

Social Enterprises Reflection



Group 2 members:

Tiffany Ng

Amanda Chan

Chan Siu Yan

Bernice Tse

Lilian Wong

Table of Contents

The Good Lab	Pg 3
The Good Kitchen	Pg 4
The Diamond Cab	Pg 5
Siu Yan's Reflection	Pg 6
Bernice's Reflection	Pg 7
Tiffany's Reflection	Pg 8
Amanda's Reflection	Pg 9
Lilian's Reflection	Pg 10
Pictures	Pg 11-12
References	Pg 12

The Good Lab

We had a fruitful lesson and a really enjoyable time touring around The Good Lab. It is a very unique experience. We think that The Good Lab is a really good working place for young people, who cannot afford an office, but have creative minds to serve the community.

The furniture is really environmentally friendly and creative. We especially liked the table which is made out of car engines and out-dated car materials.

We learnt that we should give more than we receive. We should serve more to the community, as our school motto says: Daily Giving Joyful Service.

The Good Kitchen

When we stepped into Good Kitchen, it looked like any other restaurant in the streets all over Hong Kong, but it was not.

Inside Good Kitchen, it is very spacious and customers can sit comfortably to enjoy a delicious Chinese meal. Like no other restaurants, Good Kitchen actually serves us food which is much healthier and the way they cook food is also very environmentally friendly.

When we went inside the kitchen to observe how they cook , the first thing that caught our eyes was that the kitchen is very clean and hygienic and the room is full of different kinds of shining appliances. We do not feel hot or stuffy inside the kitchen as Good Kitchen uses no-fire cooking. Instead, they use steamers and electricity to cook their food. Food is mostly steamed, cooked or boiled and deep-fried food is hardly seen there.

Good Kitchen not only helps our community, it also promotes healthy eating for the citizens!

The Diamond Cab

Listening to Ms Doris Leung's (director of Diamond Cab) speech was a really insightful experience. She set up the Diamond Cab after her mother became disabled, realising that everyone deserves to travel comfortably.

As Ms Leung mentioned, in the past, people with wheelchairs had to travel in vans with compartments that looked more suitable to load animals than humans. That became the turning point in her story, and was the reason she decided to start Diamond Cab.

Today, the Diamond Cab company is a line of taxis that caters to the disabled. With several barrier-free taxi cabs, the Diamond Cabs allow wheelchair users to travel safely around Hong Kong. Having completed over 27,000 trips, the Diamond Cab continues to serve the community and strives to improve life for those in need. The Diamond Cab hopes to make transportation more accessible for the disabled and aged citizens of Hong Kong.

The talk was really interesting, and we certainly learned more about the Diamond Cab's origins, service and operations.

Siu Yan's Reflection

My experience at Good Kitchen, Good Lab and listening to Ms Doris Leung's story about when she decided to set up Diamond Cab was absolutely fruitful and enjoyable. I have learnt a lot of things on how we should serve the community.

I think public support is the key to success in different kinds of social enterprises. The simplest, easiest and the most direct way is to encourage more people to use their products or services so that their operation can be sustained.

As far as I know, the UK has over 62,000 social enterprises, including cinemas, restaurants, coffee shops, bus companies... however, in Hong Kong, the scale of social enterprises is much smaller as I believe that not too many people know what social enterprise is and that the Hong Kong Government does not subsidise it too much. Expanding the number of social enterprises is needed as they create more job opportunities for people who would otherwise be left out, as well as improve our community.

Bernice's Reflection

I am so honoured that I have this opportunity to go to this social enterprise visit. It is such a memorable experience.

Firstly, we went to The Good Lab, it is a place for young people who do not have enough money to afford an office, but would like to serve the community. Though it is a really small place, it is a domain for young people to bust up their imagination and serve the community whole-heartedly.

Secondly, we went to tour around The Good Kitchen, it is an environmentally friendly and clean kitchen. They separate the fresh meat and cooked meat into two different places and wear gloves, aprons for personal hygiene; they are all professional cooks indeed. Moreover, it has a lot of job opportunities for people with low incomes.

Last, but not least, we listened to Doris Leung's (director of Diamond Cab) speech. I think it is such a touching story. She thought that everyone should have the opportunity to travel around Hong Kong comfortably, so she invented the Diamond Cab, a taxi where disabled people can travel around in wheelchairs around Hong Kong. She even got numerous awards around the world.

I have learnt that we should give more than to receive, we shouldn't be so selfish; instead, we should be selfless. There are a lot of people out there needing our help, and we should help them instead of thinking only about ourselves, just like our school motto: Daily Giving Joyful Service.

I had a really fruitful lesson, and I must serve the community when I am older, to make Hong Kong a better place to live in.

Tiffany's Reflection

Visiting the Good Lab, Good Kitchen and learning about the Diamond Cab was an amazingly inspiring experience. If we hadn't gone on this trip, I would never have known that there is actually more than one way to change the community for the better.

Before this visit, whenever someone mentioned "caring for the society", I would immediately connect that phrase with donating money for the poor, or helping out at the SPCA. However, there is another way: merging community with business, which is how Social Enterprises work.

The Good Lab provides a hub for budding entrepreneurs to work and collaborate, while the Good Kitchen's all-natural dishes are concocted by lower-income family members looking for a suitable job; and the Diamond Cab was created by someone who just wanted to make life easier for the elderly and disabled population in Hong Kong.

I think that this trip was a very informational one, and I highly recommend taking a tour of the Good Lab and Good Kitchen and learning more about the Diamond Cab.

With the advancement of technology, people can now reach out even more, regardless of the distance between them, we should take advantage of these opportunities and turn caring for the community into action, passing on a spark that might someday become a fire, touching the lives of every single person no matter who they are.

Carpe diem. Seize the day!

Amanda's Reflection

On 3rd February 2015, Mrs Dai and a few teachers, took all the JPs and the Chinese Creative Writing class girls to visit the social enterprises. We visited the Good Kitchen, Good Lab and listened to a talk by the 'creator' of Diamond Cab's CEO, Doris Leung. I was really impressed and moved when the diamond cab was created for the people with wheelchairs and for Doris Leung's mother who was unable to walk conveniently. I have also truly understood and known more of the social enterprises and the Hong Kong society. Once again I am grateful for this experience of letting me know more about social enterprises.

Lilian's Reflection

After having the great opportunity to visit The Good Lab, Good Kitchen and learning a lot about The Diamond Cab, I have been inspired deeply by the CEO of The Diamond Cab, Mrs. Doris Leung's, talk.

Apart from that, I have learnt that not all citizens in Hong Kong are as fortunate as I am. There are still women who are being treated badly by others. Mrs. Leung told us a story about her own mother having cancer, who couldn't walk properly and needed a special kind of car to bring her to different places. At first, the disability car was just a lorry van with a net at the back of the car. Some citizens from foreign countries even laughed at it, saying it was a truck for poultry. Hearing that, Mrs. Leung made up her mind that she had to create another kind of vehicle. Then, The Diamond Cab came into her mind. Nowadays, we often see these cabs on the streets.

Another place we visited, Good Kitchen, was a place for people who have a low income. Good Kitchen also provides healthy food, which includes no salt, no sugar and no preservatives. I highly recommend this restaurant to all the citizens of Hong Kong as it is very cheap and customers can afford it. The kitchen uses no fire cooking which is both environmentally-friendly and maintains the kitchen in a clean state.

Through this trip, I have learnt the importance of cherishing what I have because many others suffer. From now on, I will keep my things well and not waste any of our precious food and other resources.

Snapshots

Inside The Good Kitchen...



Talking about The Good Kitchen, we were all listening attentively...



Talking about The Good Lab...



Rows of famous people's signatures in the Good Kitchen...



References:

1. <http://goodlab.hk/tch/>
2. www.diamondcab.com.hk
3. <http://www.goodkitchen.com.hk/site/portal/Site.aspx?id=H46-477&lang=zh-TW>