

Julie Lee

Race to Green: Socialism or Democracy

“Hold fast to dreams
For if dreams die
Life is a broken-winged bird
That cannot fly.
Hold fast to dreams
For when dreams go
Life is a barren field
Frozen with snow.”
(Hughes)

As Langston Hughes states in his poem, “Dream”, without dreams one would live a hollow existence. Without the Earth, life would not exist. Humans must embrace and nurture mother earth and all her bounties that keep people alive. The entire world has experienced first hand the effects of global warming in recent years. In the United States, Alaska is witnessing melting icebergs, southwestern states are facing extreme heat and New Yorkers barely had a winter this past 2011-2012 year.

As China’s economy grows at an exponential rate are they destroying the Earth? China, a country with a population of over 1.3 billion people must be to blame for the ecological problems the world faces today. Research from the World Bank shows that though China’s population is enormous and they are the largest consumer of energy as a country, per person they are still behind many developed countries including the United States. Many would argue that in order for a country to grow economically it is necessary to go through a phase of mass development where pollution is inevitable. In the 19th century when the United States was undergoing the Industrial Revolutions, wasn’t pollution prevalent at that time as well or were we simply not concerned because we didn’t know the effects of pollution for our health and the planet?

Though the United States has been a superpower and China recently became one, China is more likely to go green faster and more efficiently than the United States. The structure of their socialist government, power, growth potential and most importantly the mentality of the Chinese people is what will propel them to succeed.

China is working on using more green energy throughout the country and has pledged to develop new renewable energy sources. In China’s 11th Fifth-Year Plan the government will invest in over 3 trillion RMB in environmental protection showing the world that green energy is a top priority. “Energy conservation: The 12th FYP is expected to contain preferential measures for developing energy-efficiency technology, as well as an expected mandatory energy emissions target of approximately 17 percent (down from the 11th FYP’s 20 percent). APCO’s summary on the 12th Fifth-Year Plan states:

Environmental quality: For the first time, this plan could contain green indicators that will hold local government officials accountable for green development, such as water consumption per unit of GDP, and proportion of GDP that is invested in environmental protection. The 12th FYP is rumored to include a new carbon emissions target that is in line with China's recent pledge to reduce 40-45 percent of carbon per unit of GDP by 2020, especially for high-polluting and high-energy usage sectors. In order to meet that commitment, government officials have recently made statements that a carbon tax may be implemented by 2013, as well as some type of carbon trading system by 2015, the form of which is currently being debated behind closed doors. The 12th FYP also will also contain measures for ensuring better environmental quality for cities and towns, including a "blue sky day" target and other mandatory emissions targets.

New energy: The 12th FYP reflects China's pledge to have 15 percent of its energy come from non-fossil fuels by 2020 (from 8.3 percent in 2009 to approximately 11 percent by 2015). The plan includes a cap on domestic coal production, China's largest energy source and a major contributor to the country's environmental problems. The plan also contains significant support for nuclear and hydropower development with wind power seeing a threefold expansion in capacity. Domestic natural gas consumption will double over the 12th FYP.

The below chart taken from The Delegation of the European Union in China's translation of "China's Twelfth Five Year Plan (2011-2015)" summarizes the target reductions in emissions of pollutants from 2010 to 2015.

Target	2010	2015	Change over 5 years (%)	Forecast or Binding
Farmland reserves (billion mu)	1.818	1.818	0	binding
Decrease in water consumption per unit of value-added industrial output (%)			30	binding
Increase of water efficiency coefficient in agricultural irrigation	0.5	0.53	0.03	forecast
Increase of non-fossil fuel usage in primary energy consumption (%)	8.3	11.4	3.1	binding
Decrease in energy consumption per unit of GDP (%)			16	binding
Decrease in CO2 emissions per unit of GDP (%)			17	Binding

Total decrease in emissions of major pollutants (%)	Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD)			8	Binding
	Sulphur Dioxide (SO ₂)			8	
	Ammonia Nitrogen			10	
	Nitrous Oxides			10	
Forest Increase	Forest coverage rate (%)	20.36	21.66	1.3	Binding
	Forest stock (m ³)	137	143	6	

China is aware of the effects of pollution and the necessity of turning to renewable energy not only to sustain the country's large population, but also to curb hazardous pollution and keeping their citizens healthy.

In preparation of and during the extravagant \$17 billion 2008 summer Olympics held in Beijing, China, the Chinese government underwent a massive effort to suppress air pollution to levels comparable to other Olympic host cities. Beijing is known for being one of the most polluted cities in the world and the Chinese government went to great lengths to ensure their guests and athletes from around the world experienced China at its best. Factories were closed down and cars were forced off the road from July 20 to September 17, 2008. Some scientists took this opportunity to conduct a study on the effect of pollution on health. These scientists studied 125 healthy male and female non-smoking doctors at a Beijing hospital during and after the Olympics (Rich). Researchers examined their heart rate, blood pressure and biological markers called "Von Willebrand factor" and "soluble CD62P levels" for inflammation and blood clotting, which can be suggestive of heart disease risk (Rich). During the Olympics they found significant reductions in the biological markers. Following the Olympics, soluble CD62P levels shot back up along with systolic blood pressure levels, changes that are associated with atherosclerotic plaque instability, which can lead to a heart attack or stroke (Rich). This study shows that air pollution can impact even the young and healthy.

Another study in February 2012 in the Archives of Internal Medicine also reported a link between air pollution and heart health. The study found that people who live in or near polluted city or major highways are at higher risk of having a heart attack. They also discovered that even short-term exposure to pollution can be harmful to one's health (Pittman).

The United States has complained they can't keep up with solar panel manufacturer competition from China due to the cheaper cost of manufacturing in China. The reality is that the cost is about the same, but China's government subsidizes the green initiative. The Chinese government is not only interested in going green for altruism or global ecological goodwill, but for profit in sales to other countries as well as energy efficiency in their quest to move over 350 million people from rural areas into cities over the next 20 years. The country intends on urbanizing quickly and energy demand is rising each year. In order to sustain this rapid growth China needs to invest heavily in green technology.

Clean Technica article, “China Quadruples 2015 Solar Power Target!” states in 2011 the leading countries for total installed solar PV (photovoltaic) power capacity at the end of 2011 (in gigawatts) were:

1. Germany – 24.7 GW
2. Italy – 12.8 GW (9.3 GW in 2011)
3. Japan – 4.9 GW
4. Spain – 4.4 GW
5. USA – 4.4 GW

China has only about 3.1 GW, but their target for 2015 is to produce over 20 GW and the author of the article believes the target will be surpassed hitting closer to 30 GW. China’s massive manufacturing output has created an oversupply of solar panels which is a major reason why prices have plunged in the past year (Shahan). In an effort for the United States to aid domestic manufacturers, the U.S. imposed tariffs of as much as 250 percent on Chinese-made solar cells. The U.S. Commerce Department ruled that Chinese manufacturers sold cells in the U.S. at prices below the cost of production and imposed antidumping taxes ranging from 31 percent to 250 percent depending on the manufacturer. This action by the United States is only going to hurt the U.S. solar industry. Most jobs in the solar industry are from marketing, sales and installation of the panels, not the actual production and manufacturing. Jigar Shah, president of the Coalition for Affordable Solar Energy said, the taxes “will increase solar electricity prices in the U.S. precisely at the moment solar power is becoming competitive with fossil fuel generated electricity. This new artificial tax will undermine the success of the U.S. solar industry...” (Goossens).



Employees assemble photovoltaic panels at Suntech Power Holdings Co.'s factory in Wuxi, Jiangsu Province, China. (Goossens)

The United States simply cannot compete with China’s technology, resources and manpower. Solyndra, a solar panel manufacturing company in the United States went under even through a

\$535million backing from the United States government. They claimed they could not compete with China's cheaper panels. Earlier this year the United States placed a hefty import tax on Chinese Solar Panels coming into the United States. Doesn't this set the United States back in going green? China not only manufactures their solar panels, but most of them are used in their own country. They have a huge demand for the solar panels. I believe the higher priced panels in the United States are only going to deter Americans from going green until the prices are more reasonable.

A green future will result not from subsidizing immature technology today but from developing competitive green technology that is effective and cheap. Wind and solar power are not yet competitive. Research would be a much better investment for Western countries than subsidizing imports of today's green technology from China. Until we can make alternative energy technology effective and affordable for everybody.

I spoke with a government official in China would like to be known simply as Mr. Y. He said that it is imperative that China build smart. Since they are starting from ground zero versus the United States who would need to tear down to rebuild which takes much longer and is very costly. Mr. Y also informed me that they have a new technology that uses strong electric pulses in place of hydraulic fracking to break up the soil and rocks that might have blocked the already existing gas pipes. Mr. Y says with China's new technology they would not have to pour hazardous chemicals down wells to service the pipes. This new technology is not only environmentally better for the environment, but costs significantly less than the typical version we use in the United States of chemicals and water which can potentially pollute drinking water and soil. PetroChina has already signed contracts for the use of this technology to service wells. The electro-pulse technology is not used to create new wells, but to service them.

China's Three Gorges Dam stirred a flurry of controversy for the displacement of 1.3 million people, the drowning of farmland, cities and town and environmentalists. The damming of the Yangtze River created the largest dam in the world. The government spent well over their estimated 180 billion yuan (\$22.5billion USD), but it has already generated over 550TWh of electricity. At full power, the Three Gorges Dam reduces coal consumption by 31 million tones per year, avoiding 100 million tones of greenhouse gas emissions, million of tones of dust, one million tones of sulfur dioxide, 370,000 tonnes of nitric oxide, 10,000 tonnes of carbon monoxide, and a significant amount of mercury (Lubin). Hydropower also saves the energy needed to mine, wash, and transport the coal from northern China.



China is looking at the big picture. Hoping that a green leap forward will help continue their expansion. The United States is narrowly looking at how they can keep up with manufacturing against the Chinese...tax their products! This narrow view only harms the country. Not only is the United States not going to install the solar panels because they're too expensive, they are not thinking of the country as a whole. Confucius says it best, "Do not try to do things in a hurry. Do not be intent on small gains. What is done quickly is not done thoroughly; and if small gains are considered, great things remain unaccomplished." (Confucius, 70).

Mao Zedong expressed his vision of the Three Gorges Dam in his poem, "Swimming."

I have just drunk the waters of Changsha
And come to eat the fish of Wuchang.
Now I am swimming across the great Yangtze,
Looking afar to the open sky of Chu.
Let the wind blow and waves beat,
Better far than idly strolling in a courtyard.
Today I am at ease.
"It was by a stream that the Master said -
"Thus so things flow away!""

Sails move with the wind.
Tortoise and Snake are still.
Great plans are afoot:
A bridge will fly to span the north and south,

Turning a deep chasm into a thoroughfare;
Walls of stone will stand upstream to the west
To hold back Wushan's clouds and rain
Till a smooth lake rises in the narrow gorges.
The mountain goddess if she is still there
Will marvel at a world so changed.
(Qing 132)

TWO SUPERPOWERS

Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,
And sorry I could not travel both
And be one traveler, long I stood
And looked down one as far as I could
To where it bent in the undergrowth;

Then took the other, as just as fair,
And having perhaps the better claim
Because it was grassy and wanted wear,
Though as for that the passing there
Had worn them really about the same,

And both that morning equally lay
In leaves no step had trodden black.
Oh, I marked the first for another day!
Yet knowing how way leads on to way
I doubted if I should ever come back.

I shall be telling this with a sigh
Somewhere ages and ages hence:
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I,
I took the one less traveled by,
And that has made all the difference.

As Robert Frost states in his famous poem, *The Road Less Taken*. China is not like many of the other countries in the world. As one of the world's oldest civilizations, China went from the Dynasty era as early as 1700BC to the Communist Republic of China to what is now called a socialist market economy. As a government controlled country, China has an unlimited resource to build their infrastructure and become a leader in going green faster than another already developed country including the United States.

The United States government began with the signing of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776. Thirteen colonies made up of European settlers developed their own political and

legal system. In 1789 the Constitution became the basis for the U.S. federal government which we still abide to. After the end of the Cold War, the United rose to become a world superpower in which the country saw tremendous growth and wealth. After the dot-com boom and bust, compounded with the downturn in the housing bubble which gave citizens a false sense of wealth, and the credit crisis where large banks like Lehman Brothers went under and others were bailed out by the government; the United States started to experience the great recession that they are still struggling to crawl out of.

China is focused on expanding while the United States needs to manage a deficit. The United States government is made up a very divided 50/50 caucus of Democrats and Republicans. In the past 12 years, most important issues have been split in half making any proposed bill difficult to pass our system of checks and balances between the divided House of Representatives and Senate. China does not have this issue with a government that rules all. When a decision is made China can then move forward in implementing quickly and with unlimited resources.

UNDERSTANDING THE CHINESE WAY

A free bird leaps
on the back of the wind
and floats downstream
till the current ends
and dips his wing
in the orange sun rays
and dares to claim the sky.

But a bird that stalks
down his narrow cage
can seldom see through
his bars of rage
his wings are clipped and
his feet are tied
so he opens his throat to sing.

The caged bird sings
with a fearful trill
of things unknown
but longed for still
and his tune is heard
on the distant hill
for the caged bird
sings of freedom.

The free bird thinks of another breeze

and the trade winds soft through the sighing trees
and the fat worms waiting on a dawn bright lawn
and he names the sky his own
But a caged bird stands on the grave of dreams
his shadow shouts on a nightmare scream
his wings are clipped and his feet are tied
so he opens his throat to sing.

The caged bird sings
with a fearful trill
of things unknown
but longed for still
and his tune is heard
on the distant hill
for the caged bird
sings of freedom.
(Angelou 194).

Americans feel Chinese traditions are strict and rigid. Chinese feel the American way is disrespectful and boasting. Who is truly the caged bird and who is free?

On June 23, 2012 I had the opportunity to sit down and chat at length with my old friend and current entrepreneur, Alex Lee, who currently resides in Beijing, China. An American born Chinese (ABC) from New Jersey, Alex realized over 8 years ago after graduating from college that there is great opportunity in the rapidly evolving China. His experiences over the years have taught him not only how business is done in China, but also the cultural differences between Chinese and Americans. These cultural differences were tough to learn and understand as an American, but as he assimilated as a local in Beijing he has gained respect for the people in his motherland. He tells me the toughest thing is the need to flip-flop back and forth when dealing with Chinese business people and Americans since business is done very differently because of these cultural differences.

Alex believes that Chinese society has a hierarchical structure stemming from Confucian ideas about the proper order of life and society. Americans generally lack this hierarchy in their familial relationship. Americans are more informal in their interactions and more impatient with rituals and social interactions that follow a formula. The Confucian idea of filial piety receives relatively little attention in an American's upbringing. They would rather question authority and value freedom rather than learning and respecting from their wiser elders.

Many Chinese find Americans disrespectful and selfish. They also feel Americans lack order. Chinese people like to save "face" or what I understand to be pride. Though no one wants to embarrass themselves in public, Chinese will go even farther to avoid any embarrassment. Americans are very frank. They are open about their likes and dislikes, hatred, love, happiness and sorrow. They admit when they are wrong and say sorry. In the Chinese language there is no word that directly means, "I'm sorry". If they do say pardon me, it's really shameful to have

to do so in the Chinese culture. They are not only reluctant in apologies, but Chinese people also prefer modesty even when they achieve great success. An American's directness and confrontational ways seem inappropriate to Chinese people.

In China, Alex has found that getting what he wants requires knowing the right people even if you're lacking smarts. You say the right things, ask frequently enough, give the right gift or even pay the right amount of money and you can get whatever you want. They call this the "back door" method. One way or another Chinese people believe they can get what they want by these means. This "back door" policy is one that moral Americans would not openly use and would be deemed illegal, unethical or improper behavior. In China, this is common place and according to Alex, "really the only way to do business in China."

The Securities Exchange Commission is currently investigating the possibility of large movie production companies including Walk Disney and DreamWorks bribing government officials so they can film movies in China. This is simply the cost of doing business in China. China will give 25% of box office revenues while Hollywood only gives 15% (Wyatt). Considering China is also booming in the film industry finally savvy production companies are apt to move to China.

"Guanxi" is a term that Chinese use which describes the relationship of people with a mutually dependent relationship. Americans don't have anything like that. The closest thing Alex could think of is the American networking. Networking is meeting acquaintances. Guanxi would mean if a friend of a friend you had guanxi with were coming to study in the United States you would feel obligated and your friend would ask and expect that you look after that person while here. The bond is very strong.

Many Chinese also take the roles of godmother or godfather very seriously. The role of the godparents is not only to take care of the children in case something happens to their parents, but many families use this foster better relationships between the families and to create a network which they could depend on if necessary.

In Doh Choll Shin's book, "Confucianism and Democratization in East Asia" he uses a survey based study on culture to show us the truth of what East Asians actually believe about democracy and if it can exist. Though 65 percent of respondents in China endorse democracy in principle, only 28 percent considered the opportunity to elect their government officials is essential to democracy and less than four percent said that the freedom to criticize those in power is essential. His study also shows that democracies can influence culture to their own advantage. Shin says that living in a democracy has a greater impact than modernization on moving people away from traditional values.

He notes that some forms of Asian traditionalism are helpful to democracies. According to Shin, Confucian support for strong families helps strengthen the trust and tolerance in the larger society. This contradicts the belief that specific loyalties are incompatible with democratic norms. Ultimately, the stability of a given regime depends its ability to meet its citizens' needs. Economic stagnation, income inequality, and corruption undermine the legitimacy of any government.

Many Chinese people in not only China, but throughout the world heed the wisdom Confucius bestowed upon them 551-497BC. His philosophy emphasized morality, sincerity, justice and relationships. Chinese history started out with dynasties led by the royal emperor or empress. The people of China were told what to do even if it meant meeting their death in fighting or building a wall because their ruler requested such things for the greater good of the country. In the 1940s when China became the Communist People's Republic of China under Mao, Confucianism was denounced, but never lost with the citizens of China. In 2011, a statue of Confucius was erected in front of the National Museum of China in Tian'anmen Square, Beijing which to some signifies the government's acceptance of the insightful philosopher.

Though Confucius exists as a statue in Beijing, the current government does not fully act in accordance to Confucian beliefs. I doubt Confucius would be proud of how the leaders of the current regime have acted; in particular, the recently publicized Bo Xi Lai's scandal of Neil Heywood's death in Chongqing where Bo Xi Lai's wife used her husband's high position of party chief to take the life away from a British citizen. Things like this happen all the time. The government officials in China have an astronomical amount of power and wealth obtain through bribes in doing business. However as Alex would tell you, it's not bribes, "it's the way it's done."

“In a country well governed, poverty is something to be ashamed of. In a country badly governed, wealth is something to be ashamed of” (Confucius).

Those in the government have more money than they can spend while the poor can't even afford to send their children to school because their family needs help on the farm. The disparity between rich and poor is growing rapidly. The government's power allows China's government officials to do what they please. Just recently Feng Jianmei, a poor country woman, was forced to abort her 7 month old fetus because she already had one child. She could not pay the “social burden fee” (equivalent to \$24,000USD) for a second child so she tried to hide it. Only the super wealthy can afford to have more than one child in China. The photograph of Feng Jianmei and her aborted baby outraged the world. China apologized and suspended the officials who forced her to have the abortion at such a late stage in her pregnancy.



Though an apology to the world was made, nothing can replace what was taken from this young mother. This isn't the first and last time a forced abortion will occur, it somehow got out

to the public. China is playing nice and showing face to the world so they can continue to do business without too much scrutiny from other countries. The citizens will try to get their stories out, but the Chinese government will silence those they can.

On May 19, 2012, Chen Guangcheng, a Chinese activist safely arrived in the United States after 51 months of house arrest by the Chinese government purportedly for being too outspoken on forced abortions under China's one-child policy. Chen Guangcheng is careful in describing the problems of his motherland. He says, "Caution runs through everything we do" (Wan). Wan states in his article, "Chen Guangcheng adjusts to life in America", "Although he often avoids criticizing the Chinese government or its law, he does fault authorities for not enforcing the law."

The citizens will try to get their stories out, but the Chinese government will silence those they can. China is not like the United States where everyone has an opinion and will openly voice it. Their long history of learning to take orders from their leaders is something that is slowly changing with the help of the humanitarian eyes of the West.

China received criticism over human rights issues after Olympian diver, Wu Minxia won her third consecutive gold medal in the Women's synchronized 3M springboard on July 29, 2012. After Wu Minxia's win, her parents told her that her grandparents had passed away while she was training this past year and her mother has been battling cancer for 8 years and is now in remission. Her father, Wu Yuming says, "It was essential to tell this white lie." (Rogers).

Blogs and reactions to this is appalling to many people. One comment from a facebooker, Mitchell Bates, "She's lucky she wasn't aborted just because she is female. Folks that hold Commie China in high regard are clueless..." (Chinese Diver Wins Gold...).

I personally believe this is the parents' decision to hide the truth from their daughter and not something imposed on them by the government. As parents of an Olympian they know how important training to win is for their daughter. It is unfortunate that she was not able to attend her grandparents' funerals and be by her mother's side while she was undergoing chemotherapy and radiation for her breast cancer, but she wouldn't have been able to help rid her mother of the cancer. When my grandmother passed away when I was in high school, my oldest sister was studying in college in upstate NY. My mother did not want us to tell her that her mother had passed because she knew if she did my sister would immediately leave school to be with her family and not focus on her studies. My other sister and I wanted to let her decide as we would have wanted to know as well. As soon as she received our phone call she immediately came home to be with us. She took a few days off from class and returned home to mourn and attend the Buddhist funeral and cremation.

When you love someone, sometimes you want to protect them from unfortunate events that can't be changed. When my mother's youngest brother passed of lymphoma at the age of 40 years, my mom, aunt and uncle did not want to tell their dad. They thought it was destroy him.

My uncle, Eddie was living in Taiwan at the time so we rarely saw him and his three kids anyway. My grandfather was already over 80 years old and his children didn't want to upset him with the sad news. Many years after he passed, they had no choice but to tell him as his son was coming to the United States for college. My grandfather told my uncle, who broke the news to him, that he had a feeling something happened to him. My uncle may not have been around in person, but he always called around the holidays with well wishes. My grandfather was sad, but happy his son didn't desert his family in the United States. He mourned the loss of his son years after his death and placed his son's photo next to my grandmother and bowed, prayed and made offerings to them daily until he passed at the age of 94.

Though some "inhumane" acts occur in China, some are not inhumane to Chinese people. Going green is not only beneficial to the citizens of China, but the government and world. China can show the rest of the world they are making strides towards a better tomorrow and is a country with which others will want to continue to do business.

"The ruler cherishes the principle of self-control, the people will be docile to his commands." (Confucius, 70). The people of China follow their leaders. We in the United States will fight every step of the way. On.....2012 The United States government was at a standstill. Unable to make a decision on which way to go with thProtestors are fighting now for no fracking in New York State. Someone even created a photo of Governor Cuomo naming him Frackenstein.



This would never happen in China where the government will simply do what they feel is best for the country and relocate those who are displaced or affected. Three Gorges Dam is considered an economic success even though it affected over 1.3 million residents around the area. When asked if Feng Jiamei willingly aborted her baby she replies to the Chinese reporters, "yes." Considering she hid the baby for seven months from the government, I think it's not far-fetched to assume that she likely did not consent. However, we do not know what consequences lie in store for her if she were to openly state she was forced.

"An honest man hates your hypocrite who will not openly avow his greed, but tries instead to excuse it. I have heard that the ruler of a state or of a clan is troubled not by

the smallness of its numbers, but by the absence of even-handed justice; not by poverty, but by the presence of discontent; for where there is justice there will be no poverty; where there is harmony there will be no lack in numbers; where there is content there will be no revolution. This being the case then, if outlying communities resist your authority, cultivate the arts of refinement and goodness in order to attract them; and when you have attracted them, make them happy and contented..." (Confucius 49).

The Chinese dissident, Chen Guangcheng was reported to have been brutally beaten and though now safe in the United States he is worried about the family that was left behind in China. "The fundamental question the Chinese government must face is lawlessness. China does not lack laws, but the rule of law. As a result, those who handled my case were able to openly flout the nation's laws in many ways for many years" (Chen). In Chen's opinion-editorial piece in the New York Times written a month after arriving in the United States he explains how his nephew, Kegui, was acting in self-defense against plain clothes guards who didn't identify themselves to his family and severely beat his brother, sister-in-law and nephew. When Kegui used a kitchen knife to stab, not kill, the attackers he was sent to prison and charged with attempted homicide. He worries he's being tortured and no one has been able to reach him since he was taken away.

Chen says, "Although China has yet to enact any remedy similar to habeas corpus, which allows people to challenge a detention before the courts, its current justice system is based on the assumption that prosecutors have the independence to correct the misconduct of the police and the extralegal thugs they often employ. Judges, in turn, are supposed to independently correct misconduct by prosecutors and the police when cases reach the courts. In real life, however, cases of any significance are controlled at every level of the judicial system by a Communist Party political-legal committee, rather than by legal officials. From the Yinan County Basic Court to the Supreme People's Court in Beijing, it is this committee that directs the actions of the police, prosecutors and judges, transforming these ostensibly independent actors into a single, unchallengeable weapon. These political-legal committees have eroded decades of progress in implementing the rule of law....China's government must confront these crucial differences between the law on the books and the law in practice."

DEMOCRACY OR HYPOCRASY?

On May 25th, China responded to an attacking report from the U.S. government on China's human rights practices by issuing its own report on human right issues in the United State. The report cites the Occupy Wall street movement provides a, "'glimpse of the truth regarding the United States' so called freedom and democracy.'" (Full Text of...)"

China advises the United States government to look at their own human rights problems and stop using human rights as a "political instrument for interfering in other countries' internal affairs, tarnishing the images of other nations and seeking its own strategic interests, and to cease using double standard on human rights and pursuing hegemony under the pretext of human rights (Full Text of...)."

Is the U.S. democratic way to pepper spray and arrest peaceful protestors?

In a dialogue between Tzu Chang and his Master Confucius. Tzu Chang learns about an ideal government (Confucius 50).

Tzu Chang: What are the essentials of good government?

Confucius: Esteem the five excellent, and banish the four evil things; then you will become fit to govern.

Tzu Chang: What are the five excellent things?

Confucius: The wise and good ruler is benevolent without expending treasure; he lays burdens on the people without causing them to grumble; he has desires without being covetous; he is serene without being proud; he is awe-inspiring without being ferocious.

Tzu Chang: He is benevolent without expending treasure: what does that mean?

Confucius: He simply follows the course which naturally brings benefit to the people. Is he not thus benevolent without expending treasure? In imposing burdens, he chooses the right time and the right means, and nobody can grumble. His desire is for goodness, and he achieves it; how should he be covetous? The wise and good ruler never allows himself to be negligent, whether he is dealing with many men or with few, with small matters or with great. Is this not serenity without pride?

THE GOAL

“Men’s natures are alike; it is their habits that carry them far apart.” (Confucius 107)
The United States and China are very similar in striving to remain and be a world superpower. Americans ought to embrace the Chinese government rather than denouncing it with complaints of bad practices. China is not perfect with some government officials who cause lawlessness and chaos to only serve his best interests. However, a great ruler with purest intentions to better China would thrive in such this socialist capitalist government. I believe China will have a profound impact on the earth and the world. A country rich in land, natural resources, manpower, knowledge and ability will lead the way to a healthier and greener world for all species in the planet.

What were life,
Did soul stand still therein, forego her strife
Through the ambiguous Present to the goal
Of some all-reconciling Future!
(Browning)

Appendix

Dates of China Dynasties and History (Tsin)

ca. 2000-1500 B.C. Xia
1700-1027 B.C. Shang
1027-771 B.C. Western Zhou
770-221 B.C. Eastern Zhou
770-476 B.C. -- Spring and Autumn period
475-221 B.C. -- Warring States period
221-207 B.C. Qin
206 B.C.-A.D. 9 Western Han
A.D. 9-24 Xin (Wang Mang interregnum)
A.D. 25-220 Eastern Han
A.D. 220-280 Three Kingdoms
220-265 -- Wei
221-263 -- Shu
229-280 -- Wu
A.D. 265-316 Western Jin
A.D. 317-420 Eastern Jin
A.D. 420-588 Southern and Northern Dynasties
420-588 Southern Dynasties
420-478 -- Song
479-501 -- Qi
502-556 -- Liang
557-588 -- Chen
386-588 Northern Dynasties
386-533 -- Northern Wei
534-549 -- Eastern Wei
535-557 -- Western Wei
550-577 -- Northern Qi
557-588 -- Northern Zhou
A.D. 581-617 Sui
A.D. 618-907 Tang
A.D. 907-960 Five Dynasties
907-923 -- Later Liang
923-936 -- Later Tang
936-946 -- Later Jin
947-950 -- Later Han
951-960 -- Later Zhou
A.D. 907-979 Ten Kingdoms
A.D. 960-1279 Song

960-1127 -- Northern Song
1127-1279 -- Southern Song
A.D. 916-1125 Liao
A.D. 1038-1227 Western Xia
A.D. 1115-1234 Jin
A.D. 1279-1368 Yuan
A.D. 1368-1644 Ming
A.D. 1644-1911 Qing
A.D. 1911-1949 Republic of China (in mainland China)
A.D. 1949- Republic of China (in Taiwan)
A.D. 1949- People's Republic of China

Bibliography

Angelou, Maya. *The Complete Collected Poems of Maya Angelou*. New York: Random House. 1994.

Anonymous, China government official. Personal Interview. 3 June 2012.

Blake, William. "Tyger! Tyger!" *The 100 Best Poems of All Time*. Ed. Powell, Leslie. New York: Warner Books, Inc., 2001. 42-43.

Bradsher, Keith and Diane Cardwell. "U.S. Slaps High Tariffs on Chinese Solar Panels." *The New York Times*. 17 May 2012. 5 June 2012.

<<http://www.nytimes.com/2012/05/18/business/energy-environment/us-slaps-tariffs-on-chinese-solar-panels.html?pagewanted=all>>.

Broder, John M. "U.S. Caps Emission in Drilling for Fuel." *The New York Times*. 18 April 2012. 3 July 2012. <<http://www.nytimes.com/2012/04/19/science/earth/epa-caps-emissions-at-gas-and-oil-wells.html>>

Browning, Robert. "The Goal." *1000 Quotable Poems*. Eds. Clark, Thomas Curtis and Esther A. Gillespie. New York: Harper & Brothers, 1937. 258.

Chen, Guangcheng. "How China Flouts It's Laws." *The New York Times*. 29 May 2012. 3 July 2012. <http://www.nytimes.com/2012/05/30/opinion/how-china-flouts-its-laws.html?_r=1>.

"China." *The World Bank*. <<http://data.worldbank.org/country/china>>.

"China Profile." *BBC News*. 14 June 2012. 16 June 2012. <<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-asia-pacific-13017882>>.

"China's 12th Five-Year Plan: How it actually works and what's in store for the next five years." *APCO*. 10 December 2010. <http://www.apcoworldwide.com/content/pdfs/chinas_12th_five-year_plan.pdf>.

"China's Twelfth Five Year Plan (2011-2015) – the Full English Version." *CBI*. Trans. The Delegation of the European Union in China. March 2011. <http://cbi.typepad.com/china_direct/2011/05/chinas-twelfth-five-new-plan-the-full-english-version.html>.

"Chinese Diver Wins Gold, Finds Out Grandparents Have Been Dead." *The Inquistir*. 1 August 2012. 1 August 2012. <<http://www.inquistir.com/290367/chinese-diver-wins-gold-finds-out-granparents-have-been-dead/>>.

Chua, Roy Y.J. "Building Effective Business Relationships in China." *MIT Sloan Management Review*. Vol. 53. Massachusetts Institute of Technology: 2012. 27-33.

Confucius, and Lionel Giles. *The Sayings of Confucius*. London: John Murray, 1907.

Confucius, and James Legge. *The Confucian Analects, The Great Learning & the Doctrine of the Mean*. New York: Cosimo, Inc., 2009.

Favole, Jared. "Obama Budget: Infrastructure and Incentives for Manufacturing." *Wall Street Journal*. 10 February 2012. 2 August 2012.
<<http://blogs.wsj.com/washwire/2012/02/10/obama-budget-infrastructure-and-incentives-for-manufacturing/>>.

Ferrara, Peter. "Obama's Budget: The Decline and Fall of the American Economy." *Forbes*. 16 February 2012. 2 August 2012. <[obamas-budget-the-decline-and-fall-of-the-american-economy](http://www.forbes.com/sites/afontevvecchia/2012/06/08/tariffs-on-chinese-solar-panels-are-killing-american-jobs/2/)>.

Fontevvecchia, Agustino. "Tariffs On Chinese Solar Panels Are Killing American Jobs." *Forbes*. 8 June 2012. 2 August 2012. <<http://www.forbes.com/sites/afontevvecchia/2012/06/08/tariffs-on-chinese-solar-panels-are-killing-american-jobs/2/>>.

Frost, Robert. "The Road Not Taken." *The Road Not Taken, Birches and Other Poems*. Claremont: Coyote Canyon Press, 2010. 10.

Hughes, Langston. "Dreams." *The Collected Poems of Langston Hughes*. Ed. Rampersad, Arnold. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, Inc., 1994. 32.

Natural Gas Extraction – Hydraulic Fracturing. *EPA United States Environmental Protection Agency*. 27 June 2012. <<http://www.epa.gov/hydraulicfracture>>.

Ertelt, Steven. "Graphic Abortion Photos Stir Outrage in China." *American Power*. 15 June 2012. 17 June 2012. <<http://americanpowerblog.blogspot.com/2012/06/graphic-abortion-photos-stir-outrage-in.html>>.

"Full Text of Human Rights Record of the United States in 2011". *Xinhuanet News*. 25 May 2012. <http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2012-05/25/c_131611554.htm>.

Goossens, Ehren, Brian Wingfield, and William McQuillen. "U.S. Solar Tariffs on Chinese Cells May Boost Prices." *Bloomberg Businessweek*. 18 May 2012. 2 August 2012.
<<http://www.businessweek.com/news/2012-05-17/u-dot-s-dot-solar-tariffs-on-chinese-cells-may-boost-prices>>.

Ho, Connie K. "Study Finds Link Between Air Quality and Cardiovascular Problems At Beijing Olympics." *redOrbit*. 16 May 2012. 23 May 2012.
<<http://www.redorbit.com/news/health/1112536426/study-finds-link-between-air-quality-and-cardiovascular-problems-at-beijing-olympics/>>.

"In quite a state." *The Economist*. 8 April 2010. 23 May 2012.
<<http://www.economist.com/node/15868439>>.

Jenkins, Jesse, Devon Swezey, and Alex Trembath. "Solyndra's Failure Is No Reason To Abandon Federal Energy Innovation Policy." *Forbes*. 2 September 2011. 2 August 2012.

<<http://www.forbes.com/sites/energysource/2011/09/02/solyndras-failure-is-no-reason-to-abandon-federal-energy-innovation-policy/>>.

Lee, Alex, Founder & CEO of China Springboard, Inc. Personal interview. 23 June 2012.

Lehrer, Jonah. *Proust Was a Neuroscientist*. New York: First Mariner Books, 2007.

Lubin, Gus, and Isabelle Schafer. "17 Earthshaking Facts About The Three Gorges Dam And China's Next Even Bigger Water Project." *Business Insider*. 7 July 2010. 2 August 2012. <<http://www.businessinsider.com/three-gorges-dam-south-to-north-water-diversion-project-china-2010-7?op=1>>.

Miller, Michael J. "Error! Hyperlink reference not valid." *PC Magazine*. 30 September 2011. 4 June 2012. <<http://forwardthinking.pcmag.com/none/288478-goinggreen-2011-will-u-s-policies-hand-china-the-lead-in-clean-energy>>.

Osnos, Evan. "Campaign 2012: China or America?" *The New Yorker*. 6 April 2012. 4 June 2012. <<http://www.newyorker.com/online/blogs/comment/2012/04/china-scandals.html>>.

Pittman, Genevra. "Air pollution tied to higher heart attack risk." *Reuters*. 14 February 2012. 6 July 2012. <<http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/02/14/us-air-pollution-heart-attack-idUSTRE81D1XX20120214>>.

Qing, Dai. *The River Dragon Has Come!: The Three Gorges Dam and the Fate of China's Yangtze River and Its People*. Armonk: An East Gate Book, 1998.

Rogers, Martin. "Family kept grandparents' deaths secret from Chinese diver until she won gold medal." *Yahoo!Sports*. 1 August 2102. 1 August 2012. <<http://sports.yahoo.com/news/olympics--family-kept-grandparents--deaths-secret-from-chinese-diver-until-she-won-gold-medal.html>>.

Rich, David Q. et al. "Association Between Changes in Air Pollution Levels During the Beijing Olympics and Biomarkers of Inflammation and Thrombosis in Healthy Young Adults. Air Pollution, Inflammation, and Thrombosis." *Journal of the American Medical Association*. May 16, 2012, Vol 307, No. 19. <<http://jama.jamanetwork.com/article.aspx?articleID=1157490>>.

Shahan, Zachary. "China Quadruples 2015 Solar Power Target!" *Clean Technica*. 2 July 2012. 2 August 2012. <<http://cleantechnica.com/2012/07/02/china-quadruples-2015-solar-power-target/>>.

Shin, Doh Chull. *Confucianism and Democratization in East Asia*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2012.

Sparshott, Jeffrey. "Federal Deficit Narrows as Tax Receipts Rise" *The Wall Street Journal*. 12 June 2012. 2 August 2012. <<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052702303444204577462742194475320.html> >.

"The Obama Budget." *The Wall Street Journal*. 11 July 2012. 2 August 2012.
<<http://online.wsj.com/public/page/obama-budget.html>>.

Tsin, Michael. "Timeline of Chinese History and Dynasties." *Asia for Educators*. 2009. 16 June 2012. <http://afe.easia.columbia.edu/timelines/china_timeline.htm>.

Tzu, Lao. *Tao Te Ching*. Indianapolis: Hackett Publishing Company, Inc., 1993.

"Quotes from HH the Dalai Lama." *Zen Moments*. 8 September 2010. 17 June 2012.
<<http://www.zenmoments.org/dalai-lama-quotes/>>.

Urbina, Ian. "A Tainted Water Well, and Concern There May Be More." *The New York Times*. 3 August 2011. 5 June 2012. <<http://.nytimes.com/2011/08/04/us/04natgas.html>>.

Watters, Thomas. *Lao-Tzu, A Study in Chinese Philosophy*. London: Williams & Norgate, 1870.

Wyatt, Edward, Michael Cieply, and Brooks Barnes. "S.E.C. Asks if Hollywood Paid Bribes in China." *The New York Times*. 24 April 2012. 3 July 2012.
<<http://www.nytimes.com/2012/04/25/business/global/sec-asks-if-hollywood-paid-bribes-in-china.html>>.