

主旨:

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The major causes of low birth rate are economic difficulties and the lack of childcare service. In order to alleviate the problem of low birth rate and encourage young couples to start a family, I have the following three suggestions.

First of all, the government should provide subsidies to parents who have a new-born baby. The severe inflation has caused the price of baby products to rise. The exorbitantly high price has hindered the young couples, who do not have good economic foundation, from giving birth to a baby. By providing a suitable amount of subsidies to parents who have a new-born baby, they have fewer financial burdens in taking care of a child. Moreover, they can provided better material comforts to their baby. Not only can this measure helps the parents, but the babies are also benefitted.

Second, the government should input more resources into childcare services. According to some of the young couples, they are worry that they cannot work after giving birth to their baby. Thus, they will have no income. Their worries actually stems from the lack of childcare service. By providing more childcare services, for example, building more childcare center and recruiting more experienced baby-sitter, parents are allowed to have time to work. As a result, they can continue to work as before while earning income to support their families.

Apart from subsidies provision and the input of resources into childcare services, flexible working hours should also be implemented among the companies in Hong Kong. One of the concerns of the couple is that no one can take care of the mother since the father has to return to work immediately . In the first month of giving birth to a baby, extensive care and support to mother are required. It is because they are physically and psychologically weak. It may lead to psychological disorder if there is no enough care and support from the father. By implementing flexible working hours should also be implemented among the companies in Hong Kong, the fathers can accompany their wife more often. Meanwhile, they can keep working and earning the same amount of salaries to support living.

By implementing the above measures, young couples' worries on giving birth to a baby can be eliminated. Hence, they will be encouraged to give birth to a baby and the problem of low birth rate can be alleviated.

