

「拍」出國際

Seizing a Chance to Go Abroad through “Shooting Films”



「我學習自理，能獨立生活，我想我比同齡成熟吧！」一個剛考完中學文憑試的女生說。

家欣中四來港，在這個城市已經居住了兩年。兩年間，她努力提升英文水平，希望拉近自己和同學的距離。校內的駐校社工，對從未接觸過社工的家欣而言，有點特別。但是除了平日的義工活動以外，家欣甚少接觸她，家欣說：「那時對於我而言，『小瑜』只是一個社工的名字。」

‘I learnt to be independent and I am able to take care of myself. I think I am more mature than the people at my age,’ said a girl who has just finished her HKDSE exam.

Jia Xin came to Hong Kong for Form four and she has now been living in the city for two years. During the two years, she has worked really hard to improve her English, hoping to narrow the gap between her classmates and her. The social worker at school was a little special to Jia Xin, who had never seen one before. She seldom met her school social worker besides sporadic volunteer activities. ‘“Siu-yu” was merely the name of a social worker to me,’ said the teenage girl.

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母親沉迷賭博 家中發生巨變

中五的時候，家欣的家出現了變化。獨力照顧家欣三姐弟的媽媽連續幾天不回家，媽媽說，她去了朋友家。對此，家欣深信不疑，直到家欣無意中找到了一張向財務公司借貸七萬元的合約，和一張往澳門的船票，她才驟覺，曾經賭博成癮的媽媽再次走上舊路。

她看著這兩張紙，心感不妙，內心不寒而慄，於是立即聯繫居於大陸的姐姐和舅舅幫忙，二人頻頻聯絡母親，但都無補於事。沉迷賭博，終歸十賭九輸，家中漸漸變得吵鬧不斷，充斥著母女二人的爭吵聲。

家中的經濟隨之出現問題。欠債累累的母親無法給家欣提供生活費和補習費，家欣輕歎：「那時候每個同學都補習，但我在最關鍵的時候卻無錢補習。習慣啦！都沒有辦法。」話雖如此，但家欣因家中的經濟問題十分難受。家欣從沒有向朋友透露家中的困境，既然親人也無法幫忙，向朋友訴說了也於事無補，家欣選擇獨自承受。

主動尋求支援 解決燃眉之急

直至有一天，她和同學閒聊間得悉同學母親也有賭癮。家欣彷彿找到了陪伴，於是向朋友透露自己的情況。同學隨即建議她找駐校社工小瑜，因為在她的幫忙下，同學家中的經濟壓力得以減輕。

本已心灰意冷的家欣把心一橫，決定主動尋求支援。緊張的家欣隻身走進社工室。小瑜得悉家欣家中情況後，想方設法替家欣解決燃眉之急。小瑜首先給她超市券，以免家欣和弟弟挨餓，然後小瑜得悉家欣沒有資金繳交補習費後，亦即刻替家欣填寫表格，申請津貼。這些舉措無疑解除了家欣心中最大的憂慮。小瑜的幫助減輕了家欣的經濟重擔。

Mother was Addicted to Gambling Everything at Home had Changed

Something happened at home when the girl was in Form five. Her mother who had been taking care of her three children single-handedly had not returned home for several days. Her mother told her that she was at her friend's home. Jia Xin had trusted her mother greatly until she accidentally discovered a contract of seventy-thousand dollars from a loan company and a ferry ticket to Macau. Since then, she realized her mother who was once a crazy gambler has been repeating the same old disastrous path.

Looking at the documents and tickets, the fear inside her heart drove her to contact her elder sister and uncle in the Mainland for help but to no avail. The family was no longer harmonious and she had always been arguing with her mother due to her mother's addiction to gambling.

The financial condition at home soon became a problem. Her mother got into huge debt and could not afford Jia Xin's living expenses and tutorial fees. 'Every classmate had extra tutorials, and I had to stop when it was the most critical time. I got used to it. There was no way out,' said Jia Xin. Easy-going as she sounded, the girl found the financial problems at home distressing. Nonetheless, she had never told anyone about her situation. Her family could not help and it was futile to tell her friends so Jia Xin decided to bear everything alone.

Taking the Initiative to Gain Support Meeting her Urgent Needs

One day, her classmate told her that her mother was addicted to gambling. Jia Xin felt empathy for her classmate's situation, and Jia Xin thus talked about hers. The classmate then suggested seeking help from Siu-yu, the social worker who assisted her in dealing with the financial pressure at home.

The helpless girl then made up her mind to seek help. Knowing Jia Xin's conditions, Siu-yu first tried to provide basic essentials for her. Siu-yu gave her some supermarket coupons so that Jia Xin and her brother could at least fill their stomach; She knew Jia Xin did not have money to pay for tuition fees, so she filled in the subsidy application form on behalf of the girl. These actions had undoubtedly eased Jia Xin's biggest worries and alleviated her financial burden.



盡心拍攝短片 成就出國機會

到了中五暑假，家欣在小瑜的推薦下，參加了國際兒童基金的短片比賽，在五日的日營中完成一條自編自導自演的短片，訴說自己的故事。五天的日營固然精彩，但過後家欣還是繼續過著繁忙的學校生活。

幾個月後，家欣從小瑜口中得悉自己獲得提名，可到荷蘭繼續參賽。家欣十分驚喜並說道：「那麼多人參加比賽，能夠成為那個全港唯一獲得提名的人的機會率好低，所以我完全沒有預計自己會獲得提名。」驚喜過後，便是急忙的準備工作。但在準備簽證上，家欣遇上了瓶頸——因為時間不足，家欣難以取得荷蘭簽證。但家欣依然決定嘗試一番。家欣很慶幸小瑜一直在她身邊：「小瑜很用心，凡事親力親為，努力了解簽證辦理程序，每天打電話、發電郵解釋我的情況和跟進申請情況。這些事她本不用負責的，但她仍然幫助我。」到了出發當天，家欣終於取得簽證。她第一時間通知小瑜。家欣說，小瑜的聲音很開心，甚至比自己更激動。當晚，她踏上前往荷蘭的飛機，那是她第一次出國。

家欣說，雖然媽媽的情況沒有改變，但在小瑜的陪伴下，她慢慢看開了。她笑著說，希望可以入讀大學，而中學畢業後也會靠自己賺錢，到國外旅行見識一下。其實，開心與否不是取決於客觀的環境，而是在於自己的看法和主觀的感受。

Her Efforts in Shooting Films Provided her with a Chance to Go Abroad

In the summer of Form five, Jia Xin joined a short film competition organized by the UNICEF (The United Nations Children's Emergency Fund) on Siu-yu's recommendation. She had to produce a short film to tell her story all by herself in a five-day day camp. After the fascinating day camp, Jia Xin returned to her busy school life.

After several months, Siu-yu notified Jia Xin that she was nominated to head to the next stage of the competition in Netherlands. As there were so many participants, it was almost impossible to get the only one nomination in Hong Kong. I had not expected that I had the slightest chance, "Jia Xin felt very astonished and said. Followed by the surprise was the pressing preparation work, Jia Xin soon found it difficult to get his visa due to limited time. However, she still decided to try applying for it. She was grateful that Siu-yu has always accompanied and supported her. Siu-yu was diligent. She did everything herself. She tried to figure out the procedures of visa application, phoned and emailed the department to explain my situation. She did not have to do those things, but, she did," said Jia Xin. She finally got the visa on the day she had to set off. She immediately phoned Siu-yu and told her the good news. Jia Xin recalled that Siu-yu sounded happy, even more excited than herself. That night, she was on a plane for the first time flying to Netherlands.

Jia Xin said she is feeling better with the companion of Siu-yu despite the fact that her mother has not changed much. She hope that she will get into university; and she will go travelling after graduating from secondary school, spending the money she has earned. Actually, whether you feel happy or not depends not on objective environment, but your subjective feeling.