Idiom by Lon Yan

“不敢苟同” (bu4 gan3 gou3 tong2) is meant to be a polite way of saying you don’t agree with what the other person is saying.

There is a slight apologetic tone to the idiom. It has the underlying meaning: not that I want to disagree with you, it’s just that I dare not agree with you without first doing some careful thinking.

Other speakers at the seminar believed the mainstream sentiment of the local community is to seek rights with a non-radical approach. So to radical ideas and actions, most people would probably respond by saying “不敢苟同” (bu4 gan3 gou3 tong2).

Terms containing the character “敢” (gan3) include:

- 勇敢 (yong3 gan3) – brave
- 敢於 (gan3 yu2) – to dare to
- 敢言 (gan3 yan2) – to have the courage to speak one’s mind
- 敢死隊 (gan3 si3 dui4) – a suicide squad