

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? The personal and work-related challenges that young people face today are not any different from the challenges their parents and grandparents faced when they were young.

Working conditions has always been challenging for people throughout the history. While some believe that the previous generation experience the same difficulty as the current generation, I believe that there are sharp differences because of technological advancement, soft skills' education and better work policies.

First of all, technology has revolutionized human living and working conditions in many ways. While in the past, transferring messages in the shortest time was almost impossible, nowadays it is not even considered an issue. People can easily send their messages only by using their cell phones, through making phone calls or sending emails. Everything is done by just a short click, something that could takes from hours to days for our parents or grandparents. Besides, the other contribution of technology was the huge amount of time being saved. Globalization has provided a fertile ground for a worldwide trade. If a company is willing to establish a branch in another country, the negotiation process can be done through online meeting sessions via some platforms such as Zoom. However, the convenience in communication does not necessarily mean experiencing no difficulty. What it means is having a different set of problems from what it was in the past. As a consequence, as a result of such improvements, individuals become more multi-task, managing various works at the same time.

Moreover, apart from the ample business opportunities provided for individuals, the importance of having soft skills is highlighted in the workplace, leading many organization holding courses for their employees to improve such abilities. Hearing opponents' ideas, critical thinking, anger and stress management and the negotiation techniques are the materials that are being taught throughout the course. Having such skills are among the vital requirements for hiring employees, since a huge amount of the tasks are done mostly in group projects. Our parents were lacking in such facilities to boost these skills in their everyday communication. As a result, individuals can also utilize these capabilities through their daily normal interactions and establish a close rapport.

Finally, along with the variations in people's way of communicating and their practical abilities, general policies is established to organize a working organization from top to bottom. While in the past people were relying more on oral agreements, nowadays everything should be done in its formal way. The basic salary, perks or working overtime rules need to be put in one's contract so that both sides become aware of their rights. If in the past one could easily dismiss its worker without giving any further explanation, it seems almost impossible to do the same today. Therefore, the whole process of legalizing agreements provides mental security for both sides of the deal.

To sum up, I believe that challenges that people face currently in their work life varies a lot more than that of in the past. I suggest that the prospect employees focus more on acquiring assertiveness to manage critical situations. Because by doing so they become professional multi-taskers, establish a useful relationship and feel more secure about their position in the working environment.