



By ☐ Lee Wan Juin (17 years old),

“TRICKING you to think that a cup of tea is in actual fact a cup of pure water, if you ran chemical tests to prove it to be water, would you succeed? Rather unlikely.”

My mother's words made me sit down and write immediately lest I forget a single letter. She was talking about the quest to find the truth being the most important quest in life because as the first paragraph suggest, without it success is either impossible, impossible or impossible.

This is the sole reason why society today is largely unhappy. Somehow, somewhere in our evolution to be more civilized, we have forgotten the meaning of it, why we should be so. The word has been replaced by power, money, fame underlined in bold capital letters and bright flashing neon lights. Many shun the idea of a world without these, claiming that life would be dull, unexciting, just black and white, after all YOLO right? Truth be told, your life is as dull as you are, not the other way round. Exhibit A: drug addicts (a.k.a. people who spend everything for the highest form of 'excitement')

Youths blinded by pleasure. That is the consequence of today's mindset given by society. In the chaos of stimulation, they lose their identity, then they seek acceptance. So commence an invisible competition of, who has the better life, happier family, trendier clothes, sportier gear,

but behind this façade, this mask, we are sad;

sad that we actually have so many problems in this 'life'. Nevertheless we wear this life on ourselves because everyone does it. We go on even though we see tears and sorrow behind the carved smiles. Then one day when the colors of our mask fade and the glitter has fallen, maybe the lucky ones will be brave enough to take it down and the luckier ones would realize

that IT ISN'T TRUE!

LIFE IS SUFFERING AND LIFE IS SAD. THIS IS REALITY.

That is why life will make you sad, life will make you wear a mask. Most people think that life is happy and just a certain number of problems make them sad. NO. If you simply wait for conditions in life to make you happy, the angels will weep for you. Happiness doesn't come with good conditions, it comes with a single good decision. That's why they never say "Wait for life to make you happy" they say BE HAPPY!

That's the core truth. That's what society is missing unfortunately. A truth which everyone is too afraid to accept, or wasn't given a chance to understand. That's why my dream is to make society happy in general. By showing them that taking the masks off is not only OK, it's the step in life which makes the most powerful difference.

My dream is to open a school. With an education system which not only provides knowledge but most importantly provides wisdom. I dream of opening schools because I think it's an important place in the world, second to a home. It's the place that runs the future world. It is the place which is capable of making massive changes. It is a place where wisdom can be seen where there is not too much hardship and complications.

Opening a school especially in this country is my dream as there are many challenges and differences which can quickly teach a child not only to accept, but embrace, not only to survive but live. I also see Malaysia as a central hub for language, culture and creativity. Given the right education, Malaysia can be a country rich in resources not in terms of land resources, but human resources. Most importantly, given the right education, people will be wiser, there will be less social problems, because ultimately the only thing that can mend a broken social system is wisdom. With a good social system, people can take off the masks and be happy.

