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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?

In my opinion, I do slightly disagree with the statement above. The reasons I said slightly disagree is because that it is true, from the video, that men are more prioritized to get access to education in most of the families out there; however, I think that it is only likely to happen in a more conservative (old-fashioned) families since parents tend to believe that men are more likely to be responsible getting educated and generating the income to their family. On the other hand, in today's world, people tend to be less conservative or we can say more modernized in a sort of way because parents would treat their children equally regardless of their gender. Moreover, it might be true based on statistics that women tend to work in informal jobs; however, there are also men that are employed informally. Therefore, I have to say I slightly disagree with the statement above that the pandemic does not reverse the progress toward gender equality and that the progress is heavily depended on the people to work and get to the goal.

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

Japan is one of the countries in the world that cope with the pandemic really well. They have a really low unemployment rate during the past few years. One thing that stands out about Japanese enterprises is that they prioritize employee's welfare over the shareholders for the long-term sustainability during the pandemic. This is a huge factor of employee not losing their jobs. Moreover, the Japanese government also implemented many policies to help out during the hard times. One of Japan's most notable policies implemented that play a huge role in limiting the unemployment rate is Employment Adjustment Subsidy, where they provide subsidies for workers who have to go on leave during the pandemic.