

THE CULTURE BASHING OF CHINA

Prof. Dr. Hugo de Garis

profhugodegaris@yahoo.com
http://profhugodegaris.wordpress.com

Most of these paragraphs were written in 2007-8, after having lived a year or two in China as an artificial brains professor (2006-now). They are extracts from my second book “Multis and Mono : What the Multicultural Can Teach the Monocultured : Towards the Creation of a Global State” (link). Other paragraphs were added recently.

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Poor and Dirty

China is different from the six other nations I have lived in. All the other nations are developed nations, the richest nations. China is poor, developing. In exchange rate terms, China has about a twentieth of the standard of living of the average American, so why would any American or any westerner want to live in Chinese relative poverty? Why indeed? So why am I here? Because I have been given a salary that is competitive with what I had in the US. It can be done. It is a matter of Chinese governmental policy. If it decides to treat talented foreigners well, then they will be tempted to come.

In cities like Guangzhou, Shanghai, etc, the government will not need to make special decisions. In a less than a decade, those cities will be competitive with western living standards. So paradoxically, China is currently poor but soon to be rich, because it is growing so fast. It's just a matter of using the compound interest formula. If you have \$P that grows at a rate of r% every year, then after Y years your \$P will have grown to \$A where $A = P(1+r/100)^Y$.

For cities like Guangzhou, Shanghai, etc, with a growth rate of about 15%, then A will double every 5 years. 5 years !! So it is fair to say that America's “position” is greatly superior to China's at the time of writing, but that its “momentum” is greatly inferior. The US is growing at about 3% a year. Every time I returned in the past to the US after visiting China, I felt that the Americans were asleep!

But despite my own personal income, I have to deal with the general poverty all around me, the dirt in the streets, the brutalized ignorant faces of the peasants streaming in from the countryside villages to seek their fortunes in the more prosperous cities. These poor creatures, poor financially, spiritually, educationally, stare vapidly into space, lost, crushed, bewildered by the city life they see all around them that is so alien to them. China still has about 600 million peasants living in villages with their oxen and rice paddies. I see them, the peasants and the paddies in their millions as I look out from the train windows. China has a million villages, and still has a long long way to go before the whole country is rich.

During my first summer full time in China, I visited the north-west, and saw people so poor they didn't even use money. They lived off their yaks and goats. Their faces were unwashed. They looked on us as Martians, with our cars and cell phones and digital cameras. The government is pouring money into the area, to build up the infra structure, particularly railways, to stimulate economic growth in that part of the country, otherwise, the disparities of wealth between the prosperous east and impoverished west may become so great, that the two will split. Most of the PLA (Peoples Liberation Army) soldiers are from the poorer west. What will happen when they get sufficiently angry at the inequalities? This leads me to the next major topic.

Dictatorship

As almost everyone on the planet knows, China is ruled by a dictatorship, a one party, supposedly Marxist based state, which does not tolerate dissenters, and throws them in jail, sometimes tortures them or even kills them. China is despised by the west for its lack of respect for the rights of the individual. So, again, why am I in China? In practice, I am barely conscious of the presence of the CCP (Chinese Communist Party). If I were totally a-political, then I could live quite a carefree life here. So far I have had no “run in” at all with the government.

I have no intention to be a martyr, so very probably this critical part of this section on China will simply be censored before publication in China, as were any negative comments about Mao Zedong in my previous book when it was published in China. If Chinese readers want to read the uncensored version (assuming the American publishers don't censor the negative comments I make about the US in this book?!) they will have to read the English version.

One of the preconditions that will need to be satisfied before large numbers of westerners come to China is that the country becomes a democracy. Otherwise, the talented politically conscious westerners will simply refuse to come, feeling too ashamed of the political backwardness of the country to want to have anything to do with it. There are some 120+ democracies now in the world, of a total of about 190+ countries. China is in the bottom third, hardly something to be proud of.

To get some idea of the level of dictatorial practice in China, one can consult the rankings provided by <http://www.worldaudit.org/democracy.htm> which attempt to compare the levels of democratic development in all the countries of the world. Of 210 countries, it gives China a “Democracy Rank” of 126, a “Press Freedom Rank” of 138, and a “Corruption Rank” of 57, where a score of 1 was the most democratic (Finland) and 210 was the worst.

What then is the prospect of China becoming a democracy in the coming years? I ask this question all the time of my Chinese colleagues who feel relaxed enough with me to tell me what they truly think. A lot of them are saying 5-10 years, or 10-20 years, some say 50 years. I doubt very much it will be as long as 50 years. My own estimate is that it will be in the 10-15 year range. (See Fig. 1 in Chapter 3).

China already has a form of democracy in the villages. Local leaders are elected by the villages themselves. So at least half of the Chinese live in a form of democracy, at least at the village level, but not at the town and city level. The mayors of cities are appointed by the CCP, undemocratically, not by the people, and not with rival parties competing for peoples’ votes. But in Guangzhou, academics are now pushing for democratic reforms in that city. Perhaps the snowball has already started rolling?

How do I think democracy will come to China? The big question is whether it will come from inside the CCP or from outside it. I hope the reforms will come from inside, because if not, then there may be violence, perhaps even war. Just before the Tiananmen Square massacre, when Deng decided to decimate the students demonstrating for democracy, surveys showed that about 60+ % of Beijing residents wanted to live in a democracy.

Similar or higher figures would probably hold in most eastern cities at the time of writing. So why do we not see massive demonstrations of “people power” in China’s city streets the way we have seen in so many other countries that have already made the transition from dictatorship to democracy?

Well, fear. The Chinese are afraid, because the CCP leadership is terrified it says of “chaos”. There have been terrible incidents in Chinese history, when uprisings caused tens of millions of deaths. In the middle of the 19th century, at about the same time as the US Civil War, the so-called Taiping rebellion killed about 20 million people.

Individual protesters or writers are often imprisoned. The CCP claims that if democracy were to come to China, there would be chaos in China, and huge numbers of people would be killed. They therefore clamp down heavily on dissenters, making the Chinese afraid of their own unelected government.

The CCP leadership only had to look at what happened in Russia under Gorbachev when he loosened up politically with his perestroika and glasnost programs, or even worse, what happened to some of the eastern European dictators, some of whom were killed by their peoples. There are still many democracy protesters in China’s gulags or “laogai” as they are called. The world should know about China’s laogai and the word itself.

Is the fear of chaos on the part of the CCP leadership, if attempts were made to install democracy in China, a legitimate concern? Or is it more the case that the corruption levels amongst CCP local government (and higher level) officials, who have profited mightily from their positions of power to make commercial deals with local business men, are such, that if democracy were to come, bringing with it the rule of law, the courts, freedom of the press, muckraking journalists, and many more lawyers, then they would lose their privileges?

So it would then be understandable that they would want to crack down on democracy dissenters, to keep their corrupt privileges, would it not? I just don't know how deep, and how high up the corruption goes. If it is so wide spread that the CCP cannot be reformed, as I suggest in my "PLAN" below, then there will be no choice other than pushing it aside with "people power" as has happened in many other countries.

Actually, as is mentioned several times in this book, experience shows that in about ¾ of cases in which a dictatorial regime is replaced by a democratic one, the overthrowing democratic party is in fact a faction of the former dictatorial party. Such transitions are usually smoother, and less revolutionary. "People power" type revolutions (e.g. the Philippines) which push the dictatorial leaders out of power are more prone to violence, because they are more revolutionary.

For me it is a toss up, between the two routes, i.e. whether it is more likely that the change to democracy will occur inside or outside the party. One thing for sure, for me, and many others I have talked to, is that it is inevitable that China will become a democracy in time. (See Fig. 1 in Chapter 3.) The country is growing so fast, that there are already about 100 million middle-class, educated Chinese. As that number grows, sooner or later, we will see "people power" take root, and democracy will spring up spontaneously, because the majority of the people want it, and will no longer tolerate not having it. That is what "people power" means. Look at Indonesia and the East European countries after Gorbachev.

The internet is having a major effect on students and the richer portion of the Chinese population. The CCP has taken great efforts to censor it. There is talk that some 30,000 people are employed in China to censor the internet pages coming into the country. For example, I cannot get text files from the BBC World Service, but I can listen to their news broadcasts.

The reasoning being, that so few Chinese can understand spoken English, that even if they had the internet (160 million people in China do already, and the number is growing rapidly) then they couldn't listen. The foreigners in China can then listen to the spoken broadcasts, so don't complain as much. The censorship is subtle. One cannot accuse the CCP as being stupid, at least not with the "small picture". But some things cannot be done subtly, for example if I type in a keyword such as "laogai" (China's extensive labor camp system for political prisoners), nothing comes up.

But, as all the students know, there are ways of getting around the censorship and getting access to anything. My students quickly told me of software that can circumvent the CCP censorship. Thank god. So I can keep in touch with everything, read what I want. If millions of students can do the same, then the CCP is doomed. The next generation of Chinese citizens, the educated ones, will be a different breed. They will see the world so differently from Mao and his cronies. They will have been educated by a world wide perspective from the internet. They will be ashamed of China's political backwardness, and be motivated to get rid of it.

Then there are the "returnees", i.e. Chinese students who studied in the west and have decided to return to China, now that the country is really on the move. They want to be part of it, as do I. They have actually lived in the west, felt first hand the advantages of freedom of speech, of political parties, of respect for the individual, of the rule of law, of high living standards. They want all this for China too, and are just waiting in the wings for China to make the transition. It's all only a question of time.

So, how will the transition occur? I'm hoping that within the CCP there is a PLAN, i.e. a detailed step by step plan for a smooth transition to democracy. If the Communists play their cards right, they may not only arrange a smooth transition, but stay in power as well, because the CCP does have one overwhelming advantage that any fledgling party would not have, and that is experience in governing the country.

If such a plan does not exist, then it should, because without it, the transition will have to come from outside the CCP, and that may mean violence, perhaps even war. Thus if the CCP has any concern for the wellbeing of the Chinese people, it should make the transition from within. But how?

If a plan does not exist, then here is the skeleton of one. I have not studied this question in detail, because it is not my specialty. There are academics around the world in political science departments of universities, whose specialty is "transitology", i.e. the study of the transition from dictatorial governments to democracies. They have elaborate plans for such transitions, in various circumstances. With 120+ democracies in the world now, there have been plenty of examples to examine and theorize about. Doubtless, there are such plans for China. Here is my plan. Call it the "de GARIS Plan".

"How the CCP Can Stay in Power after the Transition to Democracy"

1. Study the internet to find transitological plans for China.
2. Pick the most appropriate, most realistic one.
3. Implement it.

If no such plan exists (hard to imagine) then :-

1. Set a date for national elections, e.g. 3 years in the future.

2. Allow rival political parties to be formed and give them media time to make their case.
3. Allow freedom of the press and the internet.
4. Systematically purge and punish the corruptors from the CCP.
5. Advertise these purges, to give the public the idea that the CCP is reforming itself vigorously, to stay in power.
6. Re-label the CCP to CSDP (Chinese Social Democratic Party).
7. Make a strong case to the public that the CSDP is the only party in the country with real experience of government. “Do you want your country run by amateurs?”
8. Bring in the rule of law, train more lawyers, make modern laws, commercial, civil, etc. Modernize the courts.
9. By the end of the 3 years, the CSDP should be a modern western style political party.
10. Hold elections and bring China into the modern world.

Is this plan naive? If it were to be implemented, what could go wrong with it? Would there be chaos as the CCP top bosses fear? Would the Chinese people go ape? Would they behave responsibly? China has never had much of a democratic tradition. There have been a few quasi-democratic elections in China in the 20th century, but their consequences were soon snuffed out.

I suggest that the CCP arrange “public chats” rather like Roosevelt used to do on the radio to the American public. HU Jintao, the current Chinese leader could explain on TV talks to the public that Chinese democracy is coming, starting on a given date, when the elections will be held, that protestors may protest, but not destroy the country. If things get out of hand, the military will be called in. Trade unions will be allowed, with the same warning. Newspapers will stop being censored, but again, the journalists should be pressured not to whip up a frenzy, so that the transition can be smooth. Too risky? Too dangerous?

I may live to see the transition, now having a Chinese wife and feeling committed to stay in China for many years. I hope the transition when it comes will be peaceful and planned. I’m predicting it will occur in about 10-15 years from the time of writing. See Fig.1 in Chapter 3.

The Individual Disrespected

One of the first things that shocked me about the Chinese was their lack of respect for the rights of the individual. China is Asian. Family comes first, not the individual. China has never had a democracy for very long. There is no tradition that respects the rights of the individual. There is very little in the way of the “rule of law” in China, so people cannot be readily sued for damaging others. It will take many years of democracy in China and the rule of law to “socially engineer” the Chinese people to feel that individuals have rights.

One of the greatest offences in this regard in my view is the fact that the CCP still holds up Mao Zedong as a hero, a leader, a god in some respects. But in reality, the guy was a tyrant, who, according to a recent biography written by a Chinese British woman Jung Chang, killed 70 million people in peace time. That's more than Stalin or Hitler, making him the greatest criminal in history, if what she says is true. Judging by the number of top people she interviewed in many countries who knew Mao, she is probably correct.

The obvious question then arises. How can any well informed Chinese person have pride in his own country when the very symbol of the leadership of the party governing the country is history's greatest criminal, i.e. Mao Zedong, killer of 70 million. I have a book by his private doctor, who said Mao had a harem and venereal disease that he readily transmitted to his 20 year old women, claiming that he "washed himself in them". He also said that Mao rarely took a bath or cleaned his teeth.

Mao caused thousands of his own soldiers to be killed just to further his own ambitions, or far worse, in the time of the great leap forward, he had so many peasants work on the village blast furnaces gathering already made steel implements to melt them down to make (low grade unusable) steel (to do what? make steel implements?) that the harvests were too small, resulting in the greatest famine in Chinese history, in which about 30 million Chinese peasants died, 30 MILLION! Mao then lost prestige and power within the CCP for this.

To get back his power he launched the "Cultural Revolution" by giving free train rides to millions of high-school-student "Red Guards" to rampage through the countryside, to depose, torture and kill people who had different beliefs from him. *Several hundred million* people had their lives made miserable for a *decade*. Many committed suicide. The universities were shut down for a decade. (My own Chinese wife was a Red Guard and did not get the education her intelligence merits as a result). The national level of production was lower when Mao died, roughly 30 years after governing the country, than when he started. He knew nothing of economics.

Fortunately for the country, one of his fellow leaders he had purged several times was the little (but smart) guy, Deng Xiaoping, who was forced to work as a laborer for some years. When Mao died, he grabbed power, had Mao's wife and cronies arrested and steered China into market capitalism. At the time of writing, China has had nearly 30 years of Dengism, and it has been spectacularly successful economically.

Politically however, China is still 3rd world. Since Deng and subsequent CCP leaders owe their power to Mao, the founder of the CCP government, they use his image to help themselves stay in power. If the Chinese people knew the truth about Mao, the way western countries do, then their government would be utterly discredited.

Hence, as a part of the decorruption process in the plan for Chinese democratization, Mao will need to be purged, similar to the way Khrushchev publicly discredited Stalin. The CCP will need to publicly discredit Mao, and distance themselves from him. They will have to take down all Mao statues, including the huge portrait of him facing the

Tiananmen Square. No modern self respecting state can have as its symbol the image of the world's greatest mass murderer. All the Chinese bank notes which currently feature Mao's face will have to be redesigned. I suggest Mao's face be replaced by Sun Yat Sen's, who was the leader of the party which overthrew the old Qing Dynasty in 1911. Sun Yat Sen wanted China to be "modern, rich, and free", i.e. he was a democrat.

China cannot become the world's leading nation, i.e. the most respected nation in the world, the way the US is today, as long as it honors Mao. For China to become "number one" it must totally dissociate itself from Maoism, and get rid of the CCP, or at least reform it so thoroughly that it becomes the CSDP, a democratic party. I suspect all this will happen in the next 5-15 years. I may be wrong, but we shall see.

A Culture of Liars

One of the most maddening characteristics of the Chinese from the western view point is that they are not to be trusted, i.e. in the sense that they will lie to you far more readily than is normal in western countries. One's impression is that the Chinese give a lower priority to the value of truth than do westerners. They live in a culture of constant lying so they learn not to take statements too literally.

In a culture which does not have the rule of law, where the idea of a contract is not sacrosanct and a binding legal document, then breaking a contract is for them not a big deal. I have been the victim of this to some extent. I hope that once the rule of law has been well established in China, where contracts are enforced as they are in most countries in the world, then when one says something to another person, that the probability of it being true in China will go up.

Chinese on the whole don't care much for individuals outside their own circle. If they have no guanxi (pronounced gwun she), i.e. relations, with someone, then the probability is higher that that person will be treated badly than would be the case in a similar situation in the west, because westerners have been brought up to consider the rights of other individuals, even strangers, as individuals, i.e. as people, people with rights.

This kind of thinking is foreign in China, and is one of the aspects of daily life in China that really gets me down. In practice, I find I can only tolerate a certain small dose of Chineseness per day. I'm fine when I'm lecturing, because for the moment its in English, and when I'm at home with my 10,000 books, but when I'm dealing with Chinese bureaucracy, or with Chinese in the high street, then out come traditional Chinese values and the cultural clashes come to the surface.

Sloths

Another maddening daily characteristic of many Chinese is their intellectual or organizational slothfulness. It is worst with government services. In the past, when the

whole economy was government planned and controlled (i.e. before Deng's time) when people got a government job, it was a job for life, i.e. what the Chinese call "an iron rice bowl", i.e. one that would not break, i.e. a lifelong meal ticket, a safe secure job for life, in which one is paid irrespective of the quality of the job you do, in other words you are unaccountable.

Under such circumstances, and with the general lack of respect for the individual in Chinese culture, many such government employees give appallingly lazy service. I label them "bu-zhidao-ers" i.e. "I don't know-ers", because typically, what they say to you when you ask them something, or to do something for you is, "bu zhidao" ("I don't know"). Basically their attitude is that they don't give a damn about you or your needs, they only want to collect their pay check for minimum effort.

As you get closer to the coastal cities and especially towards the south east, the general service level increases. People seem more on-the-ball and less mentally lazy in general. My Chinese wife lived in Guangzhou (China's richest city) before she moved to live with me, and she can't stand the bu-zhidao-ers of the city we now live in.

I suppose I take it for granted that the level of service and efficiency of the western countries may be a result of centuries of capitalism. In the capitalist system, people are held accountable for the work they do. If they do a bad job they get fired, so they are motivated to perform at acceptable levels to keep their jobs. I noticed I get much better service and clearer directions in Shanghai and Guangzhou than in most other cities. The mentality is different. They seem to care more about you as a person. I suppose they have been more westernized, more "capitalized".

Living in China has given me a healthy respect for competition. When two or more companies compete, prices usually go down, efficiency increases, and you are more likely to get "service with a smile". I remember living in Brussels in the early 1980s when it could take 6 months to get a telephone. In the US at the same time with several telephone companies, you could get a phone installed after a single call and the same afternoon. Vive Adam Smith, (but only up to a point, we still need national health services).

Guanxi, not Rule of Law

Guanxi (pronounced "gwun shee") is the Chinese term for "connections", "relations", "string pulling", "insider dealings", that is a major component in social and business relations in China. It is the way most things get done. But fundamentally it is dishonest and unfair. It is cronyism, nepotism, and quite incompatible with the "rule of law".

Chinese culture is ancient, i.e. approximately 5000 years old, and for all that time, it has never been a modern democracy or had the rule of law that is the norm in more politically modern countries. Therefore favoritism is the norm, and more qualified candidates for posts are often rejected in favor of candidates who have "guanxi". This is not good for

the country, because then the best people are not in the best jobs. As a result the whole country is run less efficiently and effectively than it could and should be.

In a country with a weakly developed “rule of law”, it is much easier to “screw” people and not be afraid of being sued. In the west, it is almost unthinkable to treat people constantly as “suckers” to be taken advantage of and exploited, if they are outside one’s guanxi circle. In the west, if one is “screwed”, exploited, abused, wronged, then there is always the law and lawyers that can be called upon, to take the offending party to court, and sued.

In business, in China, contracts are often not met, and dishonest dealings are common place. Major business leaders, who are now members of the CCP (Chinese Communist Party) due to recent reforms, are pushing hard for business relations to be made contractual, and not based on guanxi, so that if a contract is broken, abused, or ignored, then the offending company or people can be taken to court.

Since China is still a dictatorship, the Chinese media is not free, being subject to the censorship of the party. Hence corruption and financial scandals occur all the time. CCP members themselves are often the perpetrators of these corrupt practices, because they are in positions of power and are largely unaccountable.

Without a muckraking tradition in the Chinese media, and the fact that the few whistle blowers who exist are often jailed by the CCP bureaucrats, it is not surprising that corruption is rife in China. The CCP is highly conscious that the general contempt of the Chinese public for corrupt CCP members may eventually bring down the party, so there have been thousands of prosecutions by the CCP against corrupt CCP officials.

But the CCP faces a dilemma in regard to the endemic corruption levels in the country. To get rid of the corruption, a proper rule of law would be needed, plus a free press to hunt down and to complain about the more notable cases. But a free press and legal openness is precisely what corrupt CCP officials, who are in power, do NOT want. A free press would result in an avalanche of criticism of the CCP, leading to its downfall, so the CCP keeps a very tight rein on the country’s media. So, as long as the CCP remains in power, corruption and guanxi will continue.

These two characteristics make business dealings with Chinese very difficult for non-Chinese. They make China look backward, 3rd world, unmodern. If China is to become a modern country, it will need to create a rule of law, a free press, and to discourage Guanxi (which will be very difficult, given its deeply held cultural roots). In other words, China needs to become a democracy. Then nearly all the above problems will be cleared away automatically.

Puritanical

China is surprisingly puritanical. To a large extent, this is due to its third world poverty, and the culture’s great age. For the vast majority of Chinese people, and for the vast

majority of its history, it has not had modern contraception, so it is understandable that Chinese attitudes to sex and “the pleasures of the flesh” are many decades, if not a century, behind the west. At the time of writing, Chinese sexual attitudes and practices are very close to those of the Brits in Victorian times (i.e. of the later 1800s). In present day China, conversations on sexual topics are generally considered to be “inappropriate for polite society”, i.e. it is not Chinese custom to talk freely about such topics, in contrast to western countries. What would be called “erotic literature” by the French or Germans, or “girly magazines”, or “porn” by the more puritanical Brits and Americans, are called “yellow books” in China, with the word “yellow” having strong negative connotations of “sleazy”, “low class”, “lewd”, etc.

The unconscious, unquestioned Chinese attitude that sexuality outside traditional marriage is taboo puts China way behind the west. It has certainly not yet had its sexual revolution. The (contraceptive) pill does exist in China, and is moderately popular, but with a millennia old anti sexual tradition, and a lack of a “romantic” tradition between the sexes (e.g. parents and older generation “go-betweens” choose the marriage partners of the children, thus merging families and often land ownership, but the level of romantic compatibility of the partners is often not considered to be irrelevant), plus a dictatorial government which is equally puritanical, it is unlikely that China will see its traditional “anti-sex” attitudes change much until China becomes a democracy.

The Chinese CCP bans not only political messages that threaten it, it also blocks sex sites on the internet. I remember being surprised one time when I was with my Chinese wife, spending the night in a minor Chinese city, having the manager of the hotel knock on our bedroom door, saying that we had to show a marriage certificate, otherwise his hotel would be fined heavily by local CCP party leaders. Obviously the CCP disapproves of “one night stands” in hotels, so different from Japan.

It is therefore not surprising, given the traditional anti-sex attitudes and a sexually repressive government, that sex education in China is virtually non-existent. For example, my own Chinese wife has occasional periodic outbreaks of oral herpes. She didn't even know what it was. She said it is extremely common in China, and that it was some kind of fever.

I can believe it is very common in China, because I see it on the street everywhere. I assume from this, since there is no sex education in the schools and nothing on TV about such things, that most Chinese are unaware that there are two kinds of herpes, oral and genital. People can catch oral herpes by kissing someone with a herpes outbreak in full bloom. Perhaps her mother, in total ignorance, passed on the oral herpes virus to her by kissing her when she was a baby? Needless to say, I never kiss my Chinese wife, a situation so different from what I had with all the other women I have known intimately (save one who also had oral herpes).

Western countries are full of sexual “how to” books in the bookstores. Over the decades, these books have had a liberating effect on populations, as people learn superior sexual techniques that bring sexual joy to millions. Westerners know about the clitoris, the G

spot, Kegel exercises, female ejaculation, multiple and continuous orgasms etc for women, and prostate and continuous “oozing” orgasms etc for men. In the western countries it is common place for couples to experiment sexually to determine their sexual compatibility. In many western countries, the traditional institution of marriage is dying out, as couples simply live together, the attitude being “With efficient contraception and both sexes having careers, who needs the state to give a rubber stamp to a private relationship!”

Nothing like the above exists in China. It is way too sexually repressed to have such knowledge. The freedom to educate the Chinese public into such knowledge does not exist, and will certainly continue not to exist under the current CCP regime. Thus, virtually the whole Chinese population lives in sexual ignorance, and suffers accordingly, in typical “mono” style. Since so few Chinese have had relationships with westerners, or have lived outside China, few of them know what sexual freedoms feel like. Most Chinese see sex as “yellow”, in the same sense as traditional Americans call sex “dirty”, a puritanical attitude they inherited from the Brits. To the French, equating sex with dirt, is simply mentally ill.

Young, more affluent Chinese, especially those with access to the internet, can often find sex sites. The CCP employs, I read, some 30,000 people whose job it is to censor and block web sites, largely of two types, namely, those that are anti government, and those that are sexually explicit.

Chinese students make it their business to know of software that circumvents this government censorship, and regularly keep each other up to date with the latest anti-censorship products. Brilliant minded computer scientists construct increasingly sophisticated anti-censorship software in a constant “cat and mouse” game with the anti-anti-censorship software created by the CCP sponsored programmers.

These anti-censorship software programmers tend to live outside of China, often in the US. It is generally thought that the US programs are the best, and the toughest for the CCP programmers to crack. Often these US programs are written by Chinese, who have an “axe to grind” against the CCP, who resent censorship, and use their anti censorship software to fight the Chinese government. They appear to be winning, but only if you are rich enough and well enough informed to be aware of the existence of such software. The Chinese government is certainly not going to tell the Chinese public about its existence.

The net effect of Chinese student use of anti-censorship software is that they do get access to western sexual movies etc, and sex instruction books. The younger generation, with internet access, is being influenced by the much freer attitudes towards sex of westerners, and is changing its traditional attitudes towards sex, but not a lot. Personally, I don't see China going through a sexual revolution, comparable to what happened in Europe and North America, once the contraceptive pill was discovered in the 1960s, until the CCP falls, and a democratic China modernizes its sex education policies and sexual attitudes.

Until that happens (probably another 10-15 years from the time of writing) the Chinese will continue to live in a state of repressed sexual ignorance and sexual poverty.

I've been shocked at times by the verbal venom of some Chinese women in the poor areas of some cities against their husbands. It is obvious to me these women are profoundly sexually repressed, and have probably not had a decent orgasm in years. This contrasts so strongly with the "bien basee" (French slang for "well fucked") women of Paris. The French attitude to sex is so opposite, and it shows. There is a saying in French "une femme heureuse, est bien aime et bien basee" ("a happy woman is well loved and well fucked"). When I observe French women on the Paris metro, and compare the high percentage of such women in French culture with Chinese women (and men) I feel the French have a ton to teach the Chinese (and the rest of the world) on the sexual front.