

## How Can Technology Help Women Work Happily?

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We high school girls like cute things, fashion, eating at Instagram-worthy restaurants, talking about ideal boyfriends with classmates, etc, etc. Doing such things gives us great happiness. However, such happiness does not last long and the form of their happiness changes, especially after graduating from school.

The threat of the new coronavirus greatly affected our lives. People wear masks, take their temperature when entering stores, and maintain social distances from each other. There are even glass shields between cashiers and customers at convenience stores. Schools offer online lessons and companies do remote work, minimizing contact with people. Under such circumstances, technology like computers and network systems are indispensable. We can say with confidence that because of this situation, technology has great future potential.

Getting back to the effect of the coronavirus: according to a survey by the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare, the number of female suicides in August increased by 74% compared to last year. This was shocking news. It is said that the main reason for this is the bad economy caused by the new corona virus. Many part-time workers have been fired and most of them were women. They were working as salesclerks at department stores, waitresses at restaurants, and other jobs.

Of course, some jobs need to change their working styles, like doing remote work, and others need totally different business models. However, there are some jobs that just cannot change, and many women have been forced out of their jobs. But this can happen even outside the influence of the coronavirus, when they must take a break from work due to pregnancy, childbirth, childcare, etc. How can women who "want to work" fulfill their wishes and be happy?

The situation is even worse for women. Nowadays, there is a big concern in the world that technology would take jobs in the future. In fact, recently there are hotels using AI at the front desk and driverless buses going around the town. Technology is taking real jobs!! This is just wrong. Technology should evolve to make us happy. When I entered KOSEN, I thought that technology should be full of possibilities and hope. Is it even possible for technology to create jobs? Guess what? Yes, it is.

Technology does create jobs. According to a website, in the UK, the number of information technology managers has risen by a factor of 6.5 to over 327,000 in the last decades. Also, the number of programmers and software development professionals has risen by a factor of almost three to 274,160. If women are engaged in such jobs, they will be able to balance work and child-rearing and get more financial and mental security. Such jobs also allow them to have more free time by doing remote work. Using such free time, they can do whatever they want, which will make them even happier.

The shape of happiness will change drastically as the times change. However, there are some things that must stay the same. I guess no matter what happens and

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no matter how old they become, women will still like cute things, fashion, and talking about ideals. I hope that the evolution of technology will protect our likes, and that a happy future will come for all women.