Forum: General Assembly Three

Issue: Empowering the youth, the aged, and the disabled

Student Officer: Kyu Hwan Choi, Head Chair of General Assembly Three

Introduction

The minorities of the society have been alienated by the fundamental power given during the past decades. They have been isolated for the reason that they are immature, decrepit or disadvantaged. In addition, since their physical conditions are not as strong as other male members of the society, they have gradually lost access to power in the society.

The youths are struggling in the society to expand their power due to the fact that there are too much existing members in the society who already possess certain kind of power. The youth unemployment has exponentially increased in the recent decades due to lack of employment opportunity in businesses. This part of the issue is also related to the innovation in medical technologies which has prolonged the general life span of human. Therefore, most of the people already working in the society are trying to maintain their position in it which saturates the society. As a result, the youths do not have the opportunities to be engaged in the businesses and obtain power. In addition, youths under particular ages are the only groups that do not have suffrage rights, due to the assumption that they are too immature to be decisive.

It is more of a struggle for the aged after they have retired. They generally receive poor mental and physical health care due to the fact that they do not contribute to the society. In addition, most of the problems arousing in the issue of empowering the aged is that they are easily exposed to danger. Since their physical conditions are worsen compared to when they are younger, they are more capable of catching certain diseases and unable to protect themselves from external danger. Therefore, how to protect the aged and giving them sufficient rights in the society is the problem in the society.

Lastly, the social recognition of the disabled is the most problematic. Although the disabled are less advantaged in their conditions, they are capable of doing certain things in their scope. However, the society views the disabled as group of people who are disabled in the capability of exercising basic power as well. Therefore, the social perception of thinking that the disabled are incapable of processing as healthy people needs to be ameliorated.

Definition of Key Terms

Youth Unemployment

Youth unemployment is a trend that the society is no longer employing enough youth. The youth unemployment is an issue that is deeply connected with the issue of empowering youth, due to the fact that gaining power for the people in society is to obtaining economic power to act against people. However, since the youths are not able to achieve any economic wealth, their power in the society is correspondingly weak.

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

The sustainable development goals are global goals with 169 targets set by the United Nations. It is lead by the United Nations and include 194 Member States that has aimed toward achieving the sustainable development goal posed for 2030. This agenda has focused on reducing the challenges that the youths face due to youth unemployment. In addition, it targets toward reducing any inequalities which is revolving around the issue of empowering youth, aged, and the disabled.

Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD)

The Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities is an official body of the United Nations which 18 experts have a biannual meeting to go through the reports submitted by 153 UN member states. Being one of the nine UN human rights treaty bodies, the committee focused on passing treaties that benefits the disabled.

United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization(UNESCO)

The UNESCO is a branch of the United Nations that deals acknowledges sites as the World heritage sites by assessing the values and importance that the site holds. UNESCO has been contributing to providing adequate education for the youth in order to make them suitable for being employed.

Background Information

Youth Unemployment

Youth Unemployment has been a serious issue since they were no longer able to earn their living and get the opportunity to work as member of the society. In the past, the society required a lot of workers in various businesses. Since, they have always lacked of workers in the businesses and work sites, the youth were rather employed rapidly and fluently. However, as more and more workers stepped into the market, the society did not need more workers since they already had enough. Therefore, the crisis of youth unemployment has become more critical. In 2012, 40% of youth in the world were unemployed and the

global youth unemployment rate reached 12.6%. In addition, approximately 75 million youth were unemployed worldwide.

Involvement of the United Nations

The United Nations has been interfering to solve the issue of empowering the youth, the aged, and the disabled. Viewing this problem as a severe inequality problem that the society is facing, the United Nations has implemented the 2030 agenda which involved alleviating the issues arousing from inequality. The United Nations, including the secretary general, has been paying careful attention to the voices of the youth as well. In addition, United Nations has also attempted to provide adequate universal healthcare.

Economic and Social Council Youth Forum (ECOSOC Youth Forum)

The ECOSOC Youth Forum was initiated by gathering 800 young leaders in order to tack the youth unemployment. Acknowledging that the youths are facing inequalities due to high density of people, the ECOSOC Youth Forum has established the Sustainable Development Goals for 2030, which focuses on alleviating the issues that prevent the youth from gaining equal power. However, the SDGs do not merely focus on youths. Through promoting good health and reduced inequalities in general, they have also dealt with empowering the aged and the disabled through providing them with the rights that they deserve to gain.

The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

Noting that more than one billion people, which is about 15% of the world's population, are people with disability, the United Nations has stabled the convention on rights of persons with disabilities in order to empower the disabled and preserve their rights in all cases. It has been established on December 13th, 2006 in the United Nations General Assembly through long years of discussion involving International disability Non-governmental Organizations(NGOs) and the national governments. The convention has focused solely on empowering the disabled through preventing discrimination, increasing accessibility, providing right to health, and many more. It is monitored by the committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

Key Issues

Work Environments

For all of the youths, the aged, and the disabled, their main reason of not being able to obtain the power that they deserve to get is due to lack of working conditions that they can be in. Although they may

have different reasons for being incapable of being involved in one, but lacking of economic welfare has led to diminishing power of them. The problems of youth unemployment have been stated on the previous part of the report.

The Aged and the Disabled

Both for the aged and the disabled, the problem of their unemployment was powerlessness and helplessness due to their age and disability. For the disabled, the social perception of the disabled has played significant role of dropping the employment rate of disabled significantly. Since the society perceives the disabled as not being able to cope with jobs given to them, without even hiring them, many of the businesses have refrained from hiring the disabled. On the other hand, the aged were not able to work after a certain age due to being perceived as too weak for work environment. Although there are existing services that promotes elders to interact with society and community, their approaches were inadequate.

Poverty

Most of the members of these minority groups are unable to find a working space that would provide them with adequate economic welfare. Therefore, most of the youth, the aged, and the disabled are living in great poverty. They face various obstacles and difficulties due to the high standards of the society that is hard to be reached by their ability. Also, they are more likely to end up in the situation of poverty due to their situation. Poverty is indeed a problem that these people are facing, however, a greater consequence that follows poverty is the inability to services and rights that they need. Although access to health care is one of the fundamental services that everyone needs access to, due to the fact that they are lacking money to support themselves, most of them are incapable of receiving adequate health care.

Self-Esteem

Physical and superficial problems may seem outstanding, but the problem of their self-esteem is another major issue that leads to physical problems. The youths do not feel confident about the society and whether they are accepted and welcome in it. Therefore, they soon face the barrier of the society which blocks them out due to saturation. In addition, the aged are physically weaker than younger people which alienates them from receiving certain services. Elderly services and interventions advocate social and community interaction between the elder people. They aim towards elimination negative self-image and implementing positive self-image in order to enhance their self-esteem. The disabled, especially lack of self-esteem due to their disability. The lack of self-esteem leads to unconfident attitude towards interacting with the world which isolates them from the society.

Major Parties Involved and Their Views

National Government

Regarding the issue of empowering youth, the national governments play an important role in solving the issue of providing adequate opportunities and rights for the youth to obtain the ability to empower their own stances. This is mostly done through providing job opportunities for the youths. Most of the governments prefer subsidizing the youth by establishing regulations in companies that makes the company hire youths, and provide the youths with start up fund for them to start their own businesses. Moreover, in the perspective of empowering the aged and the disabled, the government has to provide adequate services and preserve the rights of aged and disabled in order to empower their stances. However, Less Economically Developed Countries(LEDCs) can not act upon the economic burden they face in taking actions of subsidizing the society. Therefore, nations are situated in a position where they are inevitable of subsidizing, but under a serious consequence followed by economic requirements.

Unemployed Youth

The group of unemployed youths are basically youths that do not have much power upon their society. For the unemployed youths, since their power and stances in the society is extremely weak and easily ignored, the issue of empowering youth is a serious issue. Going through the economic recession and depressions, the society naturally started adapting to a stable phase which gave adverse effect to the youth whose payments are easily fluctuated. However, the situation has worsened into a stage where a one third of a nation's youth are left unemployed or employed at a non-permanent position. In addition, in the modern world, most of the companies do not want to employ more employees in their companies, since they already have enough. Even the people who are currently getting employed are due to government regulations on such companies to hire people. Therefore, the unemployed youth are facing more serious consequences day by day, and they are losing their identities as the member of the society.

Transnational Corporations (TNC)

Transnational Corporation are capable of solving a part of the issue, which is empowering the youth. They are able to offer internship and employment opportunities for the youth in various nations due to their characteristic of not being restricted to a particular nation. In addition, such companies can facilitate and urge the nations to engage and trade through the company which also opens up a wholly new market for the youths to gain experience in. The presence of TNC itself does advances the economy as a whole which is a huge benefit for the youth. On the other hand, it solely depends on the TNCs whether they are going to hire youths for their companies. Therefore, there are existing communications between national governments and such TNCs to employ certain amount of youths as their employee, but to make the situation better, the national governments would need more of these contracts between the companies and governments.

Timeline of Relevant Resolutions, Treaties and Events

Date	Description of event
November 16th, 1945	The United Nations Organization for Education, Science and Culture was founded. Since their establishment, UNESCO has contributed towards alleviating the issue on providing adequate educations for the youth as well.
September, 2000	The Millennium Development Goals were established, aiming to accomplish all the goals by 2015.
December 13th, 2006	The Convention on Rights of persons with disabilities has been established through the United Nations General Assembly.
May 3rd, 2008	The initiation of committee on the rights of persons with disabilities has begun. This committee also inspects the convention on rights of persons with disabilities.
2012	The ECOSOC Youth Forum has been established. They have brought forth the problems that the youth are facing.
2012	40% of the youths were unemployed, reaching approximately 75 million youth unemployed around the world.
September 15th, 2015	The Countries has set the new sustainable development agenda regarding, ending poverty, protecting the planet, and ensuring prosperity for all.

Possible Solutions

Empowering the youth, the aged, and the disabled can be approached mainly in two perspectives. The perspective of the society viewing these groups of people and the view of themselves. Keeping in mind that their power is restrained due to the society's perception of them, most of the difficulties that they are facing may be alleviated through the betterment of their social image. This can be done through promoting better images of these groups and actively advocating opportunities for these people to have an opportunity to contribute to the society.

Moreover, it is important to motivate these people to be engaged in progressing through their life in the society. The problem of this situation is that these group of people don't try to be engaged in the society due to the fact that they are facing difficulties. Therefore, through providing them services that

would stabilize their status in the society, it would advance these people towards progressing in it. Also, through providing adequate subsidy for these people, it would reinforce them carrying out their lives.

Bearing in mind that these issues come from the fundamental structure and perception of the society, it is nearly impossible to 100% alleviate this issue. However, an approach towards making a better condition for these people to live in would be a better idea. Harmoniously collaborating the two approaches towards this issue as written above, it is necessary to make the groups want to be in the society, and make sure that the society have the space for them to be involved.

Bibliography

Empowering Persons with Disabilities Strengthens Human Solidarity for Everyone, Secretary-General Tells Rehabilitation International World Congress | Meetings Coverage and Press Releases. (n.d.). Retrieved from http://www.un.org/press/en/2012/sgsm14611.doc.htm

Kam, P. (1996, July 01). Empowering Elderly People: A Community Work Approach *. Retrieved from https://academic.oup.com/cdj/article-abstract/31/3/230/343327/Empowering-Elderly-People-A-Community-Work

Smith, S. (2010, September 19). Social obstacles are the real problem for disabled people | SE Smith. Retrieved from https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2010/sep/19/disability-social-obstacles-real-problem

UN launches new initiative to tackle youth employment crisis. (n.d.). Retrieved from http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/blog/2016/02/un-launches-new-initiative-to-tackle-youth-employment-crisis/

Understanding multiple disadvantage in older age. (n.d.). Retrieved from http://natcen.ac.uk/our-research/research/understanding-multiple-disadvantage-in-older-age/