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Why raising funds for ORBIS is justified?

A donation for ORBIS is needed. There are a lot of reasons to support my view. You will see how alarming the situation is and how much people need our help. You will see why we must raise funds for ORBIS instead of local charities.

First, ORBIS, a flying Eye-Hospital, saves eyesight worldwide. However, they cannot help everybody in need. Why is that? This is because they lack money. Statistics shows that there are more than 180 million people who are blind, nearly blind or going blind. Actually, 80% of the cases are avoidable, and most of them live in underdeveloped countries. They or their governments are not able to help at all. They need to be treated immediately. Compared to the local people, their needs are not as urgent as people who are nearly blind or going blind. In my opinion, as a student, we must help them by organizing some fund raising activities.

Second, ORBIS is the only organization which provides free treatments for eye diseases. Actually, you must understand that there are a lot of organizations which serve the locals in Hong Kong. They also receive money from various sources such as the Jockey Club, the Community Chest and the Government. Funds received are distributed to the local charitable organizations for charitable uses. Therefore, since Hong Kong people are being well taken care of, we must not neglect the unprivileged people who are in hopeless conditions on the other side of the world.

Finally, no one can imagine how much blind people suffer from their sickness. They have no chance to see the colourful world. Eyes are the windows of our souls. When they lose them, for them, the world is dark and for them there is no hope. So you see, compared to the people in Hong Kong, their needs are more urgent. The most important point is not how much we help, but who we help! Donating money to local people who are not in need doesn't make sense and it is extremely selfish, too. Charity has no national boundary.

Today, we live in a global society. We cannot live just for ourselves. We all want our world to be a better place. Please remember, "Charity should begin at home, but it should not stop there." Let us go further. As students and citizens of the world, let us share our love and give them hope. Therefore, donate money to local charity instead of ORBIS is totally wrong. We should focus on the global village and support the

Concern Group's decision by making a donation to ORBIS.