



DEMOCRACY DIALOGUE SERIES

on

The Impact of Supplementary Tutoring on Cambodian Youth

Speakers

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- 2) Puth Kolka, Law and Good Governance Researcher

Date: 1 July 2023

Time: 9:00-10:30 a.m

Questions for Discussion

- 1) What is supplementary tutoring?
- 2) What is the state of supplementary tutoring in Cambodia today?
- 3) What are the reasons for supplementary tutoring?
- 4) What are the impacts of supplementary tutoring on Cambodian youth?
- 5) What could be a policy option or solution to problems caused by supplementary tutoring?

Summary

The dialogue revealed that supplementary tutoring in Cambodia is widespread, with a significant number of students seeking such services. The reasons for this high demand include a lack of quality education in public schools, competitive entrance exams, and the desire for better prospects. The impacts of supplementary tutoring on Cambodian youth were found to be both positive and negative, with improved academic outcomes but also increased inequality and stress.

A policy option/solution to address these issues could be the implementation of targeted educational reforms aimed at improving the quality of public schools and reducing the reliance on supplementary tutoring as a necessity for academic success.

One counterargument to this solution is that implementing targeted educational reforms may not be enough to address the high demand for supplementary tutoring, as some students and parents may still perceive it as necessary for academic success even with improved public schools. Additionally, reducing reliance on supplementary tutoring may not necessarily reduce inequality and stress, as other factors such as socioeconomic disparities and cultural expectations can also contribute to these issues. Therefore, it is crucial for policymakers and educators to take a comprehensive approach that tackles not only the quality of public schools but also addresses

socioeconomic disparities and cultural expectations. By implementing targeted reforms, providing equal opportunities for all students, and promoting a well-rounded education that values creativity and critical thinking, we can gradually reduce the need for supplementary tutoring and create a more equitable and less stressful education system for all.