

玻璃心和生气 Snowflakes and taking offence

Hello. Welcome to 6 Minute English, I'm Neil.

大家好，欢迎收听六分钟英语，我是内尔。

And I'm Rob.

我是罗伯。

Rob, would you say that you are a snowflake?

罗伯，你觉得你是玻璃心吗？

Wow, I can't believe you said that, that's so offensive.

哇，真不敢相信你会这么说，真是太冒犯人了。

How could you be so rude?

你怎么会这么粗鲁？

So I guess that's a yes then?

所以我想你的回答是肯定的咯？

Sorry, I only asked.

不好意思，我就是问问而已。

Don't worry, I wasn't really upset, I just wanted to demonstrate the meaning of the word.

别担心，我没有真的不高兴，我只是想展示这个词的意思。

The word snowflake has taken on a new meaning in recent years.

最近雪花这个单词已经有了一个新的意义了。

These days it's used as an insult.

如今他被用作一种侮辱。

It's used to criticise people or groups that are seen to be very easily offended or upset by things that others say.

它被用来批评那些被认为很容易被其他人说的话冒犯或心生不悦的人或团体。

There is usually a political side to it too, isn't there?

这个词还有政治倾向，不是吗？

Yes, people who use the word snowflake tend to be from the political right and they usually use it about those on the political left, particularly millennials-young, socially aware adults.

是的，使用玻璃心这个词的人往往是来自右派的人，他们经常会把这个词用在左派的人身上，尤其是千禧一代——年轻的，有社会意识的成年人。

Well, we'll explore this topic in more detail shortly, but first a quiz question.

好了，我们稍后再探索这个话题，但是首先要回答一个小问题。

In which year was snowflake one of Collins Dictionary's words of the year?

玻璃心这个词是哪一年被评为柯林斯词典的年度单词的？

添加的词汇

surely

英:/'ʃʊəli/ 美:/'ʃʊrli/

adv. 稳当地；坚定地；无疑；[口]当然



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Was it a) 1996, b) 2006, or c) 2016?

是 A. 1996年, B.2006年, 还是 C. 2016年?

Well, we said it's quite a recent word so I'm going for c) 2016. Well, we'll find out if you're right later on in the programme.

恩, 我们刚刚说这是一个很新的单词, 所以我要选 C. 2016年。好的, 我们会在稍后的节目中揭晓答案。

The topic of offence is a very complicated one.

冒犯这个话题很复杂。

First what do we mean by offence, Rob?

首先, 我们说冒犯这个词是什么意思呢, 罗伯?

Thanks for that.

谢谢。

That is a really difficult question.

这真的是一个非常难的问题。

Something that is offensive is rude, insulting and makes people feel hurt and upset.

冒犯的东西是粗鲁的, 具有侮辱性, 并且会让人受伤或郁闷。

What's difficult about it, though, is that we don't all find the same things offensive.

不过困难的是我们对于冒犯的看法不尽相同。

Some people can be deliberately offensive and some people may be offensive without meaning to be.

有些人可能是故意冒犯, 而有些人可能只是无心之失。

Also, different people respond to offence in different ways-some accept it as the price of free speech and some try to stop the people they think are offensive from saying the things they do.

并且不同的人对冒犯的反应也不一样——有些人把它当做言论自由的代价一样接受, 而有些人则努力试图阻止那些他们认为失礼的人对他们所做的事情品头论足。

These terms come up quite a lot in discussions about equality, race, religion and of course, politics.

这些名词经常会出现关于平等、种族、宗教, 当然还有政治的讨论中。

The topic was discussed in detail in the BBC Radio programme Sweet Reason.

这个话题在BBC电台的节目《甜蜜理由》中被详细地讨论了。

Evan Davis presented the programme and here is the first part of his summary of the discussion.

伊万·戴维斯是这个节目的主持人, 以下是他对这个讨论总结的第一部分。

What does he say is the reason some people talk about offense?

他说有些人讨论冒犯的原因是什么?

First, on occasion, people probably do invoke offence when really they just have a political disagreement and on occasion groups that suffer discrimination or exclusion perhaps find it exhilarating or uniting to call out that discrimination.

首先，有时候人们确实很可能在有政治分歧的时候援引冒犯，并且有时候那些遭受歧视或排挤的团体可能会认为将其称为歧视会令人欢欣或令人团结。

He says that some people take offence when it's just a political disagreement.

他说有些人会将政治分歧当作冒犯而生气。

He says they invoke offence.

他说他们援引冒犯。

If you invoke something it means that you use it to support your point or explain your action.

如果你援引某事，意思是你将它用来支持你的观点或解释你的行为。

So to invoke offence is to say that we are acting this way because we are offended by what you have said, although the offence may only be a political difference rather than something truly offensive.

所以援引冒犯的意思是说我们这样做的原因是因为我们被你所说的话冒犯了，尽管那种冒犯只是一种政治差异，并不是真的具有攻击性。

Davis goes on to say that groups that do suffer from discrimination may get some feelings of unity when they call out discrimination.

戴维斯继续说道那些真的遭受歧视的团体会在质疑被歧视时获得一些团结感。

They feel more together when they publicise and highlight the discrimination they have experienced.

他们在公开和强调他们经受过的歧视时会觉得更加团结。

Even though some offence that is taken may not be genuine, that doesn't mean people don't have a right to be offended.

即使有些冒犯并不是真心的，但是这并不意味着人们没有权利生气。

Here's Evan Davis again.

以下仍然是伊万·戴维斯的话。

Where the so-called snowflakes **surely** have a point is this, societies are entitled to make certain things taboo and the millennials use of the word offensive is simply designed to say some views are not just wrong, they are in a special category of wrong.

所谓的玻璃心当然有其道理，即社会有权让某些事情变成禁忌，并且千禧一代使用“冒犯的”这个词只是被用来表明有些观点并不只是错误的，它们属于特定的错误类别。

His point here is that societies can decide that certain things are taboo.

他的观点就是社会可以决定某些东西是禁忌。

In this context something that is taboo is something that is regarded by society as being shocking and offensive and that it is OK for people to be offended by these things.

这里所说的禁忌指的是被社会当作是一件令人惊讶或有冒犯性的东西，并且人们因为这些事情而感到被冒犯，从而生气是没问题的。

And I think the point he makes is a good one.

我认为他的观点很好。

The word snowflake is usually used as an insult-but some people may feel proud to be a snowflake because it means they are standing up for a particular standard, they have a level of decency and social responsibility that is higher than that of those who are calling them snowflakes.

玻璃心这个词经常被用作一种侮辱——但是有些人可能会以此为荣，因为这意味着他们代表这一种特定的标准，他们拥有高于那些称他们为玻璃心的人的修养和社会责任感。

Well, I hope we haven't caused any offence today.

好的，我希望我们今天没有说出任何冒犯人的话。

Before we review the vocabulary, can we have the answer to today's question, Neil?

在复习词汇之前，我们能先揭晓今天问题的答案吗，内尔？

Of course, I asked in which year was snowflake one of Collins Dictionary's words of the year.

当然，我之前问玻璃心这个词是哪一年被评为科林斯词典的年度单词的。

Was it a) 1996, b) 2006, or c) 2016?

是 A. 1996年，B.2006年，还是 C. 2016年？

And I said c) 2016. It's got to be right!

我说的是 C. 2016年。肯定是对的！

Well, do you want to hear the story?

好的，你想听听这个故事吗？

Interestingly, the term was coined in 1996 in the book Fight Club, but it was in 2016 that it was one of the dictionary's words of the year.

有趣的是，这个说法1996年就在《搏击俱乐部》这本书中被造了出来，但是在2016年它才成为这部词典的年度单词的。

Now let's review our words of the day.

现在我们来回顾一下今天的单词的。

First there is offence.

首先是冒犯这个词。

People can take offence and be offended by something that is offensive.

人们会因为有冒犯性的事而认为被冒犯或生气。

Something that is offensive could be rude, insulting and shocking.

有冒犯性的事情可能是粗鲁的，有侮辱性的并且令人惊奇的。

It might take the form of humiliation or discrimination against a person or group.

它可能以对某个人或某个群体的羞辱或歧视的形式出现。

The term snowflake is a word used by some people to talk about other people who they think get offended too easily and unnecessarily.

人们使用玻璃心这个词来谈论他们认为太容易被冒犯的人，并且很没有必要。

They don't want to change their language or ideas just because snowflakes get upset.

他们不想仅仅因为玻璃心的不快而改变他们的话语或看法。

Then we had the word invoke.

接下来我们说到了援引这个词。

If you invoke something, you use it as a reason to explain your actions and feelings.

如果你援引某事，那么你将它当作解释你行为和感受的原因。

To call something out is to challenge it, to highlight it and look for justification.

呼喊某事的意思是质疑它，强调它，并且寻求公正。

Finally we have taboo.

最后我们说到了禁忌。

Something that society says is offensive and shocking.

某些社会称之为有冒犯性且令人震惊的事情。

So there we have it.

我们就说到这。

What do you think, Rob, of this topic?

罗伯，你怎么看这个话题？

Well, it is a very difficult subject, particularly when it comes to politics, religion and society.

嗯，这是一个非常难的话题，尤其是谈到政治、宗教和社会的时候。

Free speech is good but at times, particularly on social media, I think can be unnecessarily unpleasant.

言论自由是一件好事，但是有时候，尤其是在社交网络上，我认为可能会变得令人不快，并且这样是不必要的。

Well, try not to be offended but it is time for us to leave you for this programme.

好的，请不要生气，但是现在是时候结束今天的节目了。

Do join us next time.

请务必收听我们的下一期节目。

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It's free and it's brilliant, isn't it, Rob?

它是免费的，并且很棒，对吧，罗伯？

Absolutely!

那还用说！

See you soon, bye.

再会。

Bye bye!

再见!