluate the credibility and relevance of the materials it provides. According to Mohebi (as cited in Santos, 2023), ChatGPT can be a

powerful cognitive agent in chemistry academic background because it can not only transmit information and knowledge but also develop students' critical thinking skills by providing various opinions and methods for approaching problem-solving. Regarding cheating or plagiarism, universities have technological measures to monitor and control such activities. Turnitin's spokesperson states that their Al can detect the distinction between human writing and Al generation with high accuracy using a special algorithm (Knox, 2023). Therefore, professors can combine Turnitin's checking feature and students' usual homework levels to judge whether students use AI to cheat. What's more, if some students attempt to use ChatGPT to cheat on programming assignments, professors can easily detect Al-specific errors. For instance, the accuracy of ChatGPT decreases to 50% when solving some complicated lab coding problems (Popovici, 2023, p.10). Therefore, I contend that ChatGPT can serve as a perfect assistant for students in problem-solving rather than a reliable tool for cheating.

In summary, ChatGPT has significant impacted students' study methodologies with its powerful features. It provides students with a powerful tool for research and learning, enabling them

> to access information quickly and efficiently. However, it should not replace students' independent thinking. Thus, the key is for educators to guide students on how to use ChatGPT effectively, balancing and developing the benefits of Al in order to cultivate students essential critical thinking skills. By adopting the appropriate approach, universities can fully harness the potential of ChatGPT to augment students' academic

experiences and capabilities.

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