

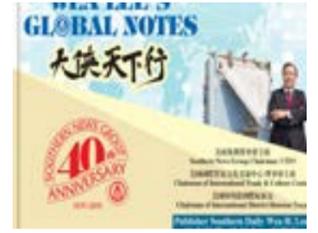


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Mr. Lee's Commentary and Dairy



Inside C2

Southern DAILY

Make Today Different

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U.S. capitals on edge for armed protests as Trump presidency nears end



(Reuters) - Washington, D.C., was locked down and U.S. law enforcement officials geared up for pro-Trump marches in all 50 state capitals this weekend, erecting barriers and deploying thousands of National Guard troops to try to prevent the kind of violent attack that rattled the nation on Jan. 6.

Members of the National Guard secure the area near the Capitol for possible protest ahead of U.S. President-elect Joe Biden's inauguration, in Washington, U.S., January 16, 2021. REUTERS/Eduardo Munoz
The FBI warned police agencies of possible armed protests outside all 50 state capitol buildings starting Saturday through President-elect Joe Biden's inauguration on Jan. 20, fueled by supporters of President Donald Trump who believe his false claims of electoral fraud.

Michigan, Virginia, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania and Washington were among states that activated their National Guards to strengthen security. Texas closed its Capitol through Inauguration Day.

In downtown Washington, officers arrested a Virginia man who tried to pass through a Capitol Police checkpoint on Friday carrying fake inaugural credentials, a loaded handgun and more than 500 rounds of ammunition, CNN reported on Saturday citing a police report and a law enforcement source.

Capitol Police officials could not immediately be reached

for comment.

Responding to news of the arrest, Democratic U.S. Representative Don Beyer of Virginia said the danger was real and the city was on edge. "Anyone who can avoid the area around the Capitol and Mall this week should do so," Beyer wrote on Twitter.

Steve McCraw, director of the Texas Department of Public Safety, said in a statement late Friday that intelligence indicated "violent extremists" may seek to exploit planned armed protests in Austin to "conduct criminal acts."

The scramble followed the deadly Jan. 6 attack on the U.S. Capitol in Washington by a mix of extremists and Trump supporters, some of whom planned to kidnap members of Congress and called for the death of Vice President Mike Pence as he presided over the certification of Biden's victory in November's election.

The Democratic leaders of four U.S. congressional committees said on Saturday they had opened a review of the events and had written to the FBI and other intelligence and security agencies to find out what was known about threats, whether the information was shared and whether foreign influence played any role.

"This still-emerging story is one of astounding bravery by some U.S. Capitol Police and other officers; of staggering treachery by violent criminals; and of apparent and high-level

failures — in particular, with respect to intelligence and security preparedness," said the letter.

It was signed by House Intelligence Chairman Adam Schiff, House Homeland Security Chairman Bennie Thompson, House Oversight Chairwoman Carolyn Maloney and House Judiciary Committee Chairman Jerrold Nadler.

Law enforcement officials have trained much of their focus on Sunday, when the anti-government "boogaloo" movement flagged plans to hold rallies in all 50 states.

In Michigan a fence was erected around the Capitol in Lansing and troopers were mobilized from across the state to bolster security. The legislature canceled meetings next week, citing concern over credible threats.

"We are prepared for the worst but we remain hopeful that those who choose to demonstrate at our Capitol do so peacefully," Michigan State Police Director Joe Gasper told a news conference on Friday.

DOMESTIC EXTREMISTS

The perception that the Jan. 6 insurrection was a success could embolden domestic extremists motivated by anti-government, racial and partisan grievances, spurring them to further violence, according to a government intelligence bulletin dated Wednesday that was first reported by Yahoo News.

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本週三：老虎堂

National Rifle Association files for bankruptcy, seeking to escape New York lawsuit

(Reuters) - The National Rifle Association on Friday filed for bankruptcy, a sudden development that could help the gun rights group escape a lawsuit by New York's attorney general seeking its dissolution.

The NRA filed for 11 protection in federal bankruptcy court in Dallas, and said it plans to reincorporate in Texas to escape "a corrupt political and regulatory environment" in New York, where it is now incorporated.

"Texas values the contributions of the NRA, celebrates our law-abiding members, and joins us as a partner in upholding constitutional freedom," Chief Executive Wayne LaPierre said in a letter to members. "We seek protection from New York officials who illegally abused and weaponized the powers they wield against the NRA and its members."

The NRA was sued in August by New York Attorney General Letitia James, who accused LaPierre and other senior leaders of self-dealing and mismanagement, and said the group's activities violated state laws governing nonprofits.

James said NRA officials diverted millions of dollars to fund luxury lifestyles, including vacations and private jets, and to buy the silence and loyalty of former employees, costing the group \$64 million over three years.

"The NRA's claimed financial status has finally met its moral status: bankrupt," James said in a statement on Friday. "We will not allow the NRA to use this or any other tactic to evade accountability and my office's oversight."

In its own statement, the NRA pledged no immediate changes to its operations or workforce and said it was not insolvent, with LaPierre adding that it was "as financially strong as we have been in years."



The group said it would continue to defend its members' constitutional rights under the Second Amendment, which guarantees the right to keep and bear arms.

Critics say the NRA is an enabler of gun violence.

In her lawsuit, James said the NRA's incorporation as a nonprofit in New York gave her authority to seek its dissolution. The NRA filed a countersuit in federal court in Albany,

New York, accusing her of violating its free speech rights because she disliked its politics.

The NRA accused James, a Democrat, of seeking a "corporate death sentence" in a partisan push to fulfill a "career goal."

Sixteen Republican attorneys general filed a brief supporting the NRA's case.

Friday's move will likely put the New

York lawsuit on hold, and a reincorporation in Texas could strip James of her power to dissolve the group.

Stay Home!

BUSINESS

Wear Mask!

WHO Team Arrives In Wuhan To Investigate Pandemic Origins



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

WUHAN, China (AP) — A global team of researchers arrived Thursday in the Chinese city where the coronavirus pandemic was first detected to conduct a politically sensitive investigation into its origins amid uncertainty about whether Beijing might try to prevent embarrassing discoveries. The group sent to Wuhan by the World Health Organization was approved by President Xi Jinping's government after months of diplomatic wrangling that prompted an unusual public complaint by the head of WHO. Scientists suspect the virus that has killed more than 1.9 million people since late 2019 jumped to humans from bats or other animals, most likely in China's southwest. The ruling Communist Party, stung by complaints it allowed the disease to spread, has suggested the virus came from abroad, possibly on imported seafood, but international scientists reject that.

Fifteen team members were to arrive in Wuhan on Thursday, but two tested positive for coronavirus antibodies before leaving Singapore and were being retested there, WHO said in a statement on Twitter. The rest of the team arrived at the Wuhan airport and walked through a makeshift clear plastic tunnel into the airport. The researchers, who wore face masks, were greeted by airport staff in full protective gear, including masks, goggles and full body suits.



Passengers wearing face masks to protect against the spread of the coronavirus exit a plane after arriving at Wuhan Tianhe International Airport in Wuhan in central China's Hubei Province, Thursday, Jan. 14, 2021.

They will undergo a two-week quarantine as well as a throat swab test and an antibody test for COVID-19, according to CGTN, the English-language channel of state broadcaster CCTV. They are to start working with Chinese experts via video conference while in quarantine.

The team includes virus and other experts from the United States, Australia, Germany, Japan, Britain, Russia, the Netherlands, Qatar and Vietnam.

A government spokesman said this week they will "exchange views" with Chinese scientists but gave no indication whether they would be allowed to gather evidence.

China rejected demands for an interna-

tional investigation after the Trump administration blamed Beijing for the virus's spread, which plunged the global economy into its deepest slump since the 1930s. After Australia called in April for an independent inquiry, Beijing retaliated by blocking imports of Australian beef, wine and other goods.

One possibility is that a wildlife poacher might have passed the virus to traders who carried it to Wuhan, one of the WHO team members, zoologist Peter Daszak of the U.S. group EcoHealth Alliance, told The Associated Press in November.



A worker in protective coverings directs members of the World Health Organization (WHO) team on their arrival at the airport in Wuhan in central China's Hubei province on Thursday, Jan. 14, 2021. A global team of researchers arrived Thursday in the Chinese city where the coronavirus pandemic was first detected to conduct a politically sensitive investigation into its origins amid uncertainty about whether Beijing might try to prevent embarrassing discoveries. (AP Photo/Ng Han Guan)

A single visit by scientists is unlikely to confirm the virus's origins; pinning down an outbreak's animal reservoir is typically an exhaustive endeavor that takes years of research including taking animal samples, genetic analysis and epidemiological studies.

"The government should be very transparent and collaborative," said Shin-Ru Shih, director at the Research Center for Emerging Viral Infections at Taiwan's Chang Gung University.

The Chinese government has tried to stir confusion about the virus's origin. It has promoted theories, with little evidence, that the outbreak might have started with imports of tainted seafood, a notion rejected by international scientists and agencies.

"The WHO will need to conduct similar investigations in other places," an official of the National Health Commission, Mi Feng, said Wednesday.

Some members of the WHO team were en route to China a week ago but had to turn back after Beijing announced they hadn't received valid visas.



Members of the WHO team gather after arriving at the airport in Wuhan in central China's Hubei province on Thursday, Jan. 14, 2021. A global team of researchers arrived Thursday in the Chinese city where the coronavirus pandemic was first detected to conduct a politically sensitive investigation into its origins amid uncertainty about whether Beijing might try to prevent embarrassing discoveries. (AP Photo/Ng Han Guan)

That might have been a "bureaucratic bungle," but the incident "raises the question if the Chinese authorities were trying to interfere," said Adam Kamradt-Scott, a health expert at the University of Sydney.

A possible focus for investigators is the Wuhan Institute of Virology in the city where the outbreak first emerged. One of China's top virus research labs, it built an archive of genetic information about bat coronaviruses after the 2003 outbreak of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome. According to WHO's published agenda for its origins research, there are no plans to assess whether there might have been an accidental release of the coronavirus at the Wuhan lab, as some American politicians, including President Donald Trump, have claimed.

A "scientific audit" of Institute records and safety measures would be a "routine activity," said Mark Woolhouse, an epidemiologist at the University of Edinburgh. He said that depends on how willing Chinese authorities are to share information.

"There's a big element of trust here," Woolhouse said.

An AP investigation found the government imposed controls on research into the outbreak and bars scientists from speaking to reporters. The coronavirus's exact origin may never be traced because viruses change quickly, Woolhouse said.



Passengers arriving on the flight from Singapore are processed by staff in protective clothings and directed towards a covered walkway to a separate exit from the airport terminal in Wuhan in central China's Hubei province on Thursday, Jan. 14, 2021. Chinese state media reported that a WHO team arrived in Wuhan, China, on Thursday to research the origins of the coronavirus. (AP Photo/Ng Han Guan)

A year after the virus was first detected in Wuhan, the city is now bustling, with few signs that it was once the epicenter of the outbreak in China. But some residents say they're still eager to learn about its origin. "We locals care about this very much. We are curious where the pandemic came from and what the situation was. We live here so we are keen to know," said Qin Qiong, owner of a chain of restaurants serving hot and sour noodles. She said she trusts in science to solve the question.

Although it may be challenging to find precisely the same COVID-19 virus in animals as in humans, discovering closely related viruses might help explain how the disease first jumped from animals and clarify what preventive measures are needed to avoid future epidemics. Scientists should focus instead on making a "comprehensive picture" of the virus to help respond to future outbreaks, Woolhouse said.

"Now is not the time to blame anyone," Shih said. "We shouldn't say, it's your fault." (Courtesy <https://apnews.com/>)

Editor's Choice



Kimono-clad youth wearing protective face masks leave their Coming of Age Day celebration ceremony at Yokohama Arena, which went ahead even though the city is in a state of emergency amid the coronavirus outbreak, in Yokohama, south of Tokyo, Japan...MORE



Municipal healthcare workers examine the body of Shirlene Morais Costa, who died at home at the age of 53 after reporting symptoms consistent with COVID-19, in Manaus, Brazil, January 11, 2021. REUTERS/Bruno Kelly



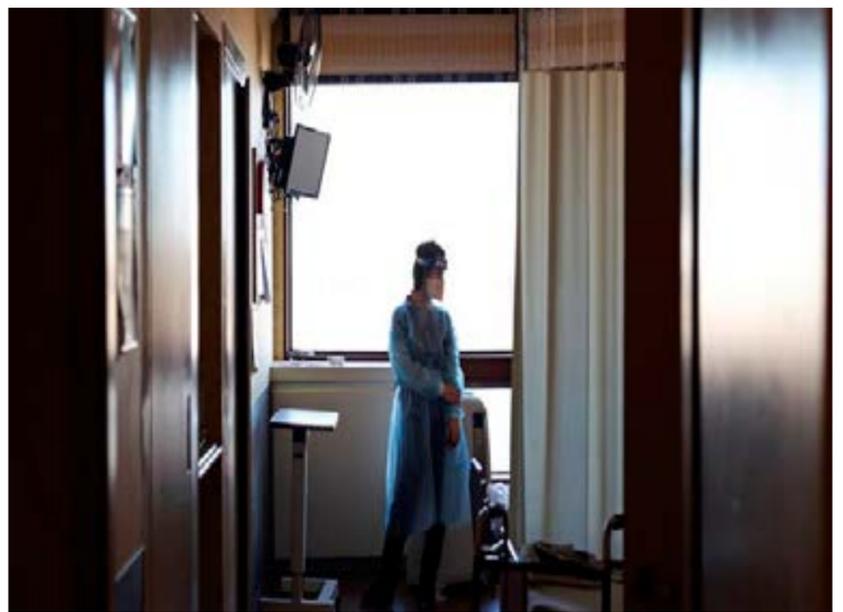
Elderly people, who are 65 and over, wait in line at the Department of Health Sarasota COVID-19 vaccination clinic in Sarasota, Florida. REUTERS/Octavio Jones



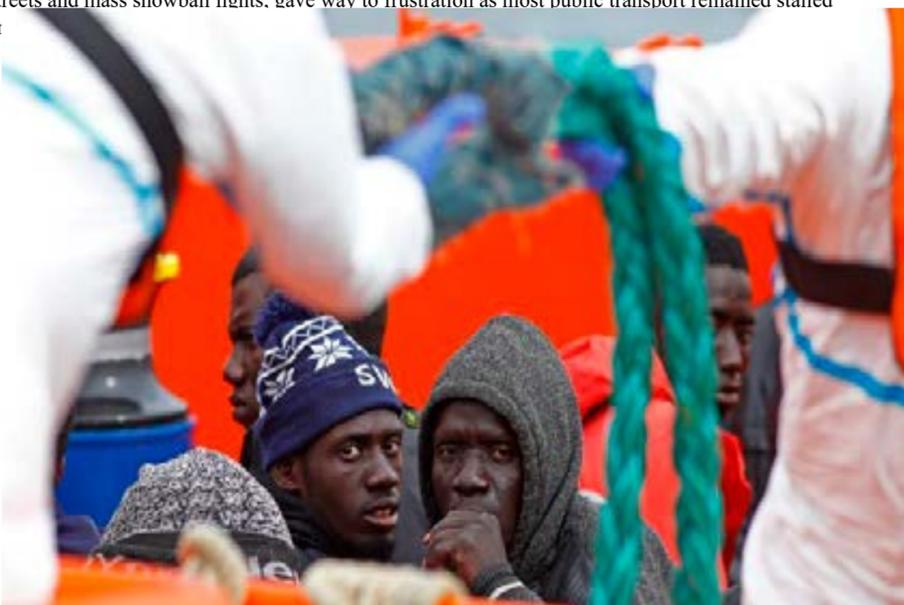
People line up for coronavirus tests in their vehicles at Dodger Stadium in Los Angeles, California. REUTERS/Lucy Nicholson



A man walks past trees fallen on a street during heavy snowfall in the center of Madrid, Spain January 9, 2021. Temperatures in parts of Spain hit record lows after a snowstorm wrought havoc across the country. Early jubilation at the historic snowfall, which saw skiers gliding through the streets and mass snowball fights, gave way to frustration as most public transport remained stalled at



A Walgreens Pharmacist prepares the Pfizer-BioNTech coronavirus vaccine at Hamilton Park Nursing and Rehabilitation, a nursing home facility, in Brooklyn, New York. REUTERS/Yuki Iwamura



Migrants wait to disembark from a Spanish coast guard vessel, in the port of Arguineguin, in the south part of the island of Gran Canaria, Spain. REUTERS/Borja Suarez



A vehicle streaks across the desert during Stage 10 of the Dakar Rally from Neom to AIUla, Saudi Arabia, January 13, 2021. REUTERS/Hamad I Mohammed

CDC Expands Covid Vaccination Guidelines To Everyone 65 And Older



KEY POINTS

The Trump administration is issuing new guidelines that expand coronavirus vaccine eligibility to everyone 65 years old and above, a senior administration official said.

States' focus on vaccinating health-care workers and nursing homes has created a bottleneck, the official said.

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

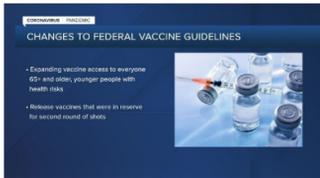
The Trump administration on Tuesday issued new guidelines that expand coronavirus vaccine eligibility to everyone age 65 and older as well as to those with comorbid conditions, like diabetes. The states' focus on vaccinating health-care workers and nursing homes has created a bottleneck, a senior administration official told CNBC, speaking on condition of anonymity in advance of the formal announcement.

"The states are being told immediately they need to expand to 65-plus as well as those under 65 with comorbid conditions," the official said.

The administration will also stop holding back millions of doses reserved for the second round of shots of Pfizer and Moderna's two-dose vaccines, the official said, adding they released doses that had been held in reserve on Sunday.

"States should not be waiting to complete phase 1a prioritization before proceeding to broader categories of eligibility," Azar said Tuesday, explaining the new guidance. "Think of it like boarding an

airplane. You might have a sequential order in which you board people. But you don't wait 'til literally every person from a group is boarded before moving on to the next."



Some 53 million Americans who are 65 and older and 110 million people between 16 and 64 with comorbid conditions will now be eligible to receive the vaccine if every state adopts the guidelines, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. President-elect Joe Biden's transition team announced Friday that his administration planned to release all doses held in reserve.

The Trump administration was expected to announce the change at a press

conference Tuesday with officials from Operation Warp Speed, the White House vaccine program. U.S. Surgeon General Jerome Adams also confirmed the changes in an interview with Fox News Tuesday morning, saying the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's previous prioritization guidelines to states was "actually causing governors and states to slow a little bit."

"We are going to have clear guidance from the CDC to governors that they should vaccinate people 65 and above and anyone below 64 who has a chronic medical condition," he said.

U.S. officials are trying to pick up the pace of vaccinations after a slower-than-expected rollout. As of Monday morning, more than 25.4 million doses had been distributed across the U.S., but just over 8.9 million shots have been administered, according to CDC data. The number is a far cry from the federal government's goal of inoculating 20 million Americans by the end of 2020 and 50 million Americans by the end of this month.



State and local health officials have said they are strapped for cash. They blame insufficient funding and inconsistent communication from the federal government for the slow rollout.

Democrats and some public health experts have criticized the administration for the slow pace. In a letter Monday, Senate Democrats demanded the administration make changes, saying it has "failed" states by not providing detailed guidance on how to effectively distribute the doses.

The U.S. "cannot afford this vaccination campaign to continue to be hindered by the lack of planning, communication, and leadership we have seen so far," Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer and

44 other Democrats wrote. "The metric that matters, and where we are clearly moving too slowly, is vaccines in arms." In an attempt to pick up the pace of vaccinations, Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar and Food and Drug Administration Commissioner Dr. Stephen Hahn urged states last week to begin vaccinating lower-priority groups against Covid-19.

The CDC recommends immunizing health-care workers and nursing homes first, but states can distribute the vaccine as they see fit. Hahn told reporters that states should give shots to groups that "make sense," such as the elderly, people with preexisting conditions, police, firefighters and other essential workers.



"We've heard in the press that some folks have said, 'OK, I'm waiting to get all of my health-care workers vaccinated. We have about 35% uptake of the vaccine.' I think it reasonable to expand that" to other groups, Hahn said Friday. "I would strongly encourage that we move forward with giving states the opportunity to be more expansive in who they can give the vaccine to."

It's unclear if expanding the eligibility will pick up the pace of vaccinations. Some states, including Texas and Florida, have already expanded their eligibility criteria. (Courtesy https://www.cnbc.com/)

Related

California To Vaccinate Residents 65 Or Older Against COVID-19

California Gov. Gavin Newsom announced Wednesday that residents 65 and older are eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. He aims to administer an additional 1 million doses by the end of the week, a California Dept. of Public Health statement said.

As of Wednesday, California had administered about 890,000 of their 3.43 million doses of the vaccine, the Centers for

Disease Control and Prevention reported. The state has set up mass-immunization sites in sports stadiums and fairgrounds to expedite distribution. Additionally, 36,000 dentists were added to the pool of personnel allowed to administer the vaccines, the news release said.

Office of the Governor of California

@CAGovernor We are significantly increasing efforts to get vaccines out. One way is through mass distribution sites for priority groups, another is increasing eligible groups - we're announcing that Californians 65+ are the next group eligible to receive #COVID19 vaccines. #EndThePandemic



A pharmacist administering a COVID-19 vaccine in Santa Rosa, Calif., Wednesday. California Gov. Gavin Newsom aims to get 1 million doses of the vaccines administered before the end of the week. (Photo/Justin Sullivan/Getty Images)

"We are significantly increasing our efforts to get these vaccines administered, get them out of freezers and get them into people's arms," Newsom said in a video posted to Twitter Wednesday. "One of the most significant things we can do is increase the number of people eligible to ... receive the vaccine and that's what we're doing today, announcing everybody 65 and over — about 6.6 million Californians — we are now pulling into the tier to make available vaccines."

About 90% of Californians are still under Newsom's regional stay-at-home order, which went into effect early last December. The state recorded just under 300,000 new COVID-19 cases and 3,510 deaths in the last week. However, these numbers seem to have leveled out in recent days.



为什么中国学校无法复制美国教育?

尽管有大量的文章和书籍在介绍美国教育，也有相当一部份的学者和普通家长在中美教育之间做着对比。无论大家如何努力，悲观地说，这一切的对比和思考基本都属于纸上谈兵。不可置辩的事实是，中国根本就无法复制美国教育。为什么我会这么说呢？有句话说得好，事实胜于雄辩。我用几个简单的事实来说明一下这个命题。

比如说，我们都觉得美国中小学课堂教学灵活，而中国课堂相对死板。美国学校的灵活教学，和美国学校的课堂设置大有关系。在美国中小学，每个班级的学生人数大约是25名左右，而中国学校的班级人数是多少？大概是美国课堂人数的两倍吧。美国课堂学生少，老师就有可能和学生有更多的机会互动，课堂教学也就相应地灵活起来了。而在中国，你让一个老师对付50多个学生，如果中国老师想和全班同学互动，一节课就那点时间，一旦互动起来，估计老师就没什么时间讲课了。中国学校的课堂设置，决定了中国中小学的教学只能是填鸭式的，美国学校的灵活教学法，在中国根本就行不通。

又比如说，美国中小学没有固定的教材和课本，美国老师布置的作业，经常要求学生去图书馆借书找资料。美国学校对教材的大撒把，和形

形色色的美国图书馆有关。根据美国图书馆协会统计，全美约有各类图书馆12万个，平均每2500人就有1个图书馆。其中公共图书馆8956个、大学图书馆3793个、学校图书馆98460个、特别图书馆7616个（包括公司、医学、宗教、法律、财经等图书馆）、军事图书馆265个、政府图书馆1006个。

在美国，各类图书馆就是美国学生读不完的教材和百科全书。即使美国老师不用统一的教材，美国学生也可以在图书馆找到答案。请记住这个数据吧：平均每2500个美国人就有一个图书馆。这个数据，在中国无异于天方夜谭。中国社区图书馆的不普及，藏书有限的中小学图书馆又不能为所有的学生提供需要阅读的书籍，这就决定了中国学校必须要有统一的教材。

再比如说，美国孩子普遍喜欢运动，而中国孩子的课外运动时间却很有限。中美学生之间在



运动方面的不同，主要来自两方面的原因。

一、和美国的中小学生和初中生相比，中国孩子的作业量大，这就决定了中国孩子在课余时间的主要任务是应付作业。换句话说，中国孩子没时间搞什么课外活动。

二、再换个角度说，美国孩子爱运动，这和美国社区公园的设置有关。在美国，公园不仅仅是消遣散步和看花弄草的地方，至少在我们这里吧，一年四季，社区公园都有为孩子们安排的各种课外体育活动。

比如我的孩子们就在社区公园学过打网球，学过划船，学过踢足球。这种社区公园的课外活动，离家近，学费低廉（居民纳税的结果），注册方便。社区公园的各种体育活动，一年四季都有专门的活动预告和介绍。在报名前后，课外活动的小册子会及时寄到每个居民的家中，供家长和孩子们选择之用。值得一提的是，这样的社区公园，并不是美国大城市的专利。在我们居住的小镇，孩子们就能享受到社区公园丰富多彩的课外活动。在中国，能有多少这样的公园可以为孩子们提供这种离家近价格低廉的运动场所呢？

又比如说，美国孩子的道德教育可以通过校外活动来完成。教堂，童子军，女童军，都可以向美国孩子灌输各种优秀的人品品质。即使美国学校不上政治课，不学白宫文件，美国孩子也会在课外的各种活动中得到人生的指导。宽容，诚实，有爱心，尊敬并服从父母，这些品质是

教堂的宗教教育中经常讲述的内容。吃苦耐劳，对人有礼貌，助人为乐，善于和他人合作等等，是童子军和女童军需要习练的本领。美国孩子在这样的校外德育教育中，通过日复一日的熏陶，至少会达到聊胜于无的效果。众所周知，宗教和男童童军在中国根本就没有市场，美国课外教育中的这部分，中国完全不能复制。

通过这些简单的对比，我们会发现一个基本的事实：在德智体几方面的训练，中美孩子经历的过程都不一样。中美教育的方式和结果，造就了外在和内心都不一样的孩子。比如某些中国孩子从小就知道长大以后挣大钱买豪宅，而某些美国孩子从小就希望长大以后去非洲帮助难民。

美国孩子运动时间多，性格开朗，也爱笑。而中国孩子在大量作业的压力下，内心紧张，难展笑容。在不同的教育体制下，中美孩子的世界观也不一样，他们对待生活的态度也就相应地有所不同了。比如几乎没有哪个美国孩子会因为没考上好大学而选择自杀，即使是社区大学里的美国大学生，他们也不会觉得自卑。

诸如此类的例子说明，中国学校根本就无法复制美国教育，我们也就不能期待在中国的大地上把中国孩子改造成美国孩子的模样。和美国教育有关的所有信息，只能供中国家长和教育工作者参考。教育离不开社会这个大环境，只要社会环境不变，中国的教育就很难有什么突破性的改变。立足本国，借鉴美国教育中的积极因素，才是比较现实的做法。让中国学校复制美国教育，只是个完全不可能的梦想。

