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Are Locked Doors Always Safe?

Locked doors always seem safe, because they can prevent strangers from entering some specific places to protect the people insides. However, if a door is locked mistakenly, it is not only inconvenient but also unsafe. For example, the door on the first floor of the emergency ladder of the block one, residential college one, Zhejiang University international campus is locked both outside and inside. It seems quite secure that no one can use this door. However, what if fire happens? That no one can use this door to escape is a quite serious problem. Is this locked door safe? Apparently, this locked door cannot ensure people's safety when emergency happens. As we can see, the locked doors problem relates to security and safety. Locked doors provide us with security by preventing others from entering while they limit our possible escape, which does harm to our personal safety. Given that we need both security and safety, the best way to deal with this problem is to make a balance between them.

According to the above consideration, two possible solutions can be provided for the security department of the residential college one, Zhejiang University international campus.

One possible solution is that people need to scan their campus cards to enter the block one by the emergency ladder. Meanwhile, when people open other doors or the door on the first floor

inside, they do not have to use their campus cards. After this solution is conducted, people with campus cards can use the door freely while strangers are prevented from entering the block one, which ensures people's security. Besides, people are more likely to escape when emergency happens because of the access to all the doors, which guarantees people's safety. However, someone may argue that scanning the campus card to enter the block one by emergency ladder is quite inconvenient and annoying. What should be mentioned is that we all need to scan our campus cards to enter the block one regardless of the ways we use. Therefore, scanning the campus cards is necessary rather than inconvenient or annoying. The other possible solution is that people need to use their campus cards when they enter the floors they live on. Different from the first solution, this one switches the places where people need to scan their campus cards. On the one hand, both solutions prevent strangers from entering private places, which provides people with security. On the other hand, they both guarantee our safety by helping us escape when emergency happens.

This locked door is not a special case. Actually, the door on the first floor of each emergency ladder in the residential college one is locked, which causes huge potential safety hazard. Under this situation, if emergency happens, people will not be able to escape by the emergency ladder, which will cause unpredictable damage on people's personal safety. The locked doors problem relates to security and safety, both of which are the things that people need desperately. However, as a saying goes, "you can have a cake or eat it", they cannot be obtained fully at the same time. Therefore, we need to make a balance between them, trying to maximize the benefit they provide for us. In a word, locked doors are not always safe.