‘Having Skin in the Game’ Is Not as Painful as It Sounds

“参与游戏”并不像听起来那么痛苦

And now, Words and Their Stories, from VOA Learning English.

现在，来自美国之音慢速英语的单词及其故事。

On this program we explore words and expressions in the English language. We give examples and notes on usage.

在这个节目中，我们探索单词和英语中的表达。我们给出了使用示例和注释。

Today we talk about the largest organ of the human body –- our skin! As our protective outer layer, our skin can certainly gather many cuts and wounds.

今天我们来说说人体最大的器官——我们的皮肤！作为我们的保护外层，我们的皮肤肯定会聚集许多伤口。

In English, we have many skin expressions. I wrote about some of them in an earlier Words and Their Stories.

在英语中，我们有许多皮肤表达。我在较早的文字和他们的故事中写过其中一些。

In that story, I talk about expressions like thick-skinned people – people who take criticism well. And if you are comfortable in your own skin, you are happy with who you are.

在那个故事中，我谈到了厚脸皮的人——善于接受批评的人。如果您对自己的皮肤感到舒服，您就会对自己是谁感到满意。

But today we talk about skin expressions that relate to having personal involvement in a certain situation.

但今天我们讨论的是与个人参与特定情况相关的皮肤表情。

If you have skin in the game, you are invested or involved in something directly. You have something at stake. In other words, you risk losing -- or gaining -- something. Usually, it is something financial.

如果你在游戏中有皮肤，你就会直接投资或参与某些事情。你有危险。换句话说，您冒着失去或获得某些东西的风险。通常，这是财务方面的事情。

To have skin in the game means you have an active interest in the success of something. If it fails, it affects you in some way. For example, workers who have stock in their company have skin in the game. So, they may work harder to make it successful.

参与游戏意味着您对某事的成功有积极的兴趣。如果它失败了，它会以某种方式影响你。例如，在公司持有股票的员工在游戏中有切身利益。因此，他们可能会更加努力地工作以使其成功。

You can also use this expression in the negative form. If you have no skin in the game, you have nothing at stake and nothing to lose. Having no skin in the game means you have no personal investment or risk in some goal, project, or situation. Again, we commonly use this expression when talking about business and finance.

你也可以在否定形式中使用这个表达式。如果你在游戏中没有皮肤，你就没有任何风险，也没有什么可失去的。在游戏中没有皮肤意味着您在某些目标、项目或情况下没有个人投资或风险。同样，我们在谈论商业和金融时通常会使用这个表达方式。

But not always. For example, let's say I try to give advice to a friend about her dating situation. But she just does not want to listen to my advice. I can tell her that when it comes to her relationships, I have no skin in the game. It doesn't affect me personally. I just don't want her to see her get hurt … again.

但不总是。例如，假设我试图就她的约会情况向朋友提供建议。但她就是不想听我的劝告。我可以告诉她，当涉及到她的人际关系时，我没有参与其中。对我个人没有影响。我只是不想让她看到她再次受伤……

We have another skin expression that is close in meaning.

我们有另一种含义相近的皮肤表达。

If something is no skin off your back, it does not affect you. It is of no interest or concern to you.

如果你的背上没有皮肤，它不会影响你。你对此不感兴趣或不关心。

Let's hear this one used between two friends.

让我们听听两个朋友之间使用的这个。

A: Hey, do you think I could borrow your lawn mower this weekend. My grass is getting really long.

A：嘿，你觉得这个周末我可以借用你的割草机吗？我的草长得很长。

B: Of course! You can pick it up anytime.

B：当然！您可以随时取走。

A: I promise I'll return it Sunday night. I know people are funny about loaning their tools out to others.

答：我保证我会在周日晚上归还。我知道人们对把工具借给他人很有趣。

B: Not me. Especially my lawn mower. I have two! So, really, it's no skin off my back. Keep it as long as you need it!

B：不是我。特别是我的割草机。我有两个！所以，真的，这不是我的背上的皮肤。需要多久就保存多久！

A: Thanks!

A：谢谢！

You might sometimes hear this expression said this way: it's no skin off my nose. Whether the skin is on your back or nose, the expression means the same thing.

你有时可能会听到这样的表达方式：It's no skin off my nose。无论皮肤是在你的背上还是鼻子上，表达的意思都是一样的。