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U.S. manufacturing contracts; private payrolls post first drop since 2017



Inside C2

Monday April 06, 2020

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CORONAVIRUS SCAMS SPREADING AS FAST AS THE VIRUS ITSELF, FTC WARNS

by Mark Hedin



Not only has the corona virus wrought havoc worldwide, it's also become a new pretext for fraudsters trying to take advantage of people's trust to steal their money. According to the United States Federal Trade Commission, COVID-19-related crimes are being reported by the thousands, have doubled in just the past week and are growing faster still.

The FTC has received more than 10,000 complaints so far this year, (https://tinyurl.com/FTC-coronavirusreports), with losses approaching \$7 million and a median of more than \$500. More than half of those reports arrived in just the past 10 days.

Complaints describe perpetrators claiming to represent the government or a business, and who often take advantage of travel and vacation-related reports about cancellations and refunds. Other complaints reported problems with online shopping and mobile texting.

The federal government agency is updating the numbers the exponential growth of coronavirus-related complaints at its Explore Data web page, and offers information on types of scams and how to avoid them at https://www.ftc. gov/coronavirus/ftc-in-action.

If you have been targeted by a fraudulent operation, please report it to the FTC: FTC.gov/complaint.

As a general rule, don't click on links in emails that claim to be from the government or a bank, even if they look legitimate, and don't respond to those emails. The criminals are good at copying the look of those institutions' correspondence. It's better to call the government agency or bank directly. But even there, be careful to find out the correct phone number on your own, and don't trust the number in any unsolicited call or

Also, most phone calls trying to defraud people are "robocalls" — calls made by machines — so even though some are made by individual people, if you pick up a call and there's no person on the other end of the line, just hang up.

Because the government has passed legislation offering various kinds of financial relief to consumers, some scammers are trying to take undue advantage of that, too. In one effort to combat this type of crime, the Small Business Administration is asking people to contact them directly, either by phone or at the sba.gov/coronavirus website to find out what kind of help is legitimately available.

Similarly, be wary of people or callers offering a fast-track to such financial help. And never give your Social Security, tax ID, bank account numbers or any other such highly personal information to someone you don't know.

Even if you've received a check in the mail, proceed with

caution. Not all "coronavirus relief" checks can be trusted. The FTC has a blog with advice about how to spot a bogus relief check.

In recent weeks, the FTC has had to notify numerous technology companies such as internet service providers(https://tinyurl. com/FTC-coronavirus-fraud-warning) that they are helping illegal telemarketing and "robocalls" involved with coronavirus-related scams.

Those companies included: VoIPMax, SipJoin Holding, Corp., iFly Communications, Third Rock Telecom, Bluetone Communications, LLC, VoIP Terminator, Inc., also known as BLMarketing, J2 Web Services, Inc., VoxBone US LLC and Comet Media, Inc.

"It's never good business for VoIP (Voice Over Internet Protocols) providers and others to help telemarketers make illegal bad when your company is helping telemarketers exploiting fears about the coronavirus to spread disinformation and perpe-

Another company, Globex Telecom, is being prosecuted by the FTC for this kind of activity, the agency reports, as is? software provider James B. Christiano (unclear: is FTC also prosecuting the software provider? If so, see revised paragraph below). The Department of Justice is prosecuting two VoIP companies for "committing and conspiring to commit wire fraud by knowingly transmitting robocalls that impersonated federal government agencies."

The FTC and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration have warned other companies about selling unapproved products that may be falsely claiming to be helpful in treating or curing COVID-19.

These include Gaia's Whole Healing Essentials, LLC, Health Mastery Systems/Pure Plant Essentials, Homeomart Indibuy, Neuro XPE, FullerLifeC60, LLC, Halosense, Inc., JRB Enterprise Group Inc., Carahealth, Corona-Cure, Vital Silver, Quyinessence Aroatherapy Ltd., N-ergetics, GuruNanda, LLC, Vivify Holistic Clinic, Herbal Amy LLC and the Jim Bakker

Although the FTC strongly recommends against communicating with ANY unknown person or business, the opposite is true when it comes to notifying friends and family to be careful.

"Share these tips with your co-workers, family and social networks," the agency says.

MARK HEDIN

Reporter

Mark Hedin is a reporter for Ethnic Media Services. He has previously written for the Oakland Tribune, the Central City Extra, the San Francisco Chronicle, El Mensajero, the San Francisco Examiner and other papers.



Monday, April 06, 2020



LOCAL NEWS

Top U.S. watchdog vows 'aggressive' oversight of Trump administration after intel firing

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - The top U.S. federal watchdog vowed on Saturday to continue to conduct "aggressive" independent oversight of government agencies, after President Donald Trump fired the inspector general of the U.S. intelligence community late Friday night.

FILE PHOTO: Intelligence Community Inspector General Michael Atkinson arrives to testify at a House Intelligence Committee closed-door hearing on a whistleblower complaint about President Donald Trump's dealings with Ukraine, on Capitol Hill in Washington, U.S., October 4, 2019. REUTERS/Jonathan Ernst/File Photo

Michael Horowitz, chair of the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency (CIGIE), an independent agency in the executive branch and the inspector general at the Department of Justice, said in a statement that Michael Atkinson was known for his "integrity, professionalism, and commitment to the rule of law and independent oversight."

President Donald Trump wrote in a letter to Congress Friday night that Atkinson, who was involved in triggering an impeachment probe of the president last year, will be removed from his position in 30 days.

The firing comes as U.S. inspectors general, who are charged with independent oversight of federal agencies, were recently tasked with broad surveillance of the government's response to the coronavirus, including the historic \$2.3 trillion fiscal package to mitigate its economic impact.

"The inspector general community will continue to conduct aggressive, independent oversight of the agencies that we oversee," said Horowitz.

"This includes CIGIE's Pandemic Response Accountability Committee and its efforts on behalf of American taxpayers, families, businesses, patients, and health care providers to ensure that over \$2 trillion dollars in emergency



FILE PHOTO: Intelligence Community Inspector General Michael Atkinson arrives to testify at a House Intelligence Committee closed-door hearing on a whistleblower complaint about President Donald Trump's dealings with Ukraine, on Capitol Hill in Washington,

federal spending is being used consistently with the law's mandate."

Democrats have expressed concerns about how the fiscal package will be doled out through the U.S. Treasury, headed by Steven Mnuchin. "We're not here to create a slush fund for Donald Trump and his family, or a slush fund for the Treasury Department to be able to hand out to their friends," said U.S. Senator Elizabeth Warren of Massachusetts.

The watchdogs' role in the coronavirus over-

sight is to examine the decision-making process, and provide the public information about where the taxpayer dollars and other resources go.

Atkinson, a Trump appointee, had determined that a whistleblower's report was credible in alleging Trump abused his office in attempting to solicit Ukraine's interference in the 2020 U.S. election for his political benefit.

Trump said Friday Atkinson no longer

had his "fullest confidence."

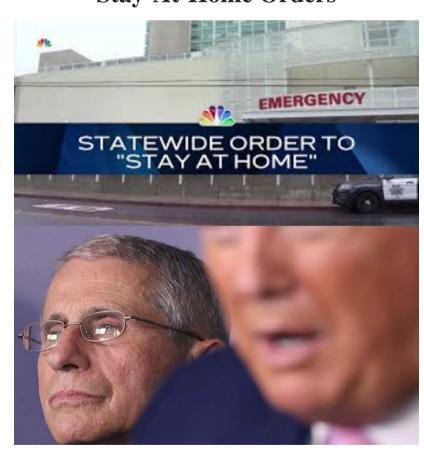
Atkinson expressed concerned that Trump potentially exposed himself to "serious national security and counter-intelligence risks" when he pressed Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskiy to investigate Democratic presidential hopeful Joe Biden and his son during a July 25 phone call, according to a Justice Department legal opinion.

Stay healthy!

BUSINESS

Stay safe!

Fauci Advises All States Issue Stay-At-Home Orders



Dr. Anthony Fauci listens to President Trump speak during a briefing on April
1. Photo: Win McNamee/Getty Images

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor

Director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases Dr. Anthony Fauci recommended last Thursday that all states across the U.S. implement stay-at-home orders, at a CNN town hall. Why it matters: The recommendation stands in contrast to President Trump's calls for "flexibility." Nearly 40 states have issued stay-at-home orders to promote social distancing as a way to combat the novel coronavirus — but the orders vary in strictness and duration.

• Trump said at the White House coronavirus task force briefing on Wednesday that in states with fewer infections, "it's awfully tough to say close it down."

What he's saying: "I don't understand why that's not happening," Fauci said, per CNN, of a nationwide stay-at-home

order. "As you said, the tension between federally mandated versus states rights to do what they want is something I don't want to get into. But if you look at what is going on in this country, I do not understand why we are not doing that. We really should be."



Background: The Trump administration has directed Americans to "work or en-

gage in schooling from home whenever possible" for roughly a month, to "avoid discretionary travel, shopping trips, and social visits," and to "avoid social gatherings in groups of more than 10 people."

More States Issue Stay-At-Home Orders As Coronavirus Crisis Escalates

Florida and Georgia governors ordered all residents to stay at home late Wednesday, with exceptions for those engaged in essential services, including health care and government functions.

Statewide shelter-at-home orders

As of April 2, 2020

Active order (37 states, D.C., and Puerto Rico)

WI VT NH

WA ID MT ND MN IL MI NY MA

OR NV WY SD IA IN OH PA NJ CT RI

CA UT CO NE MO KY WV VA MD DE

AZ NM KS AR TN NC SC

OK LA MS AL GA

DC

HI TX FL PR

The big picture: In a matter of weeks, the number of states that issued orders nearly quadrupled, affecting almost 300 million Americans.

Data: Axios reporting; Map: Danielle Alberti/Axios **The state of play:** Governors that were originally against stay-at-home orders, like those in Georgia and Florida, finally succumbed this week after COVID-19 cases in their states increased rapidly.

Florida is the third biggest state in the U.S. and one of the highest-risk for coronavirus. Yet Gov. Ron DeSantis' response lagged well behind other populated states.
States that still don't have such orders have a number of local directives suggesting residents stay indoors.

California Gov. Gavin Newsom, the first state to issue a shelter-in-place order, had a message on CNN Wednesday to governors who have not mandated its residents stay

home:

"What are you waiting for? What more evidence do you need? ... There's no greater intervention, period, full stop, none, than physical distancing."

The big picture: The orders allow citizens to leave their homes for "essential" reasons like grocery shopping, pharmacy pick-ups or trips to restaurants for takeout only. They also permit people to assist others in obtaining supplies, as well as to walk their dogs and be in nature— as long as they keep 6 feet between

themselves and others.

California Gov. Gavin Newsom, the first state to issue a shelter-inplace order, had a message on CNN Wednesday to governors who have not mandated its residents stay home: "What are you waiting for? What more evidence do you need? ... There's no greater intervention, period, full stop, none,

than physical distancing."



California Governor, Gavin Newsom

• Some excursions deemed essential in North Carolina include traveling to and from places of worship and volunteering.

• "Many people want to know how they can help right now, and for most people this is how — by staying home," Washington, D.C. Mayor Bowser said Monday

• There is no doubt in my mind that we

have to ratchet down what we are doing in society," Amy Acton, director of Ohio's Department of Health, said. "Listen to Italy begging us not to make mistakes — you're hearing it from folks who are ahead of us in this curve. We don't have a day to spare." (Courtesy prices com)



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Your donation can help impact lives.





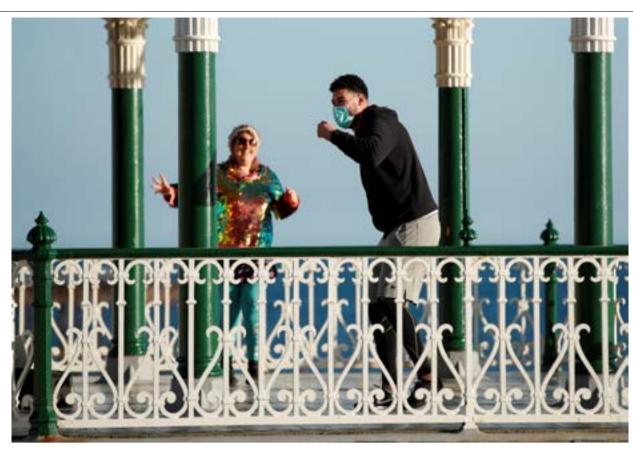
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Editor's Choice



A man takes a picture of a sheep at a beach, during a lockdown to prevent the spread of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) in Algiers, Algeria April 4, 2020. REUTERS/Ramzi Boudina



A man wearing a protective mask dances with Cara Brennan, as the spread of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) continues, Brighton, Britain, April 4, 2020. REUTERS/Peter Cziborra



People are seen at a service station, as the spread of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) continues, Antrim, Northern Ireland, April 4, 2020. REUTERS/Jason Cairnduff



A custodian cleans the lectern before an expected briefing by U.S. President Donald Trump on the administration's response to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) outbreak at the White House in Washington, U.S., April 4, 2020. REUTERS/Joshua Roberts



A flight attendant waits for the departure of a one-passenger flight between Washington and New Orleans as the spread of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) continues, in Washington, U.S., April 3, 2020. Picture taken April 3, 2020. REUTERS/Carlos Barria



Medical officers rest during a rapid test amid the spread of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) outbreak in Bandung, West Java province, Indonesia, April 4, 2020 in this photo taken by Antara Foto. Antara Foto/Novrian Arbi/ via REUTERS ATTENTION EDITORS - THIS IMAGE WAS



Iacopo Mastrangelo poses with his father Fabio in front of Piazza Navona, as Italians remain under lockdown to prevent the spread of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19), in Rome, Italy, April 4, 2020. REUTERS/Alberto Lingria



People walk at Tempelhofer Feld, during the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) outbreak, in Berlin, Germany, April 4, 2020. REUTERS/Michele Tantussi

Monday, April 6, 2020



COMMUNITY

COVID-19 Crisis Has Created A New "Golden Age" For Vaccine Research With Philadelphia As Its Epicenter



Entrance to a Johnson&Johnson laboratory facility.

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor

The coronavirus pandemic has exposed gaps in U.S. medical manufacturing and distribution. Cheap foreign materials and "just in time" shipping have made it tough to meet the sudden demand for cleaning agents, protective gear, and ventilators — even as sick patients are filling hospital ICUs.

And yet U.S. companies that make vaccines — the kind of low-priced, one-dose commodity product that drugmakers often leave to foreigners — have stepped up.

Last Friday, President Donald Trump signed the \$2 trillion CARES Act, including \$27 billion for vaccines and protective gear. On Monday, drug giant Johnson & Johnson said it was joining the CARES-enriched Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority (BARDA) to spend more than \$1 billion developing anti-coronavirus vaccines.

J&J said the first "emergency" shots should be available on a "not-for-profit" basis early next year — well in advance of the usual five- to seven-year timetable — and an eventual billion doses will be made in a new U.S. factory at an

unnamed location.

J&J's Janssen unit, which includes the company's vaccines business, has labs in Belgium, central New Jersey, and Horsham.



The Philadelphia area is the historic center of vaccine science. Maurice Hilleman's labs at Merck developed preventives for measles, mumps, meningitis, hepatitis, pneumonia, and flu, among others. Hilary Koprowski and colleagues at the Wistar Institute on the Penn campus developed vaccines against polio, rabies, and more. Scientists at Merck and GlaxoSmithKline labs in the western suburbs and start-ups in University City remain focused on new generations of vaccines.

And specialized firms such as Fort



Washington-based Inovio Pharmaceuticals have lately announced accelerated coronavirus vaccine schedules, also armed with federal funding — from the U.S. military, in Inovio's case.

The fact that U.S. vaccine capability hasn't withered along with other commodities once made here is no accident, but a result of steady lobbying, medical initiative, and government foresight, advocates say.

Washington has funded vaccine development and other pandemic preparation in uneven doses. But the framework of a national vaccine policy has endured between crises and into periods of neglect — and will now be flush with new anti-coronavirus billions.

"We are very pleased to see the government's increased appreciation for vaccines, which save both lives and substantial costs to the U.S.," said Amy Pisani, executive director of Vaccinate Your Family, a Washington-based advocacy network backed by the CDC, vaccine makers, and charitable groups. "Our country has an amazing brain trust of scientists who are aware of the potential threats to the world from future viruses," but they need R&D funding, as well as support from better public health education. "There are still some who believe coronavirus is a conspiracy," Pisani added.



In the emergency preparedness climate that followed the 2001 terrorist attacks

on Washington and New York, the federal government rolled out Project BioShield, a \$5.6 billion pandemic preparedness program funding testing and vaccines, initially designed to run from 2003 to 2013.

When the H5N1 flu hit hard in early 2005, President George W. Bush, joined by the CDC's top infectious disease expert, Anthony Fauci, summoned executives from Baxter, GSK, Wyeth, and other vaccine makers to the White House.

"Bush said, 'Where's the flu vaccine? This should make you a lot of money," recalls Berwyn lawyer Frank Rapoport, who prepped the GSK executives for the meeting.

"And they said, 'Sir, we won't make money, but we will get sued.""
Bush and Congress responded with the federal PREP Act, which extended legal protections from plaintiff lawsuits to vaccine, testing, and antiviral makers building medicines for pandemics, said John Clerici, a founder of pharma consulting firm Tiber Creek Partners in Washington.



Clerici worked to draft PREP with then-Republican Senate aide Robert Kadlec, whom Trump in 2017 named assistant secretary for preparedness and response, overseeing BARDA and its vaccine funding, and the Strategic National Stockpile of medical supplies — making Kadlec a key leader in the coronavirus fight.

Without legal liability protections, Clerici says companies such as J&J would be "100%" against developing vaccines in the U.S.

In 2013, when the original BioShield funding ran out, Congress began a series of annual appropriations totaling about \$1.5 billion a year to fund BARDA vac-

cine development efforts and to build up the emergency medical stockpile. A special \$5 billion was appropriated for the multinational Ebola virus fight in 2015

2015.
But flu planning has been stuck at about \$250 million a year in each of the last three federal budgets — "extremely underfunded," in Clerici's view.

The CARES Act has multiplied those resources, splitting \$27 billion between rebuilding the depleted medical stockpile and BARDA vaccine funding — on top of \$6 billion appropriated for those purposes in the first anti-coronavirus bills last winter.



Clerici said BARDA also has the power to bypass "very burdensome" federal purchasing regulations, and speed vaccine development by paying companies for mass-producing vaccines and antivirals while their clinical trials are not yet concluded, even if they end up proving unsuitable.

He said the agency has remained "very conservative" about using such powers, preferring the "National Institutes of Health style" of sequencing development, then animal, and finally human trials, rather than the more expensive but faster approach of attempting different stages at the same time.

Pisani says this new attention to vaccines should lead to permanent higher funding. She'd like to see higher appropriations for the CDC and state, city, and tribal health departments, as well as higher vaccine and antiviral R&D spending.

"The coronavirus stimulus packages to date have provided critical funding for the immediate emergency," she said. And there will be others. (Courtesy https://www.inquirer.com/)



和美国孩子比中国留学生最缺啥能力?(上)



(来源:新浪教育) INSIGHT CHINA 迅,去 美国之前应该准备什么?除了行李,机票,和英 语之外,其实最重要的是读书!为什么美国人相 比于中国人会更喜欢读书呢?这其实跟他们的 文化环境有关。到底读书对于出国党来说有什 么好处?美国人都是用什么方式读书的?来看看 **逅**逅学姐怎么说。

"不读书的人,是没有潜力的"他们会永远 保持他们固执的想法,不去接受新的思想,他们 无法进步,即使数理化再好也无法补充阅读的 空缺。

文学大国的我们缺失的却是阅读习

亚洲的学生在美国学校里很牛——尤其是 数理化牛气冲天。我高中时参加的那些数学比 赛,台上的获奖者都是清一色的黄皮肤、黑头发 ,让我这个站在后面的亚洲人很无地自容。但是 在我的高中里,几乎没有听说过哪个亚洲学生 文学学得好。

很是搞不懂我们这个以读书为荣的民族为 什么现在没了读书的习惯,并且丧失了阅读的 乐趣。我们中的很多人,从小到大就读课本上那 么一点点东西,然后就是看看报纸翻翻八卦,这 大概就算是一生的阅读了吧。

要是问起来还很理直气壮:"读书有什么用 ?这些东西电视上都有"、"太忙了,没时间读书。 "在我看来,这是因为我们没有阅读的习惯。美 国人会利用一切时间来读书:车上,飞机上,做 家务的间隙,等等。美国人有各种各样的毛病, 但是热爱读书这一点非常值得我们学习。

原来美国才是"非主流的天堂"

美国人读书是全民性的。从收入很高的家 庭到靠救济金吃饭的家庭,都有读书的习惯。在 得梅因,只有非常穷的人才会坐公车,因为每家

美国高中学历史的stule

当我在美国高中学历史的时候,曾经不停

地回想在中国高中学到的方法:画表格,理时间

,编口诀。记忆、记忆、再记忆,但是完全没有效

在坐公车的时 候都会观察车 上的人,发现大 部分人都拿著

书在读。 记得是刚 入春的一天下 午,我上车后发 现钱没带够,正 在窘迫时司机 喊了一嗓子: "谁有零钱?这 了!"我一转头, 发现车里那些 灰头土脸的流 浪汉,还有那些 裹著不合身的 大棉袍的大妈 们几乎同时抬 -他 们手中基本上

都拿著一本书!马上,一个拎著大蛇皮袋子的流 浪汉打扮的人放下了手上的书,从口袋里掏出 了一把硬币:"来,给你。"我感激地接过钱,忙说 "谢谢!谢谢!"。他微笑著摆摆手,又坐回去看书 。他看的是一本泛黄了的《圣经》。

我不会忘记那些夏日的下午,在我跳上车, 交完钱后,坐在座位上观察那些乘客。我看见, 明媚的阳光透过窗外的树叶,星星点点地在那 线布满皱纹的老妇人的脸上跳跃,在她们的那 些打开的书页上舞动。到了该下车的时候,这些 穷苦的老妇人小心地拿出书签来,夹在书里面, 然后把书放进她们破旧的包里。仿佛那一木书 是什么圣物一样。

公共汽车是一个小小的社会。这里只有买 不起车的穷人,还有非常少量的一些不到开车 年龄的学生。得梅因是个小城,所以大家往往都 认识,每次上了车,和熟人打一声招呼,乘客们 就坐下拿出一本书来看。

不同文化的碰撞

我一直认为这样做对眼睛不好,但美国人 似乎压根儿就没有这种观念。"莎拉,你这样会 把眼睛看坏的。"在我们去体育馆打扫卫生的路 上,美国接待家庭里的妹妹莎拉打开了车后面 的灯,在摇晃的车厢里借著那一点昏黄的灯光 看书。"谁说的,"莎拉摇头,"我一直这样看。"我 不是提倡在车内看书,但是这种抓紧一切时间 读书的习惯的确令人惊叹。

当我和我的接待家庭一起在佛罗里达州的 奶奶家度假的时候,一天晚饭后,奶奶忽然说想 让我们全家一起玩智力游戏。我、莎拉还有克里 斯汀都在房间里看小说。我们三个人都答应了, 但是没有一个人动。

都没有和我们在一起玩游戏了,咱们都去玩一

都有车。我每天 玩吧。"于是,我们三个人没精打采地走到外头, 坐在地上开始玩那个游戏。游戏实在是无聊,但 我们也不好扰了奶奶的兴致,只有继续玩下去。

> 忽然,莎拉很气愤地叫了起来:"放下!把书 放下!"我抬起头来,看见接待家庭的爸爸正偷 偷地把藏在沙发底下的书拿起来看。"你们先玩 你们的呗,到我了我就出牌,"爸爸嬉皮笑脸地 说,"什么都不耽误。""不公平!"克里斯汀也叫 了起来,"凭什么就你看书啊。"这时莎拉气鼓鼓 地站了起来,走进房间,还把门一摔。

> "莎拉!"关国妈妈不满地叫了一声。"莎拉 了,我也不想玩了。"克里斯汀抓住机会,马上 站起身来进房间看书。我转过身来看看关国爸 爸,他已经坐在沙发上在看书了,还把身子转了 过去,生怕别人又打扰他。美国妈妈无奈地摇了 摇头,马上转过头来对说:"Gogo,咱们三个人玩 吧。"我只好点了点头,继续玩那无聊的游戏。

> 我非常佩服妹妹莎拉的一点就是她的读书 习惯。她几乎是以每天一本书的速度在读书。她 是完全离不开书的。每周末她都去图书馆借上 七八本书,一周以后去还,再借新的,她在海滩 上晒太阳的时候戴著墨镜看书,在超市工作的 时候利用二十分钟的休息时间看书,在课间看, 在等人的时候看。

全家学霸的好友

我的一个非常要好的朋友克里斯汀娜,来 自一个非常优越且受教育程度非常高的家庭。 她的父亲斯坦福毕业,她的母亲曾经是一名记 者。在她去爱荷华州立大学荣誉学生新生报到 的时候,她的家人把我也带了去,好让我更了解 美国的大学。

那天早上,我、克里斯汀娜和她爸爸坐在教 室里听辅导员讲解——她的妈妈还在家里,下 午开车过来。我记得辅导员提到了一本书,并且 希望学生们在暑期看完。克里斯汀娜的爸爸当 即拿出iPad,上了亚马逊网站,在一分钟之内就 把实体书买了下来。他还小声地对克里斯汀娜 说:"嘿,发个短信给你妈妈,告诉她我已经买下 了实体书和电子书,并且已经把电子书发到她 的kindle(亚马逊网站发行的电子书)上了,所以 她现在就可以看了。"

这种高科技、高效率的阅读非常令我震惊! 网络与电子书的普及能够节省下来多少时间啊 !但是震惊之余,我还是有些不解:这是克里斯 汀娜的作业,为什么她的全家都要看呢?她的家 人工作都很忙,他们有时间看吗?

晚上吃饭的时候,我问了克里斯汀娜的妈 -杰西卡夫人——这个问题,她一脸惊: "我们当然要看啊!我们要是不看的话,跟克里 斯汀娜不就没话说了吗?"然后,她故意放低声 音跟我说:"那样她就会嫌弃我们这对老夫老妻 不与时俱进了!""嘿!"克里斯汀娜哈哈大笑, "我可不会嫌弃你们的!"

书籍,在关国的家庭中是一架桥梁。每天饭 后,家庭成员就会聚在一起,讨论自己正在阅读 样。而这"好"字,恰恰就体现在阅读量上。 后来还是关国妈妈过来劝我们:"奶奶好久 的书籍,从而使家庭成员的关系更加亲密。

美国学生的读书习惯

我的朋友可拉,AP成绩几乎都是满分,SAT 和ACT的成绩也近乎满分,当我问到她到底是 怎么学习的时候,她简单地回答:"就是读书啊。

在美国,想要取得好成绩,唯一的方法就是 阅读。美国人重视批判思考与独立写作的能力, 而大量阅读则是培养这种能力的最好途径。所 以美国的学校在学生很小的时候就要求学生读 经典作品,而且是大量地读。

那么,我们会不会想:一个十几岁的孩子, 能读得懂像是《奥德赛》《罪与罚》这样的作品吗

伊塔洛·卡尔维诺,这个世界上最伟大的作 家之一给出了这样的解释:这种青少年的阅读, 可能(也许同时)具有形成性格的实际作用,原 因是它赋予我们未来的经验一种形式或形状, 为这些经验提供模式,提供处理这些经验的手 段,比较的措辞,把这些经验加以归类的方法, 价值的衡量标准,关的范式:这一切都继续在我 们身上起作用,哪怕我们已差不多忘记或完全 忘记我们年轻时所读的那本书。"我们在成熟时 期重读这本书,我们就会重新发现那些现已构 成我们内部机制的一部分的恒定事物,尽管我 们已回忆不起它们从哪里来。这种作品有一种 特殊效力,就是它本身可能会被忘记,却把种子 留在我们身上……

的确,小时候读的东西,在长大后可能不记 得细节,但是对于那些还没有进入社会的青少 年而言,经典以一种震撼人心的方式塑造著孩 子的性格,告诉他们什么是善与恶,什么是人性 的矛盾。而这些书,在成年后重读,能够获得更 多更深刻的感受。

Central Academy的日常

吃饭的时候读书,是Central Academy学生

第一次带美国的妈妈去 Central 的时候,正 好是午餐时间。因为Central不是一所完整的高 中,所以没有食堂,所有人都带著午餐,在自习 区或者坐在走廊上吃饭。我们走进去的时候,虽 有打闹的、踢自动售货机的孩子,但是大部分人 都坐在沙发上或者地上看书。

我记得非常清楚的是,有一群坐在地上的 女孩围成一个圈,其中的一个正在大声地朗读 莎士比亚的戏剧,其他的女孩都在仔细地听著, 时不时咬一日手里的三明治。

但并不是每个人都那么热爱读书,而是 Central 有每天读二十页书的任务,而且小测试 不断,我读《卡拉马佐夫兄弟》的时候,有一次拖 到周日晚上还有几百页没读,网上连个好的总 结都找不到,当时急得我直跳脚,后悔这周没努

但是当我给在美国的其他中国留学(微博) 生打电话时,大家连作业都没多少,更不用提读 大部头的小说了。我感叹:好学校真的就是不一

和美国孩子比中国留学生最缺啥能力?(下)



,老师还打印出大量 的文献让我们阅读。 但是中国几千年的 悠久历史,课本就是 那么薄薄的几册,完 全没有细节,仅仅是 记概念,记定义。

刚开始我怎么 也读不进去,后来每 什么的。' 天晚上读一章,后半 年才算读得进去了。 给画重点。我很苦恼 话。她高二的时候选 的AP美国历史,轻 松地拿了满分。

了!"我一开口就说,"这破历史怎么这么多东西 啊!怎么一点重点都没有啊?"她有些不解地回 答:"有了重点那还是历史吗?历史上的每件事 都很重要啊。"

我有些抓狂:"我不是那个意思!我是说考 捷径,因为那样的话,可拉就不是可拉了,可拉

果。美国短短的历史 试的重点是什么?"她不屑地一笑:"哈!你这个 就不是那个读萨特、康德、黑格尔的可拉了。 ,课本却有一千多页 中国人!""我知道、我知道,我知道我特功利,但 的快被折磨死了,你赶快告诉我,你是怎么学的 ?""你把那课本从头到尾读一遍呗。"

> 可拉说,"我就是这么学的。""可拉!"我震 惊了,"这书这么大,一千多页,起码有好几磅, 书都能把我砸死!读完这书我都有孙子了!""你 别急啊,慢慢读,我有时候也读不进去,"可拉说 ,"我一般就是读几个小时,然后下楼做做家务

我还是不甘心:"难道就没有别的更好的方 法吗?就没有个提纲什么的能让我背的吗?"可 可是那么多东西,根 拉有点急了:"你这人怎么这个样子啊!你不能 本就不知道什么是 这么学历史!你难道不认为那些细节才是历史 重点,而且老师也不 的精华吗?那些故事非常有意思吗?你现在背了 ,以后肯定会忘了的,那样有什么用呢?历史是 ,于是给我可拉打电 很有意思的东西!"她说的的确很有道理,但是 对于我而言……

"那你在AP考试前是怎么复习的?"我不放 弃,"有什么特别的方法吗?""有!"可拉说。"什 "可拉,我快死 么?"我激动了起来。"我把历史书从头到尾又读 了一遍。"

> 我顿时感觉没有了希望,只好回到那本厚 厚的大书里,一点一点地读起来。可拉的话是对 的,其实我在内心里也没有期望她告诉我一条

是我们以前不是这么学的。"我无力地说,"我真 连 Central Academy 的老师们都尊敬的学生,可 拉是有她学习的方法的。而这种方法,就是单纯 地阅读,大量地阅读。

不阅读即是野蛮

"不读书的人,是没有潜力的"他们会永远 保持他们固执的想法,不去接受新的思想,他们 无法进步,即使数理化再好也无法补充阅读的 空缺。

很多人认为美国人笨、智商低、数学差,但 是美国人的情商却很高。这种高情商,就是通过 大量的阅读来培养的。所以美国人也许不会编 程序,做软件,但他们能够驾驭那些掌握专业技 术知识的人。这和自己有这种能力又有什么区 别呢?

"美剧之所以强大,"石康说,"那是因为他 们每个编剧都很牛,每个人都在特定领域内有 著深厚的专业知识,组织起来就是一个全而的 专业团队。而我们甚至对"创作团队"这个概念 都不理解。"

我认为,在现在的中国义务教育中,应当加 进大部头名著的阅读,而非仅仅几篇节选的阅 读。这一点台湾就做得很好。不要被数理化的优 秀蒙蔽了双眼,读书才是强国的根本啊

出国留学读MBA 美国好还是英国好?



(来源:搜狐教育 | 作者:留学监理服务网)

个专业,那么到底是去英国好,还是去美国好呢? 经验不足,多半学生只能申请到较次的管理院 据自身的实际情况作出合理选择吧! MBA 是出国留学的同学们申请较多的一 留学监理网从以下两个方面为大家做一下比较 校。

,一起来看看! 入学要求:

者GMAT成绩达680分以上。

时间只要12-15个月。

要GMAT。英国院校开设的MBA 低于哈佛. 课程,绝大多数为一年全日制课 程,只有个别院校,修课时间稍长 。另外,学生还可以兼读,但修业 期会较长。

·般而言,英国 MBA 好的院 校要求学生有5年的工作经验,次 佳学校也要3年。因此,如果工作

美国读MBA一般需要两年时间,基本费用 美国 MBA 申请要求申请者 (包括吃、住和学费等)最低要4·4万美元,而最 具有雅思和GMAT成绩。GMAT 高则达到30·79万美元。MBA的报名费最低为 考试不仅考查申请人的语言能力 250美元,最高为700美元,除此之外,还要交书 和数学能力,还要测试其头脑反 本费和计算机使用费,最低为1000美元,最高为 应、逻辑思维和解决实际问题的 5000美元。生活费的开支差别也比较大,这取决 能力。美国一流商学院要求申请 于吃、住的标准,自己独住和与人合租的花费就 明显不同。此项花费最低也要2·2万美元,最高 同时,美国大学还需要申请则可以达到6.6万美元,其中包括交通费1000 者拥有 1–2 年工作经验;全期修 至3000美元。在美国读书还必须买医疗保险,这 业时间为2年,不过近年陆续有大 是对外国学生的强制性要求。这项开支最低 学开设一年期的MBA课程,修业 1000美元,最高6000美元.比如哈佛大学,仅学 费一项就达5万多美元。与哈佛齐名的麻省理工 英国 MBA 一般要求申请者 学院略高一些,为5·16万美元。而去年全美排名 有雅思或托福成绩即可,个别需 第一的宾夕法尼亚大学华顿商学院的费用则略

> 英国的MBA一般需要1年时间,全部花费 大约是20-30万,学费一般1万-1.6万镑,生活费 是6000镑.比如最贵的是LSE,学费是1.6万镑生 活费是1万镑.其他好学校是伦敦商学院,曼大, 华威,牛津大学都差不多。

> 另外,在奖学金方面,美国 MBA 奖学金多 为半奖;英国MBA很少设有奖学金。同学们根