

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

Recently, there is a heated discussion over the topic — Should filming movies in the city centre be allowed? Considering the enormous economic and cultural benefits filming movies in the city centre could bring to our city, I personally believe it should be allowed. To share some of the benefits, I'm writing to express my opinions over this controversy.

First of all, filming could help Hong Kong be international and create a positive image. Undoubtedly, movies, especially international or Hollywood movies, have a wide range of audience. While the city centre is where the most modern and impressive buildings and landmarks in the city gather, filming the city centre could show the audience around the globe how impressive and breath-taking Hong Kong buildings are. Moreover, the buildings and shops in the city centre are usually a blend of various styles and cultures, which makes city centre attractive and diverse. By watching the scenes filmed in the city centre, audience can gain a brief cognition towards our city, as well as making Hong Kong a more well-known and international place. I'm sure everyone would be proud when seeing scenes of Hong Kong city centre popping up in a film.

Secondly, filming in city centre boosts the economy and local tourism. Staff and actors spend their days and nights in the city during the filming process, which brings income to nearby shops, for example hotels and eateries. The filming process may also attract tourists to visit the city centre, this brings more job opportunities to nearby shops. As I've mentioned, filming in the city centre could help Hong Kong give a positive impression to the globe, making Hong Kong an international city. As a result, more people will feel good about visiting Hong Kong and more tourists will come to Hong Kong for entertainment. Beside entertainment, foreigners are also more willing to come to Hong Kong to work and invest. Which means, filming in the city centre could bring more business opportunities to Hong Kong, therefore local economy can be boosted.

Lastly, filming in the city centre makes the movie were engaging and down to earth. There are films of different games nowadays, Sci-Fic scary, comedy, romance.... Among all these movies of different themes, there are mainly 2 types of scenes — actual realistic footage and post-production. Indeed, with recent well-developed post-production techniques, scenes produced with computer visual effects are stunning to watch. However, actual footage make audience feel the sense of reality, thus actual footage can be very intriguing as well. Watching actual scenes filmed in city centre can make audience feel related and possibly involved in the plot, making the movie a lot more enjoyable and engaging.

To sum up, everything that has been mentioned, filming in the city centre definitely contributes to Hong Kong's positive image, boosts the local economy and tourism, and makes the movies engaging and relatable to audience. Wherever filming takes place, there'll inevitably be inconvenience caused, but with all the above benefits, I believe filming in the city centre is beneficial to our community.

Yours truly,

Chris Wong