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The Youth, Their Drugs and Their Blatant Naivety

I read with great interest a recent front-page article titled “Duped over Dope” (*The Star*, Dec 30). *The Star* has reported the names of a handful of youngsters who have been caught red-handed for carrying drugs at international arenas. Unfortunately, it is only the beginning.

A lot of my educational sessions with fresh university graduates have proven to be shocking eye-openers to me as the graduates reveal the hidden stories in their respective campuses. It is not only the few youngsters highlighted dramatically in the media; you would be surprised to know that the figure goes extremely beyond that.

The Star report has highlighted that in the past 11 months, about 32 Malaysian women between the ages of 20 and 40 had been arrested for their involvement as drug couriers. However, a lot more of these youngsters, including the men have yet to be detected by the authorities.

It is not about the overseas job that the youngsters decide to embark on; we cannot completely point our fingers towards the companies involved. These youngsters have made decisions out of their own free will and judgment to hop onboard the airplane and make their quick bucks.

I have a case study that proves my predicament. One of my current *Apprentices* in my organization has revealed to me her knowledge on a youngster featured in the report.

Both individuals are from the same institute of higher learning. According to her, the youngster has constantly been associated with drugs even before being offered the job overseas. She also added that the youngster was crudely well-known for her excessive addiction as she failed to keep a low profile. Therefore when the news of her arrest was made public, it did not come as a surprise.

This goes to show that the youth today are blatantly naïve. I am not here to generalize the younger generation; however it is just plain difficult to think otherwise when they themselves are incapable of altering the mindsets of people like me. I plead with all Malaysian citizens to step up and help the younger generation live to see their future.

Ernie Chen
Caring Corporate Citizen

Personal Particulars

Name: Ernie Chen, *Group CEO*
Tel No: 03-7728 2623
Address: ATCEN International Group
D-05-12, Ritze Perdana Business Centre,
Jalan PJU 8/2, Damansara Perdana,
47820 Petaling Jaya,
Selangor D. E.