

Press Corps/British Broadcasting Corporation

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Topic: UN Women/Engaging Boys and Young Men in Gender Equality

For this year's MMUN, I chose the topic involving boys and young men in gender equality. To some people it may not seem very important but the role that men and boys play is important. They have ideas and ways to help so we should let them.

The countries that are in the committee for UN Women have a lot to say about gender equality. I have seen ideas from the Republic of Italy and ideas from New Zealand and other countries discussing these topics. One idea that stood out to me is creating safe spaces for women and girls to talk to someone if they have experienced trauma preferably with a woman on the other line. Some of the other ideas I have heard that stood out to me are Italy saying "educating young men on the topic of gender equality" I think this idea is simple but important. We do need men and boys to understand more about gender equality and the things women experience. And this is one of the ways we can do that. New Zealand said "engaging women or girls in boys activities."

The Republic of Italy said "equal job opportunities without discrimination" and these ideas really stood out to me. I think they are simple but true and important to try and fulfill these ideas.

Throughout the business days of the MMUN committee, there have been ideas on how to help with these topics and they have been working on putting them in different "buckets" like laws and education. Those were two out of four subtopics that the committee created.

I have observed that people care a lot about gender equality and have had great ideas and points. Watching the cadets talk amongst each other was very fun to listen to their ideas. I have noticed that I have not seen a lot of ideas involving how we can include young boys and young men in the discussion of gender equality but the ideas I have seen were great and I think the cadets did an amazing job on this year's MMUN.