

和 VO 的老师以及未来 VO 的交谈

今天去给一个即将回国的外教钱行，在他家碰到了他的一个朋友 Georgetown 大学外交学院的一个 prof 和这个 prof 的一个学生（他要在我们学校作一个短暂的 training，然后到美国驻华使馆工作）。席间，我理所当然的问到了关于签证的问题，实录如下：)

M: 我

P: 教授

D: 学生

M: What do you teach in Georgetown?

P: Like your professors, I tell guys how to be diplomats.

M: Really? So do you train VOs?

P: VO?

M: Diplomats who interview visa applicants

P: Sure. We have such courses in our school.

M: I failed to obtain the F-1 visa for the first time. I even do not know why.

Could you give me some tips?

P: I am sorry to hear that. Why not be a diplomat in China instead of studying in the US. I believe it will be more interesting than spending several years on books again.

M: En... I want to be a researcher..

P: Tell me why?

M: High salary and social status?

P: Do you really believe a senior research fellow in Political Science can get as much salary as a senior diplomat? Do you really believe a senior research fellow in Political Science can get as high reputation as a senior diplomat? If US government let Ms Albright choose her career, she will absolutely choose the Secretary of the State. If you Mr. Kissinger like being a researcher, he would have returned to Harvard. Haha.... Tell me why you want to the US?

M: Study of course.

P: I wanna know the real reason. Why study at the US instead of being a diplomat in China?

M: En...

P: Have you think about it seriously?

Me: En....

P: Ok, please tell your mind.

M: Well, you see, if I come to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs now, I am at the bottom. I have no advantage. Every one at least have a bachelor degree. I do not think I can be promoted quickly. So I must have some advantage. I must have a higher degree.

P: Why not pursue such a degree in China?

M: You see, my major is International Relations. To study in a foreign country will widen my horizon and ...

P: Why the US?

M: US has the most advanced study in the field of IR.

P: So you want to have a higher degree in the US and back to China to be an excellent diplomat?

M: Sure, I believe a PhD degree can make me promoted quickly.

P: So why don't you tell the VO this instead of being a researcher? Why you cheat them? Haha...
如梦初醒!!!!)

M: But some VOs are not patient enough.

D: It is only because they sense the tricky.

M: How do they now?

D: We have got some courses of psychology and things like that. We can judge the applicant's intent from some simple questions, such as how many schools u applied.

M: Really? How do you know the right answer?

D: Ha.. we have a handbook so during the interview, we can consult it, Haaaaaa

D: Let me correct you. Do not call them VO. Call them CO, consular officials.

M: fine. Could you tell me the relations between the number of schools one applied for and his intent on immigrating?

D: Not only the number but the schools themselves aslo matters.

M:Could you explain it for me?

D: It is very simple. Almost all the students' reason to study in the US is A

merica's advanced technology and research.facilities. If so, they should apply for the schools above the standards of China's domestic ones.

M: But how do COs know which school is above the standard, which is below?

D: It depends on COs' perception and experience.

M: Then if a student wants to go to an ordinary school, it is very difficult for him to obtain visa?

D: Not exactly. He should persuade the COs that this school is better in a certain field. It is his responsibility to correct COs wrong perception. If he didnot, it is not COs' fault.

中途被打断，外教介绍他同学送给他的一幅画（估计是那个人找他写推荐信时送他的，一
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看就知道是拙劣的赝品，外教还喜滋滋的）然后外教开始侃他的旅行。我也不好再问。
只好聊些无聊的话题。但是穿插着有些有用的东西。

老教授提到中国学生费很大的力气去考 GT 却不知道很好得在 visa interview 的时候包装自己，VO 每天签那么多的人，多无聊啊，你必须设法吸引他，让他情愿给你谈话。

还说到他们学校今年收的外籍的 faculty 差不多被中国人占完了，看来以后他们只好到中国教书了。