

## “嫂”的疑惑

在飛機上聽到這樣的對話：

“上星期乘飛機到北京去，看見一位機艙服務員挺漂亮的，一打聽，才知道是空嫂。”

“那可‘相逢恨晚’了。”

香港的朋友聽到這多會摸不頭腦。其實，“空嫂”是依照“空姐”一詞創造的稱謂，指年紀稍長的已婚女性空中服務員。

根據《現代漢語詞典》的解釋，“嫂”原指兄長的女子，也指年紀不大的已婚婦女。可是，“嫂”一字在北京已演變為泛指三四十歲的婦女。內地現時以“嫂”來稱呼已婚女性的用法十分普遍，用途也越來越廣泛。除了“空嫂”之外，還有其他形形色色的“嫂”：

商嫂：做買賣的婦女

的嫂：的士(出租車)女司機

軍嫂：解放軍軍人的妻子

呼嫂：在傳呼台當傳呼員的已婚女子

警嫂：已婚女警

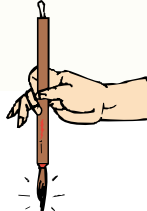
京嫂：尋找工作下崗北京婦女

月嫂：有專業護理經驗、負責向產婦提供產期母嬰護理的婦女

紅嫂：忠誠為國，熱心助人的婦女

芭嫂：藉練習芭蕾舞來健身的已婚婦女

下次，北京朋友說在飛機上碰到漂亮的“空嫂”，或者得到友善的“警嫂”幫忙，可別給弄糊塗了！



## 青梅竹馬

在小說中讀過這樣一句話：“兩個女孩自小青梅竹馬，感情要好。”“青梅竹馬”其實指男女孩童之間的率真情誼，也指自小一同長大，其後相戀或結成夫婦的男女。拿來形容同性朋友之間的友誼，未免不倫不類。

此語出自唐代李白詩《長干行》，是一首描述“商人婦”生活的敘事詩。詩中描寫兩口子年少時一塊兒玩耍：

“郎騎竹馬來，繞床弄青梅。

同居長干里，兩小無嫌猜。”

這幾句詩是說男女小孩同住一巷，感情深厚，女孩把玩着手中的青色梅子，男孩把竹竿當成馬來騎，繞着井邊追逐嬉戲，相親相愛、天真爛漫之情躍然紙上。

追本溯源，“青梅竹馬”這句成語用於男女之間才貼切恰當，可是有時候卻給誤用了。

“青梅竹馬”多與“兩小無猜”連用，兩詞都是出自《長干行》一詩。



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