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Well, in general, I think we can say that new generations of young people, mainly around the world, actually, in general, have a better education. It's true that in some countries, this is not the case yet. I think all of them have at least the potential for better education. We can say that many of them have also access to better information than our generations. And I think that's also they live actually current events as if they were present in those events. This is one of the good things that social media actually brings in. We can see what is happening around the world today, just as if it were happening next door. So that's also, and then they live in a world where they can have access to social media and other ways to other people of the age around the world.

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So it's connectivity, I think it's a defining property of the new generations, but it's not just connectivity, it's connectivity and the potential to learn, to develop information, et cetera. So that's, I think, something that changes a little bit from previous generations. So in terms of information, this is going to be, we're going to have people much more informed and much more knowledgeable about current events. The second thing, which is connected with the first dimension, is that this, I would say, deeper knowledge of what is happening around the world creates a spark in the souls, in the minds of young people, actually of people of all ages, but especially young people, fostering a sense of solidarity, fostering a sense of being close to other young people who may be suffering, who may be going through complex situations. So it has this, I would say, very positive benefit of creating and solidifying bonds of positive relationships among people, okay, who may be perhaps not in good shape, may not be, you know, enjoying life as other parts of the world may be enjoying people in zones afflicted by hunger, by wars, by disease.

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So I do think that this is also very important, this sense of solidarity. I think it reinforces the relational nature of human beings. And the third dimension is that this is a generation that is actually growing and developing in the context of a society that has many features, many good features, but a society, especially Western societies, not just in Western, especially in Europe, North America, that is defined today by an increasing polarization. Okay, we see radical views on both sides of the spectrum and the difficulty of relating with one another and building positive dialogues with one another. Second point, which is very important, is that it's a society that is being somehow, I would say, shaped and in many ways driven by technology.

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So technology and big tech are having, I think, a very large effect on the lives of many people. And sometimes individuals are not able to control much as they used, but the influence of big tech and technology in general. And also a third dimension which is very important is that related with technology is that we are seeing today a growing number of empirical studies, especially among young people, younger people, kids, okay, in their learning process, and the impact of social media, the impact of smartphones, the impact of

tablets on their learning outcomes. And we see that we have some dysfunctionalities here. We start to see that the use of that technology, which is not, I would say, done in a very, you know, constructive way, can have negative impacts on other people.

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And this is something that is shaping and going to shape the next generation of students. And finally, there is also a point that is actually emerging, and there are already a number of empirical studies about it. And this is a fact that actually connects somehow with this level of polarization in society, which is that we are seeing in many countries the, I would say, the collapse of families, okay? So, young people grow in broken families, okay, with a father who goes his way, a mother who goes her way, for whatever reasons. In each case, it's different, and it's not a question. But we are seeing and we have an increasing number of empirical studies where this may have an impact in the learning capabilities of young people, especially of children.

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And this obviously has some effects on what happens with those people when they go to higher education institution for a college degree. So we need to take into account all those changes, okay? So we see many positive changes. We also see some more complex situations for young people. And this complexity of this situation actually reinforces the need they have to be able to offer them some education, some development, some formal courses as well, trying to understand, helping them trying to understand the world they live in, not just the specific subject, the world they live in, and trying to help them develop the capabilities, the interpersonal skills, self-knowledge, to be able to overcome a world which is in some ways more positive than it was a hundred years ago, but in some ways also a bit more threatening than it was probably a few years, a few decades ago.

Transcribed with Cockatoo