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In-class Exercise (Individual task)

From the World Bank VDO Expert - Discuss the issues females face during the COVID-19 crisis.

<https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/video/2020/05/22/why-are-women-and-girls-threatened-by-coronavirus>

(1) Do you agree that “This pandemic will reverse the progress toward gender equality”? Why?

I completely agree with the statement that the pandemic is contributing to a decline in the state of gender equality as a result of its unintended repercussions. Because the pandemic is becoming severe, it is essential that precautions be made against COVID-19. These precautions include school closures and establishing social distance between infected individuals. As a consequence of this, the state of gender inequality is worsening from a variety of perspectives; the video described how COVID-19 places more domestic responsibilities on women and restricts the educational resources available to their children. The answer to the long-term problem of gender disparity lies in the expansion of social retention programs that aim to protect their positions.

(2) Using a country as an example, explain what policies the government of that country has implemented to address this problem.

In Norway, where inequality is significantly lower relative to other countries, this low inequality shows the significance of policy implementation. There have been a number of programs started in order to boost employment rates among disadvantaged persons. The Inclusive Working Life Agreement was a trilateral agreement between the government, the trade unions, and the employers' unions. Its goal was to improve working conditions for people with disabilities. The agreement aimed to accomplish the following three main things: 1) reducing the number of employees who take time off for sick leave; 2) enhancing job opportunities for persons with disabilities; and 3) boosting employment opportunities for those aged 50 and older.