

Perceptions Matter

A Chinese Saying says:

With money you can buy a house, not a home.
With money you can buy a clock, not time.
With money you can buy a bed, not sleep.
With money you can buy a book, not knowledge.
With money you can buy a doctor, not good health.
With money you can buy a position, not respect.
With money you can buy blood, not life.
With money you can buy sex, not love.

We might be able to add to this the following:

With money you can buy pleasure, not happiness.
With money you can buy a maid, not a friend.
With money you can buy a trip, not enjoyment.
With money you can buy a degree, not education.
With money you may be able to buy your way out of a crime, not honor.

You think it is a frog; I think it is a rabbit; we disagree, but we have nevertheless to respect each other's opinion in order to avoid a fight and live in peace.

An ideological or a religious man might say you are wrong and I am right; and therefore he may accuse you of committing a crime. A humanist, in contrast, is likely to say, you are wrong and I am right; so let us talk about it and try to stay friends and reconcile our differences.

Anger is an expression of frustration, while hostility and racism are an expression of prejudice and hate. Love, in contrast, is an expression of affection and devotion without which no life will be worth living.

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