

Teenage Problems

Good morning Principal, Vice-Principals, teachers and fellow schoolmates,

Today, I would like to share with you about teenage problems. Admittedly, Hong Kong teenagers are some of the most fortunate among their counterparts all over the world. We are entitled to various freedoms. We enjoy a 12-year compulsory education. We have a sound economy and an accountable government. Despite all these, teenage problems are still very serious.

Teenagers engage in various criminal offences, ranging from stealing to triad activities, from drug abuse to prostitution.

What lead to the aforesaid problems? One reason may due to the lack of parental care for most teenagers. Nowadays, many parents are out working the whole day. They only come back home late at night when their children are sound asleep. Thus, the two generations seldom communicate, let alone care about each other. Teenagers may then resort to other types of excitement. It also leads to the aforementioned crimes.

Moreover, another worrying problem is teenage suicide. Undoubtedly, youngsters in Hong Kong are under sundry pressure such as academics, examinations and parental expectation. Parents and teachers always give lots of anticipation to teenagers. When the pressure reaches a certain critical point, teenagers just can bear it no longer and take refuge from committing suicide. After all, teenagers at a tender age are unable to distinguish between rights and wrongs, parents should breed them with heart.

To tackle these complex problems, the government has to take the initiative. The government should employ more social workers in schools to share difficulties with teenagers and counsel those in need of help. In fact, one social worker per school is far from enough. Nevertheless, parents should spend more time with children and acquaint with them what they think. Besides, parents should communicate more with them. And the vital importance is to lead them to go on the right track.

No one would like to have a deteriorated generation to take over our community. Yet there is no antidote to the teenage problems, and the way lies in the cooperation between the government and parents. Only by doing so can teenage problems be solved.

That's the end of my sharing. Thank you!