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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?

According to the expert, girls are less likely to return to their school after dropout because of their other responsibility such as working in the labor market or their own household. In contrary, boys have more accessibility to education via computer and internet. I genuinely agree with the statement. In countries that women play an enormous role in service sector such as Thailand, a lot of women were laid off during the COVID-19 pandemic. This leads to higher unemployment of women labors. From these reasons, I believe that the pandemic will reverse the progress toward gender equality.

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

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Swedish government has temporarily made the unemployment benefit system more generous and reinforced the active labor market policies, such as, subsidized employment schemes and measures for youth. In addition, Sweden funded for special gender equality measures for particularly for preventing men's violence against women and oppression. The government also apply gender-responsive budgeting and promote a more even distribution of power and influence between men and women.