



What we are reading: Rest assured! The trend of the trend is reversed

T.C.

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"Today, overweight and obese surpass hunger, eventually become more infectious than suicide and surpass war." The author of "The Great Destiny of Mankind" pointed out that the modern people have the overwhelming divine ability to place their hopes on God's destiny. Like most mainstream intellectuals, Hala endorsed the unprecedented material civilization achievements of mankind, but paid more attention to the crisis of survival and existence, lack of soul and social injustice confronting mankind. Right-wing and conservative religions blame us for rebelling against authority and authority. As a result, today, All kinds of demise and corruption, alluring tempting fictional "great past."

To be prosperous, "no news is good news." No one is interested in "singing good". In order to monitor the power and reveal the inner situation, the media people have focused on the negative and just cater to the nature of the human being. Our life is pressing, our children are worried, and the time is healing. Therefore, the past is always beautiful and innocent. Today's standards are constantly rising and the road ahead is pessimistic.

However, looking at history and looking around the world, large images are very different. Well-known cognitive psychologist Steven Pinker through the data collected by specialized data organizations, indicating that global civilization continues to progress: from health, survival, wealth, fairness, environment, peace, security, fear of terrorism, democracy, equality of rights, knowledge, standard of living The evolvement of the 75 indicators in many areas of the crisis of joy and extinction shows that human civilization has been making good progress ever since its inception 200 years ago, especially in the past 30 years, with no exceptions.

"Singing well" is rarely valued by the general public or by the intellectuals. Modern historians even consider it contrary to the profession. Pinker once held a solo motion in the 2011 bestseller to prove that global violence is on the decline and has been widely recognized by many intellectuals. Seven years later, with greater ambition, Pinker became a "evidence-based" advocate of human progress Epic masterpiece. The new book "Enlightenment Now" was published a few days ago (February 13) and I quickly read it. I think this book is best for life. Bill Gates provides a preview and the author's recent Twitter share.

EN is divided into three. First of all, the professor will lay out a framework for the full application of modern science and analyze the conditions of humankind's survival. He will then use most of the 75 historical graphs to describe the conditions and causes of humankind's repeated goodwill in various fields since the Enlightenment. In the face of massive evidence, readers can hardly be persuaded. Although the academic conclusion on EN is still early, many recent book reviews have been generally positive. Historian David Wootton believes that at best, data analysis can only constitute a comfort history, but acknowledges EN as a good story.

Pinker has no intention of accusing the present person of "being blessed with blessing in blessing," and, more directly, with his current status, not afraid of attack from all sides, he dared to ignore academic taboo and misunderstanding and give his justice to modern civilization: "The enlightenment spirit constantly promotes mankind The ancestors replaced dogmas, traditions and authority with rational, debating and truth-seeking organizations, replaced superstition and magic with science, and pursued a narrow-mindedness of ethnic groups, nations, races, classes and beliefs with humanism's pursuit of universal prosperity Values ". In the last third, professors represent the three successful Enlightenment ideals of reason, science and humanism in modern languages, revealing a long absence.

Pinker, who published "Third Science of Culture" beyond empirical science and humanities in 2013, published Hongwen, "Science is not Your Enemy", and called on a few "second-culture" writers to put aside their preconceptions and not give up science : "Do not worry, science has a mission to enrich and diversify the academic knowledge of the humanities rather than obliterate them," followed by his high-profile debates with magazine editor L. Wieseltier for the contract. Although 5 years later, EN no longer mentions "disputes with intellectuals in the magazine," and even more clearly that science must serve humanism. Pinker does not forget to reiterate that "science is the most proud achievement of mankind and the universe." " Science goes beyond merely listing facts that have long been combined with philosophy and reason. "