

《既然清北毕业生都买不起房，那还抢购天价学区房有何用？》

导读:近日，北京学区房的价格一路高涨，再一次引起了人们的关注。很多人在欢迎，购买天价学区房值得吗？



A friend of mine bought an apartment of some 40 square meters for 8.2 million yuan (\$1.2 million) in a school district in Haidian District earlier this year. She was extremely happy that her three-year-old girl would enter an elite primary school in a few years. And she was even happier as she bought the house just before a new round of hike in real estate market prices.

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Well, it sounds like a comforting piece of news for the young mother, and her elation may last for many years. But when seeing my friend and her husband, both employees at established financial institutions, work so hard just for a house in certain school districts, I wonder what is so special about the education institution.

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Recently, soaring real estate prices in Beijing's coveted school districts have effortlessly made the headlines once again.

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The Xicheng district, home to a slew of top elementary and middle schools, has witnessed house prices surging above 200,000 yuan per square meter. A cramped apartment along the north of the second ring road had its price rise from 3.05 million to 5 million yuan within barely half a year. And an average of 100,000 yuan per square meter in the Zhongguancun technology zone and adjacent areas in the Haidian district, where many affiliated schools of top universities are located, is just commonplace.

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The ever-increasing prices of school district real estate have driven many parents mad and some even fled Beijing, a mega city they once pinned high hopes on. Earlier this month a couple of graduates from China's prestigious universities, Tsinghua and Peking, complained they could not afford an apartment within a decent school district for their children. The story has gone viral online with many asking why buy such a house now that China's highly-educated elite can hardly afford one?

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When an academic degree cannot guarantee decent living amid skyrocketing real estate prices, what's the point of making every effort to get a ticket for the next generation to top universities?

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Apart from a competitive mentality, the result of a rigid education system in China, these young parents are eager to make sure their children stay in a certain social bracket after edging themselves into the middle class or higher social circles.

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It is hoped that one day these dysphoric parents will take it in stride when their kids choose a different life trajectory.

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