

图书在版编目(CIP)数据

我最宝贵的 / 思乐维等编. — 北京: 生活·读书·新知

三联书店, 2005.2

(人间丛书)

ISBN 7-108-02253-2

I. 我… II. 思… III. 社会调查—中国—文集

IV. D668-53

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2005)第 013151 号

责任编辑 黄 华

装帧设计 陈 楠

出版发行 生活·读书·新知 三联书店

(北京市东城区美术馆东街 22 号)

邮 编 100010

经 销 新华书店

印 刷 北京华联印刷有限公司

版 次 2005 年 2 月北京第 1 版

2005 年 2 月北京第 1 次印刷

开 本 787 毫米 × 670 毫米 1/12 印张 $13\frac{2}{3}$

字 数 80 千字 图 片 65 幅

印 数 0,001—8,000 册

定 价 22.00 元



[人间从书] 如果有人问什么是你生活中最宝贵的，你会怎样回答呢？是否想到一些物件？一些你买过或者想买的东西？还是一些人？

1998年，香港乐施会职员访问过几个中国西南部的农民，问他们最宝贵或最珍贵的是什么？原因是什么？这是了解当地居民生活中最重要的事的一种途径，也是一种有用的教育工具，让身处富裕地区的居民认识贫穷问题。

2002年，上海爱的教育研究会发现这个意念很有趣并很有启发性，便组织少量学生干部到安徽、江西和延安作一次试探性的调查，结果出奇地好。于是在2002年和2003年寒假，又分别有近三万和十万名学生，在全国各地进行第二次和第三次“我最宝贵的”调查……

我最宝贵的



If someone asked you to name the most favourite thing in your life, what would you answer? Something you own? Want to have? Or would it be something that money can't buy?

In 1998, Oxfam Hong Kong editor Madeleine Marie Slavick travelled to Southwest China and asked people what they cherish most, and why. She then collected stories from 11 countries and in 2001, created an exhibition that has been translated into Chinese, German, Japanese and Spanish. Love Outreach Education Academy in Shanghai expanded the project, with over 125,000 students conducting interviews across China.

My Favourite Thing – 70 compelling stories from around China and around the world.

My Favourite Thing

ISBN 7-108-02253-2



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ISBN 7-108-02253-2

定价: 22.00 元

My Favourite Thing

我最宝贵的



目录

Contents

前言	07
Introduction	09
街头巷尾	011-049
在辽阔的大地上	051-085
往西，再往西……	087-113
遥远的国度	115-143
青年人教育——世界因此不同	146-147
国际视野与公民教育的有效途径	
——「我最宝贵的」调查活动	148-151
怎样作社会调查	152-153
Talking with Youth in China Against Poverty, and for Equity	154-155
「人间丛书」出版缘起	156-157
乐施会	158-159
上海爱的教育研究会	160

前言

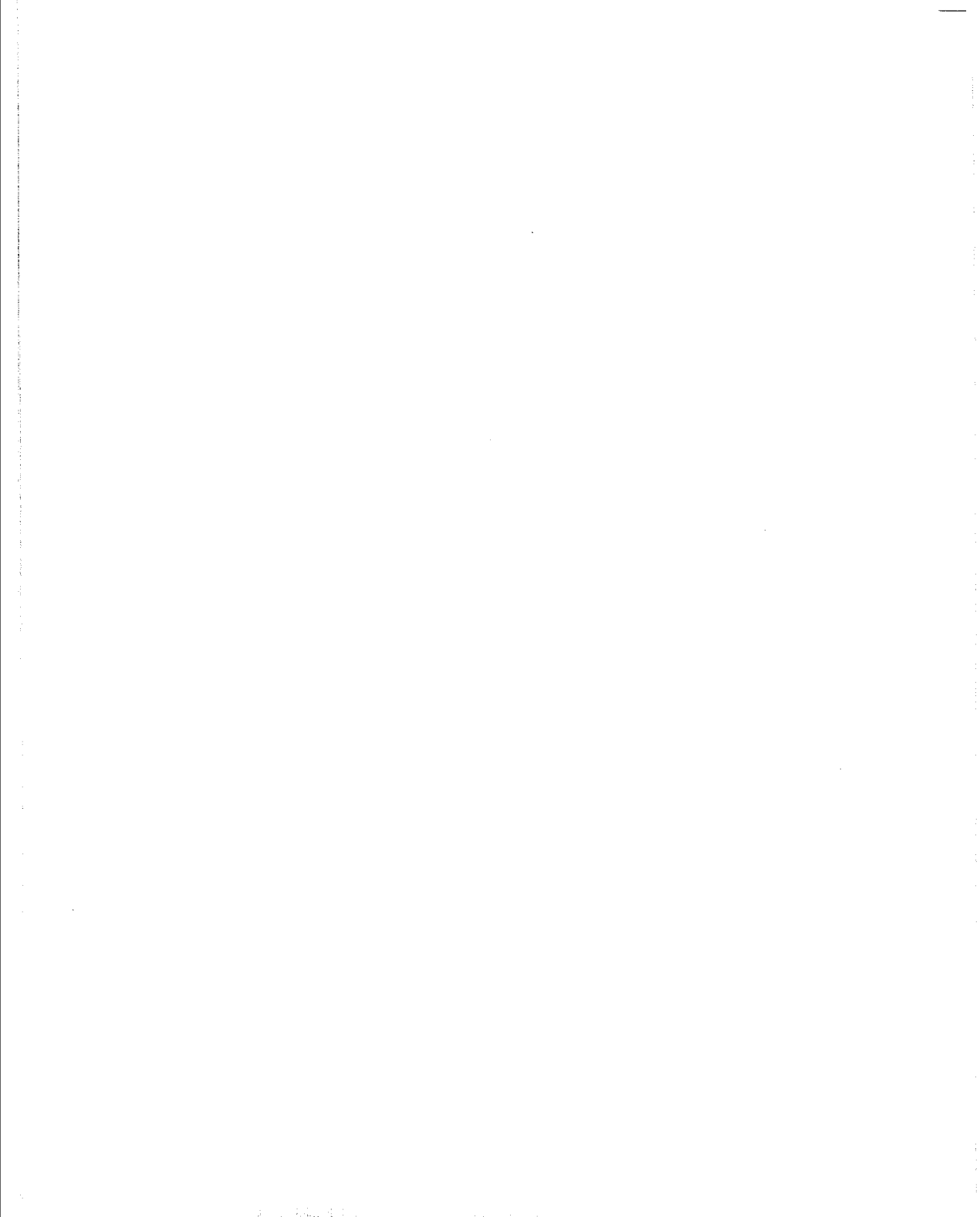
处于现今信息高度密集而全球贫富悬殊的社会中的青年，必须扩大国际视野，建立对贫富问题的认识和关怀，才能自如地遨游于未来的地球村，做一个负责任的青年公民。

香港乐施会和上海爱的教育研究会，为了让当代少年有一个接触和了解弱势群体的机会，并进一步关心弱势人群，连续举办了两届“我最宝贵的”社会调查活动，让中学生利用假期外出探亲、旅游的机会，去外地、去海外调查处于困境中的人群，了解他们“最宝贵的”是什么。

第一次我们发动了30 000名中学生，第二次则组织了100 000名中学生。每个人都带着照相机，带着笔，去和素不相识的人沟通和交流。这真是一支浩浩荡荡的队伍，一次触及心灵的教育。他们的所见、所闻和他们日常生活中的所想、所求完全不是一回事。于是他们看到了世界的贫困面，从而一种崇高的责任感油然而生。他们不仅扩大了视野，也开阔了胸怀。

在这两次活动和此前的一次小规模试点活动中，产生了不少令人久久难以忘却的优秀作品。无论是照片、文字，还是它们充满爱意的内涵，都有极大的醒世价值。这里我们精选其中的一小部分，供大家鉴赏。愿爱心与我们同在。

醒梅



Introduction

Madeleine Marie Slavick(思乐维)
Poet, Photographer and *Oxfam Magazine* Editor

Quietly. Let's think about what we cherish most in our life, and why we value it so much. Is it something owned, wanted, purchased, handmade? Or is it something in our minds?

Over the years, I have travelled to Ethiopia, India and Vietnam to document many Oxfam Hong Kong projects. I have met some very poor yet very strong people, but have often felt distant: a tall white woman photographer on a short-term task. On a trip to Southwest China, I tried to bridge this gap by inviting people to name their favourite thing, and to say why. A 67-year-old illiterate woman answered 'knowing how to read'. An overworked, pregnant farmer replied 'nothing' – life was too hard. Her coalminer-husband said 'time'. It was an inspiring week, and I vowed to continue the project someday. Two years later, awarded a grant from the Hong Kong Arts Development Council and support from Oxfam, I created an exhibition with stories from 11 countries.* Now, Shanghai's Love Outreach Education Academy and some 125,000 relatively well-off students have joined, conducting interviews with poorer people across China (50 stories were selected for publication). How the students and other young people internalise the huge rise of capitalism and commercialism in the world's most populous country will have ramifications for China, and the world.

No one answered 'money' as a favourite thing. The most important measure of poverty, then, may not be cash and the possessions it can buy, and people without many 'things' may very well not see themselves as poor. Family. Home. Faith. Health. Acceptance. Security. Community. These are also cherished.

A cleaning woman in Hong Kong writes letters home to Guangdong to release her frustrations and experiences of discrimination, while a lonely girl in Anhui values her diary. Animals are prized – from crocodiles in Thailand and a horse named Rarity in Brazil, to elephants, pigs, bees and a brotherly ox. The seven-year-old boy featured on the cover – a bamboo-seller – chose a full bowl of rice, a symbol of income; while an eight-year-old in Mozambique values her bowl, orange and plastic, for carrying water, eating meals, and for washing her hands.

These voices of ordinary people poignantly reflect the mind-set of today's China, and at the same time, reveal global issues: war, sexism, poverty, urbanization, marginalisation, disparity and inequity.

This book is one of my favourite projects, ever. It confirms my love for the intimate, the delicate – to get closer, to touch, to make connections that may not have existed before.

*The exhibition can be borrowed from Oxfam for free, and is also online (www.oxfam.org.hk).

街头巷尾

In the City

工作

It is difficult for migrant workers to find a job in Shanghai, so Xifang values her job as a cleaning woman very much even though it is hard work. Her son and her parents back home need the money she sends.

My Job

清早走出家门，草地上、屋顶上都是白茫茫的一片，凌晨的一场大雪让上海的早晨显得格外寒冷。她叫李希芳，来自安徽省，今年30岁了，但身着天蓝色的工作服，满头是汗的她显得精神奕奕，比实际年龄要年轻许多。说到这份工作，虽然月薪只有550元，而且异常辛苦，但她干得非常踏实，丝毫不敢马虎，生怕被炒鱿鱼。她说，目前，或者说在将来很长一段时间里，她最宝贵的东西，都将是这份工作。

是的，在采访过程中我得知，为了工作，无论是炎炎酷暑，还是三九严寒，她都得推着那沉重的清洁车，清扫每幢楼前的庭院，到每一户门口收走当天的垃圾，为每一户擦洗门前的垃圾箱，并且擦大堂的玻璃门、窗，拖地，擦楼梯扶手、绿地栅栏……都是体力劳动，累是在所难免。在这样冷的日子里，再碰上雨、雪就更不容易了。平时没有时间回家，即使是今年过年，她也放弃了与家人团聚的机会。她说：“找一份稳定的工作真的很难。”于是，现在拥有这份工作的她倍加珍惜。因为在家乡，她还有父母和儿子要生活。

李希芳 清洁工

Li Xifang Shanghai



孩子的笑容

Every Thursday, Zhenjiao and Jiaqi give up their recess after lunch and volunteer at a nearby special education school. They play games with the young children, and to them, the children's smiles are the most beautiful thing in the world.

Smile

陆贞姣和吴佳琦是进才中学的高一学生，他俩入校后就主动加入了学校的青年志愿者队伍。每逢周四，他们就会放弃自己的午餐时间，利用为时不多的午休，前往离学校不远的十八间小学，与那里的特殊学生联谊。

这是一所零拒收学校，这里的孩子都是被普通学校劝退的学生，在智力、生理上多少都有些异于常人，身心都蒙上了难以抹去的阴影，有些自闭，有些迟钝。他们能做的是协助老师与孩子们一起游戏并给予孩子们精神上的愉悦。

当我问到什么是他们认为最宝贵的东西时，他们不约而同地回答：笑容，那些单纯的小孩子天真灿烂的笑容。他们的笑容是世上最宝贵的、最美丽的东西。

陆贞姣，吴佳琦 高一学生 16岁
Lu Zhenjiao & Wu Jiaqi Age 16



青春

Fengling was diagnosed with bone cancer when she was 16 years old. Three months later, her leg was amputated. Through learning how to play volleyball, she has found her energy again. She now exercises six hours a day, and thinks her fate is not unfair: she lost a leg but got the chance to join games for the disabled.

Energy

彭凤玲是一个来自北京的姑娘，今年只有20岁。当我问起她最宝贵的是什么时，她不假思索地回答是青春。

她原来也是一个普通的女孩，在上初三那一年她被诊断患了骨癌。3个月后病情发展到了不得不截肢的地步，这就是命运摆在她面前的残酷现实。但是她并没有消沉，一次偶然的机会她接触了排球，并且喜欢上了它，她重新找到了自己青春的活力。没有了一条腿就坐在地上，用仅有的一条腿移动着身体，发球、传球、拦网。一天6个小时的艰苦训练，青春的火焰因此而更加明艳。

在谈到青春这一话题时她显得十分开朗。她认为命运并没有对她不公平，命运虽然夺去了她的一条腿，但同时也给予她一个进军残疾人奥运会的机会。对她来说青春是宝贵的，但青春并没有离她而去。