

---

## **Managing Youth and Adolescents for Post COVID-19**

Wan Muhammad Aniq Wan Hadilah<sup>a</sup>, Aziyati Yusoff<sup>b\*</sup>

<sup>a,b</sup>*Ministry of Youth and Sports, Putrajaya, Malaysia*

<sup>a</sup>*Email: wanmuhammadaniqwanhadilah@gmail.com*

<sup>b</sup>*Email: aziyati@kbs.gov.my*

### **Abstract**

In light with the recent pandemic outbreak, the youth and the adolescents had fallen hard to survive for their future proof, socio-economic changes and the new norms that they would face. With issues that involve their future planning, education access and job security, the right tools to manage these adolescents are needed in aid of their endurance. This article is discussing on how the youth could survive in the better future that they can shape by their own approaches which might also include on the mastery of the latest technologies to meet the market demands and the future jobs that they can adapt through the global changes due to this situation.

**Keywords:** adolescents; COVID-19; future jobs; PEST management tool; youth development.

### **1. Introduction**

With recent outbreak of COVID-19 across the globe, the campaigns of lockdown, quarantine and Movement Control Order which had been enforced in most countries had turned each citizen something out of their norms: social distancing, less movement, new learning paradigms, home based jobs, and new normal to be adopted during the recovery period. Upon this situation, faced with the sudden change of working style, the youth may not be able to adapt to this changes in a short time and cause certain psychological pressure [1]. UNESCO had agreed that during this vulnerable time, technology plays vital roles to unleash the potential of recovering from global diseases [2]. It is expected that youth, future generations would be living in minimalists, having difficulty foresight their future and yet open to more global possibilities and readiness to change [3].

---

\* Corresponding author.

## **2. Data Science of COVID-19**

From February 2020 until this article is prepared (October 2020), statistics and research of Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) had been made and reported daily. The pattern of cases worldwide through World Health Organization (WHO) [4] had been reported and shared globally for further precautions and collective actions among each nation. Daily reports on COVID-19 cases include parameters of location, total number of confirmed cases, new cases, number of tests, number of deaths and trajectory. Strategies of overcoming the spread of this disease include method of flattening the curve and controlling the symptoms. It was reported that among the symptoms of COVID-19, initially; during its early infections include fever, dry cough, fatigue, sputum production, shortness of breath, muscle pain, sore throat, headache, chills, nausea and diarrhea [5]. Data had also studied on the pattern of fatality rate by age, demographics, and preexisting condition. Some study had also found that COVID-19 outbreak has also influenced by the climate and season change. Hopman, et. al. (2020) are suggesting that viruses spread more effectively in the winter [6]. Out of the findings from available study, the most vulnerable age that is affected by this disease is the elderly. The youth are the least target of the disease. However, they are the most affected age on the development of the next phase of post COVID-19. With education has been suspended in most nations, job losses, new normal to adapt and by the emergence of new technologies to be applied, the youth have plethora to digest to lead the future world.

## **3. Issues of Post COVID-19 for Youth Development**

Manifesting the spirit of managing the youth to face the challenging future of post COVID-19 is triggering the issues of many facades of life. The youth affected by this pandemic are exposed to the following issues and challenges:

- (i) Education and Growth – that the youth might not get normal classroom method of learning delivery. Through the new normal, the technology has been enhanced and most of the learning processes are encouraged to be done through the Internet. However, the problem arise when dealing with rural children and areas that have restricted access of the Internet.
- (ii) Job Security – that the youth who had just started to take the responsibility of contributing to the nation by taking up jobs and finding promising careers might just be jeopardized by the order of lockdowns or restricted movement order. If at the beginning of their career they have already be burdened by the scarcity of income, the security of their future prospects are very much uncertain.

## **4. Managing Post COVID-19 for Youth Using P.E.S.T. (Politic, Economic, Social, And Technology) Approach**

### **4.1 Political Aspect**

Youth facing the post COVID-19 would be stronger in many aspects of socio-economic and educational development for a nation's way forward. From a political viewpoint, this phenomenon may see the youth recovering to gain recognition in whatever needs, necessities and growth they acquire for future sustainability.

According to China CDC Weekly (2020) [7], children and youth were not much affected by this disease. Only up to 0.2% among the youth globally were recorded to face the death of COVID-19. On the other hand, the challenge they had to face during the post COVID-19 was ambiguous and required structured planning to support their new normal.

#### **4.2      *Social Aspect***

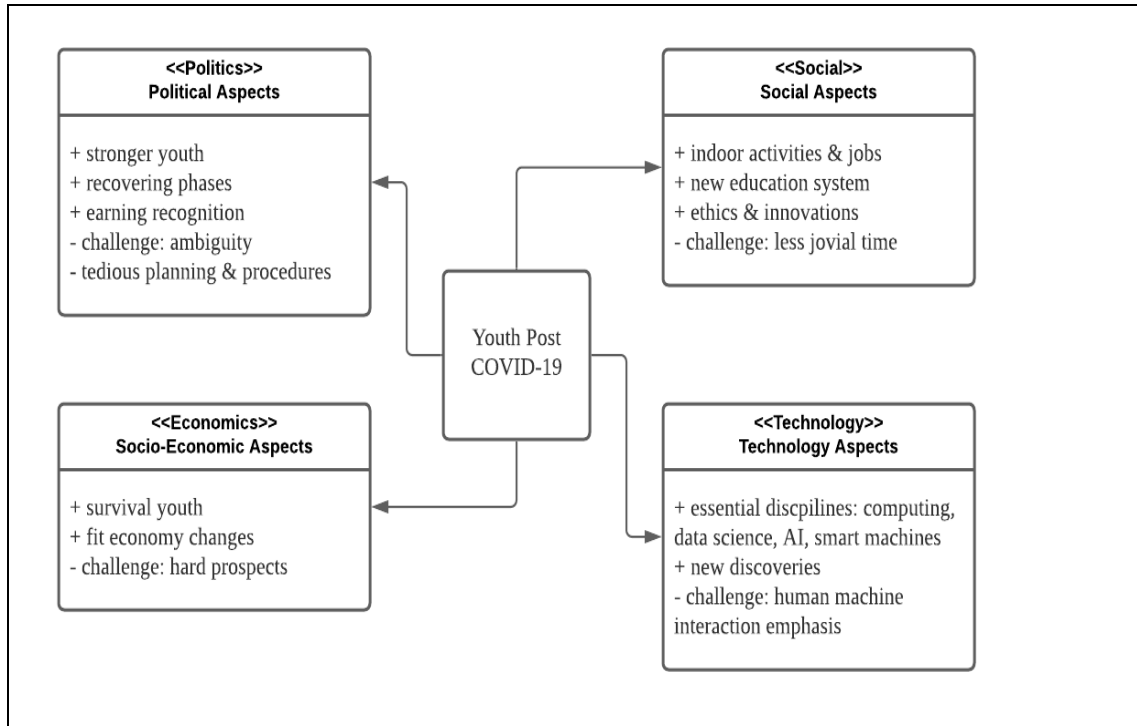
The social development of the youth might give so many challenges to be tackled delicately. The period of lockdowns and quarantine may affect the youth to be restricted in many of their jovial activities. During this trial, they struggled to complete their education, job security, society acceptance and future proof. However, post COVID-19 may see the beauty in the implementation and enforcement of the new approaches in the education system, social ethics, job opportunities and a new future for the youth to create and innovate for their suitability.

#### **4.3      *Economic Affairs***

In terms of economic affairs, the youth would do their best proving that they are worth it to contribute to the nation's economic planning and fulfill the changing markets in the new norms. It is found that continuous support and proper planning for the youth to develop in this challenging period would help them overcome this hard situation and contribute to rebuilding the prosperity of a nation.

#### **4.4      *Technology Utilization***

The technology purview is the most interesting aspect to study during this recovery period. Out of curiosity, automation and information can play vital roles in aid to overcome the COVID-19 pandemic from spreading. Computing world and data science are essential disciplines to provide formulation for problem solving. Apart from the use of technology in medical areas, technology has proven that with all of the latest discoveries, we cannot avoid the importance of utilising the findings of robotics, manufacturing tools, Artificial Intelligence, smart machines and Internet of Things to aid in the youth to sustain their learn and earn endeavour.



**Figure 1:** Model of Youth COVID-19 Using PEST Approach

## 5. Recommendations

As the pandemic COVID-19 entered its second and third wave [8] as per predicted by scientists and scholars, this alarming situation need not only be tackled delicately but also educating the people on how to accept the fact that it might be difficult to practice the way of living before the disease took place. On the other hand, emphasizing on practising new normal is not exactly the ultimate decisions to educate the communities. In this difficult situations, continuous research and studies need to be done, comparison of recent new normal proposal with previous lifestyle needs to be scrutinized, supports and all possible funds for medical solutions to stop the pandemic and the alternative solutions to all aspects of life ensuring the quality of education, social development, systematic governance, technologically sound and economic improvements will recover from this deadly disease.

## 6. Conclusions

The above-mentioned model of youth facing the post COVID-19 situation was discussed by using the Politics, Economy, Social and Technology (PEST) approach. Such an approach is represented as illustrated in Figure 1. The youth during post COVID-19 requires and integrated solutions comprising the major four aspects of governing and funding models to aid their healthy development. Hence, the conclusion for the youth during this pandemic time, they would emerge stronger, practicing new normal in their business opportunities and innovate the challenges to more economic prospects.

## References

- [1]. Liang, L., Ren, H., Cao, R., Hu, Y., Qin, Z., Li, C., & Mei, S. (2020). The effect of COVID-19 on youth mental health. *Psychiatric Quarterly*, 1-12.
- [2]. Iyengar, R. (2020). Education as the path to a sustainable recovery from COVID-19. *Prospects*, 1-4.
- [3]. Buheji, M., & Ahmed, D. (2020). 'Behavioural Economics': Re-Shaping the Quality of Life. AuthorHouse.
- [4]. Xu, K., Cai, H., Shen, Y., Ni, Q., Chen, Y., Hu, S., ... & Qiu, Y. (2020). Management of corona virus disease-19 (COVID 19): the Zhejiang experience. *Journal of Zhejiang University (medical science)*, 49(1), 0-0.
- [5]. Roser, M., Ritchie, H., Ortiz-Ospina, E., & Hasell, J. (2020).
- [6]. Hopman, J., Allegranzi, B., & Mehtar, S. (2020). Managing COVID-19 in low-and middle-income countries. *Jama*, 323(16), 1549-1550.
- [7]. Coronavirus disease (COVID-19)—Statistics and Research. Our World in data.
- [8]. Xu, S., & Li, Y. (2020). Beware of the second wave of COVID-19. *The Lancet*, 395(10233), 1321-1322.