

Letter To The Editor – Liberal Studies

7A Tina Cheng

Dear Sir,

I am writing to express my view about the issue of the introduction of Liberal Studies in Secondary 6. Recently, this issue has become a disputable question. Some teachers object to this suggestion because there is not enough training for teachers. Also, it is hard to give fair assessments of the students' performance. However, some people, including me, believe that it is a must to make Liberal Studies a compulsory subject. I will explain about this below.

Some people think that Liberal Studies should not be implemented because teachers are not qualified to teach this subject. I think it is quite a minor problem. As this subject will only be introduced in 2008, the government still has time to train the teachers. The assessment of students' performance, it is not a problem either. The teachers can mark students' work based on their reasoning skills and analytical ability. The aim of this subject is not to ask students to memorize the textbooks mechanically, but to enable students to think critically.

There are many benefits of making Liberal Studies a compulsory subject for Secondary 6 students as it can help students with good foundation for tertiary education. Students can develop their analytical and reasoning skills by studying this subject. Students may discuss current issues in groups and express their own opinions instead of having spoon-fed lessons. Even the quiet students in class may also be motivated to participate freely in the lessons. In the long term, students will be able to think critically. Hong Kong students have always been criticized for not caring about the world. This subject will help them to develop critical thinking skills which are required for both work and study.

To conclude, Liberal Studies may not be useful in the eyes of some people, but I think it will help students a lot. Students will benefit from it in the long run.

Yours faithfully,

Chris Wong

Teacher's Feedback : Tina is able to discuss different views towards the introduction of Liberal Studies in Secondary 6. The letter is well-organized and she can justify her opinions with supportive arguments. (Miss Lui Hoi Yee)

Food For Thought : What is your point of view as well as other people's, such as parents and teachers?

