

# Gossip is Life

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“Hey, Mark, have you heard that Lucas in the next house in the field with his cows counted 196 of them, but when he rounded them up he had 200?”

“Have you heard that a famous star will kill vegetarian vampires with a steak to the heart in his drama?”

“Have you heard that Apple Inc. is going to release a new type of mobile phone with ten cameras?”

Ladies and gentlemen, have you asked or been asked similar questions? Of course. People's curiosity about celebrity gossip is far greater than the influence of many people who contribute to the country. For example, Yu Min, the father of the hydrogen bomb, died in January last year, but people didn't pay much attention to it. Instead, the relationship between the gossip stars Wei Dahun and Yang Mi developed. In other words, everyone has the curiosity to gossip, but it seems that some people's curiosity grows extraordinarily fast and thus more prosperously.

People like to talk about other people. Jeremy Cohen, a psychologist at Williams College, says that, in fact, most of the gossip people spread comes from life. Life is often the closest word to people. In our life, whether people have a serious job or not, they will sit down and chat whenever they have time. So what is the content of the chat? Obviously, two white-collar workers in the workplace quietly talk about which high-end restaurant their boss will go to after work; several housewives at the door discuss that the son of the next aunt's family has been admitted to the business department of Harvard University; in the school, one girl tells the other that Jack loves Rose of the next class. It's like a new study published in the Journal of Social Psychology and Personality Science which finds that people gossip in their spare time; so, it's easy to find that the topics they talk about are always focused on other people, and that no one likes to hear gossip about themselves, right?

I think that human beings have an innate desire to know other people's lives. Celebrity gossip has become an industry worth more than \$3 billion, according to a recent survey. Your life may be more charming than mine. We may not have said that, but there is always an idea in our heart that we want to explore other people's lives. Take me as a good example. As a senior K-pop Star chaser, Weibo, Instagram, Twitter, and other social media apps and websites are my permanent places. At the beginning of this year, dancer Oh Sehun and rapper Park Chanyeol, in my favorite K-pop group Exo, bought a building in the richest block south of Jiangnan City, Seoul, South Korea. As soon as the news came out, my daily topic of contacting Korean friends was, "They are really rich." Not only that, because of the news that they bought a building, my Korean friends and I began to gossip about the lives of other Korean idol artists. We investigated their property and even spent half of the day gossiping on the private lives of famous people. The reason why my friends and I focus on their lives is that these topics are interesting. Because people usually think that what they like is the best or interesting.

Although, I think everyone likes gossip, do you wish to refute my point of view? Perhaps, you will say: "Women love gossip more than men, even men never gossip." Maybe you're right, but I want to say that everyone likes gossip, no matter if they're men or women. However, we should be clear that women and men have different focuses. The two women would say, "Did you hear about the new corduroy pillows? They're making headlines everywhere!" And two men would say, "Did you know SUHO bought another Mercedes that was produced by Toyota?" Yes, women's gossip is more about life and men's gossip is more about identity. But if you say men don't gossip? It's impossible. It is human nature to compare ourselves with others and gossip is a kind of boring conversational psychology.

Gossip is actually a complex and common phenomenon, and it is not only negative. "I think gossip is a very common thing," said Elena Martinescu, a postdoctoral researcher at King's College London who has studied workplace gossip. "Gossip can make people correct what they

are criticizing," Martinescu said. For example, if you are always criticized for late delivery of a plan, when you hear rumors about yourself, you may be inspired to deliver on time. In this way, gossip is not always negative, but it can bring different results to people.

Next door, they had a new car; the boss went to the Michelin restaurant for dinner; an actor admitted about the drugs. These seemingly unrelated topics really are our favorite things to talk about when we are bored. Of course, it is undeniable that we like to exclude ourselves and only say something about others. Because this is human instinct. Well, it turns out that you can only gossip about other people's lives. Calm down and think, is your life occupied by gossip circles?

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