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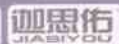
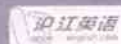
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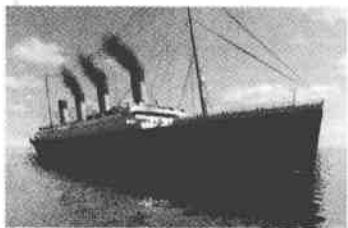
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漂泊，还是航行？ ——木板与航船的故事

夏翠翠

编者按：做学生的益处数不胜数，单一个惬意的暑假就令不再是学生的“圈儿外人”望洋兴叹了。看了本期由聂振伟教授主持并推荐的“雪绒花心灵沙龙”，还是学生的你，是否更加珍惜这段充电的好时光呢？不论是学业充电、业余兴趣充电，还是为将来的工作充电，利用这个宝贵的假期开始行动吧！



聂振伟教授简介：

聂振伟教授毕业于北京师范大学，现任北京师范大学心理咨询中心常务副主任、北京雪绒花学生心理帮助热线主持、督导。1994年开始主持北京师范大学心理咨询中心工作。20多年来，聂教授为学生开设有：学校心理卫生学、心理咨询学、师范生心理素质训练、社会心理学、学校心理健康教育研究、大学生思想道德修养等课程，深受学生欢迎。

我曾经听过一个关于“木板与航船”的寓言故事：
在无边无际的太平洋上，一块木板和一艘航船相遇了。
“你要去哪里？”木板问。
“我要航行到墨西哥湾，你呢？”
“我，我也不知道我要漂向何方。”
“什么？在浩瀚无边的太平洋中，你却在随波逐流！”航船有些愤怒。
“这有什么？我已经从印度洋漂到了太平洋，还不是一直在前进！”木板无所谓地说。
“可是，太平洋是你要去的地方吗？”
“……”木板无言以对。
“没有方向，只能是漂泊，永远也找不到自己想要去的地方。”说完，航船朝着墨西哥湾的方向驶去……

看完这个小故事后，你有怎样的感受？即将踏上职业道路的你，已经为职业海洋中的遨游作好准备了吗？你可以选择像航船一样航行，你也可以选择像木板一样漂泊。大学四年的时间只是你万里航程中的一段，先有方向，才能到达彼岸。知道自己要去往何处最终决定了航线和你要选择什么样的方式去往你的目的地。

或许在以前，即使像木板一样漂泊，也能到达一个景色秀丽的海湾。但是，现在大学生已经不再是“天之骄子”，而是面临着“皇帝的女儿也愁嫁”的就业压力。在找工作的时候，大家并不一定能够称心如意，尤其是碰到时下的金融危机，对大学生就业的影响就更大了。

在大学四年如何合理规划自己的人生，将会直接影响你今后的人生道路。在这漫长而又短暂，迷茫却不失精彩的四年，我们可以做些什么呢？“如何规划自己的人生？我是一个怎样的人？我适合什么样的工作？我可以找到什么样的工作？”等，这些问题都需要我们积极地思考。

托尔斯泰曾经说过：“要有生活目标，一辈子的目标，一段时期的目标，一个阶段的目标，一年的目标，一个月的目标，一个星期的目标，一天的目标，一个小时的目标，一分钟的目标。”

理想是指路的明灯。没有理想就没有坚定的方向，没有方向就没有生活。

很多同学在自由的象牙塔里会不知所措，不知如何充分利用业余时间。本期我们会与大家一起探讨大学生的社会实践。心理学专家的详细分析尽在63页的“雪绒花心灵沙龙”，千万不要错过！

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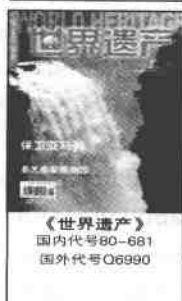


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编者按: 全球金融危机的突然爆发, 让大量美国人钱包“缩水”。 无论是否愿意, 人们都已经被卷入这场全球性金融危机了。物价飞涨, 资产缩水, 人们不再敢无端透支, 花大价钱去购买奢侈品了。人们发现需要钱的地方实在太多太多了。美国作为金融危机的始发地, 面对这场危机美国政府是如何应对的? 请看本刊专栏作者小歌发自纽约的专稿。

New York Thoughts — I Want My Money Back

小歌

The year 2009 started with more bad news for the economy: Massive layoffs, government budget shortfalls, and increased numbers of home **foreclosures**¹. The US jobless rate reached 8.5 percent, which converts to 5.7 million unemployed workers. In March alone, some 650,000 people lost their jobs. Some states were hit harder by the economic downturn than others; Nevada, the Carolinas², Oregon, Michigan, California, and Rhode Island posted jobless rates higher than 10 percent. There was bad news in New York too. Governor Patterson announced recently that his administration would be laying off 9,000 state workers to help close the \$17.7 billion budget deficit. The Dow³ sensed trouble and plunged to touch 6,500 in early March, losing more than 50 percent of its value compared to a year earlier.

MONEY IS THE ISSUE⁴. There is just not enough money to go around — banks are running out of money and don't have **credit**⁵ to give out because of bad loans and home foreclosures; consumers, uncertain about the economic outlook, are putting off big purchases such as **appliances**⁶ and cars; and money, or the lack of it, is breaking the

back of American industrial and financial icons. The “big three” auto makers, Ford, Chrysler, and General Motors, are at the verge of bankruptcy.

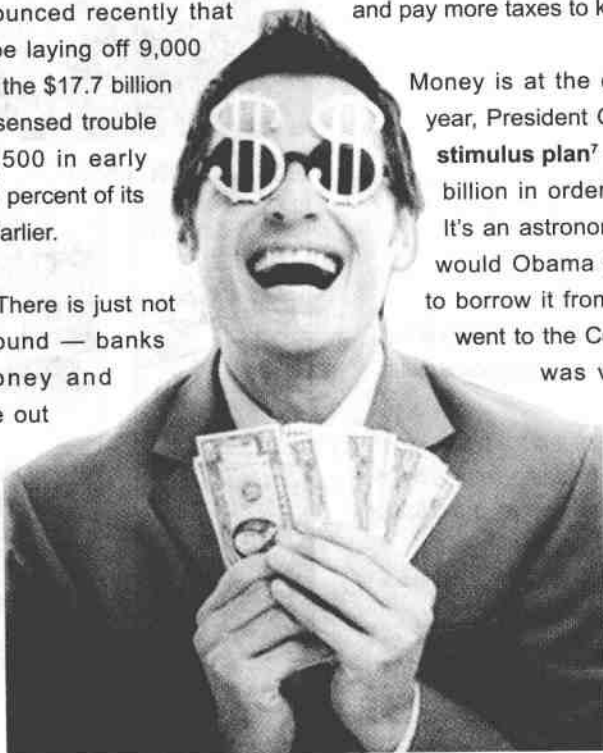
Everybody needs money — banks need it to cover their bad debts and to lend money again; car makers need it to help stay afloat and prevent more layoffs; people who lost their jobs need it to pay their bills and to put food on the table; and tax payers need it to increase their confidence in the economy so that they will spend more and pay more taxes to keep the government in business.

Money is at the core of everything. Earlier this year, President Obama announced his economic **stimulus plan**⁷ — he was going to pump in \$787 billion in order to **jump start the economy**⁸.

It's an astronomical figure, \$787 billion. Where would Obama get the money? He was going to borrow it from tax payers. The stimulus plan went to the Congress and after heated debate was voted into law, “The American

Recovery and Reinvestment Act.” Now cold cash is being handed out by the federal government to banks, auto makers, small businesses, and even individual tax payers. Our story starts from here.

Among the big institutions that received stimulus funds was



AIG⁹, the American International Group. Anchored in New York City, AIG is a financial giant that insurances major banks in the US and worldwide for their loans and mortgages. Imagine, should AIG go bankrupt, the world's credit system would collapse. Out of the \$787 billion stimulus package, AIG received more than \$170 billion, some 22 percent of all the rescue funds. But, lately, reports have been leaked to the public that AIG used \$165 million of the money to pay bonuses for 400 of its officers, some of whom are directly responsible for the financial disaster that almost sank the company. And these were big bonuses too. Of the 73 AIG officers awarded with million-dollar bonuses, one person received \$6.4 million, six people received \$4 million or more, 15 got between \$2 - 4 million, and 51 received between \$1 - 2 million. It's tax payers' money.

At the height of the economic crisis, with people losing their jobs and homes, the public was enraged by these bonuses and questioned why tax payers' money should even be used to rescue a company with such a culture of excessive greed. The AIG's CEO was summoned to the Capitol Hill to testify in a hearing on the **bonus scandal**¹⁰, and tax payers demanded their money back. Under pressure from the White House, the US Congress, and the State of New York, 15 of the bonus recipients have so far returned the bonus money. To those who have not yet come forward to return the money, the Congress warned that it would put a 90 percent tax on these bonuses to force these recipients to pay the money back.



Taxation — a double-edged sword, isn't it? It takes money away from you and also returns money back to you.

If you have a question or would like to share a thought, please send your email to xiaoge@aol.com. Bye for now.

1. foreclosure [fɔː'kleɪʒə] n. (抵押人) 回赎抵押品权利的取消
2. the Carolinas 北卡罗来纳和南卡罗来纳州的总称
3. The Dow (Dow Jones Industrial Average), 即道琼斯(股票)平均指数。纽约股市指数之一, 指数计算包括30家最大的美国上市公司的股票价值; Dow 的母公司为 Dow Jones & Company (道琼斯公司), 是全球领先的商业新闻和信息提供商。
4. Money is the issue 钱是个问题; 反之, money is not the issue 表示信心及能力。
5. credit 此处指信用; 信用等级评估叫 credit rating; 银行准许的贷款额度叫 credit line。
6. appliances 大件家电, 如冰箱、洗衣机、电视等
7. stimulus plan 美国国会2009年3月通过法案, 称为 "American Recovery and Reinvestment Act" (ARRA), 即《美国复苏与再投资法案》; 向市场投放7千多亿美元刺激经济发展。
8. jump start the economy 刺激经济复苏; jump start原指用一辆发动着的汽车的电池去启动另一辆熄火的车。
9. AIG 全称 American International Group, 即美国国际集团。它是世界保险和金融机构服务的领军者。由于保险公司是信贷危机的主要受害者, 因此, AIG的业绩大幅下滑。
10. bonus scandal 奖金丑闻, 此处指经济危机下 AIG在接受政府解困金后向其员工发放巨额奖金的丑闻事件。



责任编辑: 陈晨

美文佳译

婚姻

让男人长寿

Marriage Keeps Men Alive Longer

毛荣贵

婚姻的比喻形形色色——围城、赌博、坟墓、游戏（一男一女合法地长久待在一起体味人间酸甜苦辣之游戏），等等。但是，一切比喻站到本文的标题面前，都将显得那么虚无失色。本文从科学的角度揭示了一条真理：婚姻纵有千般喻、万种味，毕竟，Marriage seems to be so good for men's health that married men are less likely to die in a given period than their single counterparts!

原文、两译及小析如下。

1) Marriage seems to be so good for men's health that married men are less likely to die in a given period than their single counterparts, according to British researchers.

初译：英国的研究人员认为，婚姻看来对男性的健康如此有利，以致于已婚男子比单身男子在一段规定的时段里死亡的可能性较小。

改译：根据英国研究人员的研究，婚姻看来对男性的健康非常有利，在一段设定的时间段内，已婚男子比单身汉死亡的可能性较小。

小析：翻译，似乎没有必要一见so... that...就译“如此……以至于”。翻译时，若是将所见的so... that 皆译成“如此……以至于……”，那么，汉语岂不成了真正的“丑小鸭”？请玩味下列含“so... that...”的翻译：

a. This is something I admire so much, something I find so profound, so beautiful, so piercing that I must make you understand and admire it too, even though you, through some inadvertence, have neglected to learn the language in which it is written. Let me show you how it goes.

译文：文字是多么深刻、美丽、扣人心弦，令我赞叹不已，恨不得能让你们大家一起享受。可是，不巧的是，你不懂原文，无以欣赏。让我来告诉你们原作是怎么回事吧。（笔者多余的话：其实，翻译如创作，也需要激情哩！）

b. You feel such a sense of exhilaration that you wouldn't exchange it for all the power and glory of the world.

译文：你是那么兴奋，就算用世上所有的权利和荣誉来换取你那种兴奋的感受，你也不会愿意。

c. It's like landing from your plane on a great plateau in the mountains. Solitude, and an air so pure that it goes to your head like wine and you feel like a million dollars.

译文：就像你乘一架飞机降落在巍峨的群山中的一片高原上，四周万籁俱寂，而且空气非常清新，像佳酿一样沁人心脾，你感觉自己像个百万富翁。

2) Professor Andrew Oswald and Dr. Jonathan Gardner from the department of economics at Warwick University looked at data

on more than 12,000 adults from the *British Household Survey* and the *British Retirement Survey*.

初译：Warwick大学经济学系的Andrew Oswald教授和Jonathan Gardner博士阅读了*British Household Survey*和*British Retirement Survey*中的12000多成年人的有关数据。

改译：沃里克大学经济学系的安德鲁·奥斯瓦德教授和乔纳森·加德纳博士阅读了《英国家庭概况》和《英国退休人员概况》中的12000多成年人的有关数据。



小析：难译是冷僻的书刊名称。*British Household Survey and British Retirement Survey*，是杂志，还是书籍？还是别的什么材料？缺乏绝对把握，我们只能“模糊”译之。如初译那样保留英语的刊名，不是一个办法。此外，有的译者喜欢照搬人名之原文，据最新趋势，还是译出为好。

3) Factoring out influences such as smoking and drinking, married men were 6.1% less likely to die over a 7-year period than single men, they found. Women benefited less from marriage, with their death risk dropping just 2.9%.

初译：他们发现，不计算吸烟和饮酒，已婚男子在一个7年的时间段里，其死亡的可能性比单身男子要低6.1%。女性从婚姻中受益较少，死亡的可能性下降了2.9%。

改译：他们发现，将吸烟和饮酒这些因素排除在外，已婚男子在设定的7年的时间段里，其死亡的可能性比单身汉要低6.1%，而女性从婚姻中受益较少，其死亡的可能性仅下降了2.9%。

小析：英语常用factor in，其意思是to figure in（包括，把……计算在内）。如：We factored sick days and vacations in when we prepared the work schedule.当我们准备工作时间表时，我们把病假和假期都包括在内。上句出现了factoring out，无须查阅词典，也可以猜出其含义。但是，将factoring out influences译成“不计算吸烟和饮酒”，译得过简。在男性和女性的对比中，改译增加了一个“而”字，行文更自然。

4) Researchers have often found that married men and women are healthier than singles, and the Warwick researchers speculate that a spouse might reduce a man's stress and encourage a healthy lifestyle.

初译：研究人员经常发现已婚男女比单身男女要更加健康，Warwick大学的研究人员推测，配偶可能放飞了丈夫的心情，还促使丈夫采纳健康的生活方式。

改译：研究人员经常发现已婚男女比单身男女要更加健康，沃里克大学的研究人员推测，配偶可能会减少丈夫的压力，还会鼓励一种健康的生活方式。

小析：读了此段，我们更明白，为什么人们要唱“我想有个家”。但是，初译之美中不足是：a spouse might reduce a man's stress译成了“配偶可能放飞了丈夫的心情”，文采有余焉。

5) But that does not seem to be the only factor, they note in their report, which is published online at <http://www.warwick.ac.uk/fac/soc/Economics/oswald/>.

初译：可是，那看来并非唯一的因素，他们在报告

中指出，它已经在网站（<http://www.warwick.ac.uk/fac/soc/Economics/oswald/>）上发布。

改译：可是，他们在报告中指出，那看来并非唯一的因素。该报告已经在网站（<http://www.warwick.ac.uk/fac/soc/Economics/oswald/>）上发布。

小析：英语喜用代词，上句中的which，在下译笔之前，就得弄清其指代之对象。不宜简单地将which译成了“它”。另，“那看来并非唯一的因素”读来有点儿拗口。

6) "Exactly how marriage works its magic remains mysterious," they write in their report. "Perhaps a strong personal relationship improves mental health and helps the individual to ward off physical illness. More research here is certainly needed."

初译：“说真的，婚姻究竟如何创造了如此魔力，仍然是一个谜，”他们在报告中写道，“也许是强有力的人际关系改善了精神健康，且帮助个人抵挡疾病的侵害。显然，这里仍需要更多研究。”

改译：“确实，婚姻究竟如何会有此神奇之力，仍是一个谜，”他们在报告中写道，“也许是稳固的人际关系改善了精神健康，并帮助个体抵挡了疾病的侵害。显然，这里仍需要更多研究。”

小析：exactly被置于句首，初译“说真的”，虽非误译，却过于口语化。此外，将strong personal relationship译成“强有力的人际关系”有生硬之嫌。

7) Oswald said the findings debunk (揭穿；暴露) the idea that wealthier people live longer.

初译：Oswald说，这个发现揭穿了“人有钱，就长寿”之说。

改译：奥斯瓦德说，这些发现让“人越有钱，就越长寿”之说不攻自破。

小析：“人有钱，就长寿”译得不错，可是，wealthier people live longer含两个比较级，译文应有所体现。

8) "Forget cash. It is as clear as day from the data that marriage, rather than money, is what keeps people alive," he said in a statement.

初译：“忘掉金钱吧。有关数据就像大白天一样明白无疑：婚姻，而非金钱，让人们充满了活力。”他在一个综述中如是说。

改译：“忘掉金钱吧。有关数据昭示：婚姻，胜于金钱，让人们活力充沛。”他在一个综述中如是说。

小析：as clear as day是英语的一个常用短语，我们将它译成“昭示”，其意已译入其中。“就像大白天一样明白无疑”，并无美感。

责任编辑：储继军

从“以神驭形”到“以形摄神”

柳青

杨振宁教授说过：“中国文化是向模糊、朦胧及总体的方向走，而西方的文化是向准确而具体的方向走。”他又说：“中文的表达方式不够准确这一点，假如在写法律是一个缺点的话，写诗却是一个优点。”

从美学思维对象的视角观察，我们发现中西有综合和分析的区别；从美学思维主体的视角观察，中西有感悟和思辨的区别。

“模糊、朦胧及总体”的文化走向，“综合和感悟”的特点，就孕育了“模糊、朦胧及总体”的文字表达的走向与特点。在所谓“模糊、朦胧及总体”文字表达里，逻辑消失，意境却显豁；理性隐形，文采却斐然。读者需要从整体把握，用心灵感悟，通过主体直接经验和发挥想象去发掘表达之内在、隐含的因素。

第一例：脸不改色，心不跳

此系妇孺皆知的汉语表达，既用于书面语，又用于口语。以汉语为母语者在初次接触“脸不改色，心不跳”时，无须查阅词典，无须请教老师，其义自明。七个字，写出“岿然不动”的镇静。意境有了，形象也有了。恐怕没有一个中国人会提出这样的质疑：“心不跳”，人就死了，怎么可能呢？

如此这般，汉语就出“彩”了，传神在感悟，意思到了，就行了。中国人并不计较其字面逻辑，并不在乎表象含混。相反，汉语在些许模糊中传递一种整体感应，在几分拙朴中营造一种清朗意境。

英译“脸不改色，心不跳”，问题随即而至。直译（without one's face changing color or one's heart beating），native speakers断然不能接受！经过逻辑梳理，“脸不改色，心不跳”必须而且只能翻译成：without one's face turning white or one's heart beating any faster; not showing the slightest fear.

两者相比，英译添加了any faster和not showing the slightest fear，两处添加，必不可缺。缺之，则成“问题表达”（problematic expression）。

第二例：风里来，雨里去。

六字排开。读之，眼见雨网，耳闻风声；诵之，风雨行人，呼之欲出。同样，此汉语表达经不起逻辑的

推敲。笔者在美国讲学时，讲及“风里来，雨里去”，便有“老美”当场发问：How could it be possible that when someone comes, it's always windy, and rainy while he goes away?

请勿以一笑打发了“老美”之问，一问，问出了英汉表达之本质区别。

英语，作为一种分析性、逻辑性的语言，实在无法接受“风里来，雨里去”这种经不起逻辑推敲的表达。英语，与汉语相比，来不得半点“朦胧和模糊”，其逻辑必须缜密，层次必须分明，词义必须清晰，形合必须讲究，句法必须严密。以英语为母语者，不会也不善通过“整体把握，心灵感悟”去理解朦胧表达，去感受如画意境。文字表达，一是一，二是二，朦胧不得，模糊不得。因此，为native speakers所能接受的“风里来，雨里去”的英译只能是：brave the weather / go through wind and rain.

“她就是这样，风里来，雨里去，成年累月地工作着。”其英译也只能是：

This is how she carries on her work, rain or shine, all the year round.

“脸不改色，心不跳”和“风里来，雨里去”一类不拘逻辑，收放自如的表达似乎可用“以神驭形”写之，神者，只能感悟而不能分析之意思也；而相对的英译则可用“以形摄神”形容，形者，一词一句加逻辑也。

进一步推导，英汉翻译的常见流程则是：以形摄神 → 以神驭形；而汉译英的常见流程则是：以神驭形 → 以形摄神。

“面有菜色”四字，更让“老美”面呈难色。你说那主要是因用蔬菜充饥而营养不良的脸色；老美说，吃蔬菜吃得越多越好，多有利于健康呀。他还强调：我们还有vegetarians（素食主义者）呢。他还会认真询问：菜色主要是绿色，绿色怎么跑到脸上去呢？唉，如此等等。“以神驭形”实在走不通，只得提供“以形摄神”之英译：to wear a sallow and emaciated look due to undernourishment.

如此例子，举不胜举，由一反三，必有感悟。

责任编辑：储继军

Inviting 100 Million Chinese to Go to the US for Dinner: a New Evidence of "Huyou", Hoaxing the American Way

美式忽悠的一个新证据：请一亿中国人去美吃晚餐

苏文洋文 范守义译

赵本山的小品《卖拐》让地球人都知道了两个字：忽悠。其实，美国人早就知道了满世界忽悠才能赚钱。近日，美国的房地产商又不远万里来到中国忽悠。

昨天，《北京晚报》发美国艾默克集团副总裁Robert Emerick先生专访，他回答在美国投资房地产是否划算这个问题时说：“市场是很复杂的，何时到最低点，何时会回升，这个没有人能够说得准，在我看来，也许还要个三四年的时间。但我可以保证，一旦经济好转，房价就会反弹，房子一定会升值；如果不升值，我愿意出钱，请一亿个中国人去美国吃晚餐。”

有钱的中国人去美国买房，抄底也好，抄不着底也好，悉听尊便。我不会因为吃不着葡萄说葡萄酸。说句不中听的话，中国的有钱人，到了美国大多算不上有钱人。美国3亿多人口，只是中国人口的零头，国土面积比中国还大一点，没有18亿亩耕地的红线¹，可盖房子的地方多了去啦。要想抄美国楼市的底，不光是中国的有钱人办不到，全世界的有钱人都做不到。

日本人当年有钱后，自以为“世界第一”，跑到美国去大买房地产。出手阔绰，无所顾忌，美国人惊呼：日本要买下美国。结果呢，美国人略施小技，就让不少日本人把买下的房子乖乖吐出来了，现在几乎听不见日本人嚷嚷着上美国买房子。我希望中国有研究这段历史的经济学家，好好给中国的有钱人上一课，告诉他们别晕了头。

The Chinese comedian Zhao Benshan's skit, *Selling Crutches*, made people all over the country know the two-syllable word: "Huyou". Indeed, the Americans have known all along how to travel all over the world to "huyou" or hoax other people in order to make money. Of late, American property developers came from afar to China to "huyou" us Chinese.

Yesterday, *Beijing Evening News* published an exclusive interview with Robert Emerick, vice president of Emerick Group. While answering the question whether it was worth to investing in US properties, he said: The market is very complicated—when will it drop to the nadir and when will it rise again, no one can say for certain, and it may take three or four more years to exactly tell. However, I can guarantee that once the economy recovers, prices of properties will rebound, and the houses you buy will rise in value; if not, I will pay for the travel expenses of 100 million Chinese people to the US for a dinner.

Wealthy Chinese go to the US to buy properties, whether or not they can get the houses at rock bottom prices, it is none of my business. I will not say that the grapes are sour just because I can't get them. My argument which may not be to the liking of some people is that most of the rich Chinese are not rich at all if they were in the US. The US has a little more than 300 million people, just the remainder of the total population of China minus one billion whereas its territory is a little larger than ours. There is not a red line marking the limit of 1,800 million mu of workable farmland. Therefore there are far more unused lands for putting up buildings in the United States. You desire to seek the lowest point at which to acquire American properties? No way. Not only the Chinese rich can't do it, none of the rich guys of the world can do it either.

When the Japanese became rich, they considered themselves to be the No.1 country of the world. They rushed to the US to purchase properties, spending money lavishly, as if there were no tomorrow buying. The Americans shouted in astonishment: Japan is going to buy up America. What is the outcome? The Americans just played gambits, tricking many Japanese into surrendering the properties they had bought without hassling. Today you seldom hear any Japanese making noises about going to the US to buy properties. I hope the Chinese economists engaged in the study of the history of this period will give the Chinese rich guys a lecture and tell them not let it go to their head.

请一亿个中国人去美国吃晚餐，且不说这位美国先生能否有这个经济实力，问一问美国大使馆签证官就知道：什么时候可能给一亿个中国人签证？美国人有一个特点：从来不怕说大话闪了舌头。对此，我曾请教过一些美国人，他们告诉我：美国人说话是不用兑现的，也就是说什么都别当真，言论自由嘛，政府都可以随便骂，吹牛撒谎更是家常便饭。美国人只认法律文书，签了合同的事情才认真。当然，政府官员、公众人物说话要适当注意，吹牛撒谎要讲究语言技巧。

美国的房价一定会升值吗？副总裁先生给出的前提条件是“经济好转”。这里有一个因果关系，我更愿意相信如果全世界的有钱人都到美国买房子，把房价拉起来，美国经济才有可能好转。仅仅靠美国人自己，房价是起不来了。因为房子盖多了，已经淤了，经济学术语叫过剩。目前，美国经济好转的办法并不多，开机器印美元固然可以制造美元贬值，通货膨胀，嫁祸于人，但副作用也十分明显，美元信用彻底完蛋，各国抛弃美元，以后美国还怎么在世界上充老大？

华尔街麦道夫一类骗子，以金融创新的名义骗走了世界数以百万计有钱人的财富，忽悠了多少国家、多少企业的财富。美国的统计相当发达，对此却假痴不癫，毕竟是家丑不可外扬，自己偷着乐就是了。这次全球金融危机，重点是消灭有钱人的财富，对穷人的伤害相对较轻。中国有一批跟美国华尔街金融骗子打交道的有钱人，让骗子们卷走了不少的钱，大多哑巴吃黄连——有苦说不出。本来，钱的来路就不够正当，被人骗了也只能打碎牙和血吞。我一直在猜想，第三次世界大战忽悠完了，星球大战忽悠完了，网络经济忽悠完了，金融创新忽悠完了，美国人下一回忽悠什么？忽悠中国人投资美国房地产，以请一亿中国人去美国吃晚餐为赌注，未免可笑。

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Inviting 100 million Chinese to go to the US for dinner is simply incredulous. Putting aside the question whether this American gentleman is rich enough to do so or not, just ask the US embassy visa officers: at what time will they sign visas for 100 million Chinese people? This is typical of American brag: they bombast without ever giving a damn about the likelihood of ensnaring themselves in the end. I asked some Americans about this and they told me that Americans are all lip service, or in other words, you do not take them seriously. That's freedom of speech: one can freely challenge the government. Bombasts and lies are commonplace. Americans only abide by legal instruments, once they have signed the contracts, they will be serious. Of course, government officers or public figures must pay heed to their speeches, for one needs to know the skills of making bombasts or telling lies.

Will American property prices go up definitely? The precondition the vice president puts forth is "when the economy recovers." Here is a causal relationship implied. I am inclined to believe that if all the rich people of the world go to the US to acquire properties, and as a result property prices go up, then the US economy will improve. Americans alone cannot push up property prices. This is because there are too many houses built, accumulated over the years—it is called "surplus" in economic terminology. At present, there are not many options by which the US economy can make a turn for the better. Although by turning on money printing machines they can make the US dollars depreciate, cause inflation and shift the burden to other countries, the side effect will be also very obvious: the credibility of US dollars will crunch, and the US dollars will be abandoned by all countries. How will the US act the Big Brother in the world afterwards?

Wall Street fraud masters like Bernard L. Madoff cheated millions of rich people of the world out of their wealth under the guise of financial innovation, and swindled so many countries and businesses out of their wealth. Statistical techniques are well developed in the US, but they feign ignorance of how these guys have gained their wealth. After all this is dirty linen which must not be shown to the outsiders, though they might have chuckled among themselves. The global financial crisis hits hardest on the rich people, divesting them of their wealth. Its impact on the poor people is relatively mild. There are some rich Chinese who have dealings with Wall Street financial swindlers. They have been hoaxed by these crooks that made away with lots of their money. This is like a dumb guy taking a bitter pill—he tasted the bitterness but unable to tell. After all their money had been ill gained, however hard it is for them to swallow. I have been trying to figure out that following a series of hoaxes—the third world war, the star war, the web economy, and the financial innovation, what next will the Americans offer us? "Huyou" the Chinese to invest in the US properties by laying down the big bet of inviting 100 million Chinese to go to the US for dinner. Ridiculous, isn't it?