

E360

 Read Message

 Back to: [Inbox](#)

From: "peter chan"

Date: 2004/03/23 Tue PM 01:43:46 CST

To: views@cab-review.gov.hk

Subject: Other views

 Move To: 





While public views on the issues of principle and legislative process relating to constitutional development as laid down in the Basic Law are very important, the most important point that the Constitutional Development Task Force has to work hard is find a way to educate the public to properly use their votes to express their choice of the Chief Executive and LegCo Members. This is because ultimately the people of Hong Kong have to cast their votes. If they are well educated and know how to use their voting power, the future of Hong Kong is bright and the pace of democracy can be accelerated. On the contrary, if Hong Kong people are immature and use their votes irrationally, it is difficult for the Chinese Government to feel confident enough to give Hong Kong people more democracy. It is also in the interest of the Chinese Government to properly educate the people of Hong Kong so that election results would be rational and hard-line action against some views of Hong Kong people would be unnecessary.

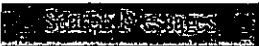


The recent presidential election in Taiwan is a good example. It is irrational for so many voters to place so much weight on the identity of the candidate (i.e., whether or not the candidate is an indigenous people of Taiwan) when they cast their votes. On the contrary, Chen Shui-ben's poor administration achievement which attributed to the economic downturn in the past 4 years did not appear to be given their proper weight.

In Hong Kong, some local politicians are trying to learn from Chen his election techniques. If local politicians just concentrate on election (by

pleasing their voters with short term benefits, e.g., tax cuts, improved social benefit, etc.) and neglect their primary role in administration or legislation, it would be a disaster for Hong Kong. It is widely understood that grass-root voters are more easily affected by emotion when they cast their votes. Education on democracy is, therefore, needed so as to prevent such "politicians" from being elected and to allow those who are doing for the long term benefit of Hong Kong although they might cause short term harm to their voters to be elected, e.g., reduce unreasonable social benefit, increasing rental of public housing flats, widening the tax base, etc.

If Hong Kong is seen to favour electing such short-sighted CE and LegCo members and views of the middle class are not fully reflected in the Legislature, many Hong Kong people would be forced to leave Hong Kong. This is because, being a minority group in Hong Kong, the only way they can do is to find another place where their interests are better protected.





 Move To:




 Back to: [Inbox](#)

[Help](#)