Questions for Prelim Preparation

1. Social Media worsen division in your society. To what extent is this true?
2. In a free society, it is essential for the society have freedom of speech. Do you agree?
3. ‘There is reason to be hopeful rather than fearful about the future.’ Discuss this in relation to your society.
4. ‘Digital technology is making humans intellectually and socially deficient.’ Discuss.
5. ‘My life, my choice.’ Is this good advice for the young people in your society?

Social media worsen division in your society. Do you agree?

Introduction

Just like any other modern society, Singapore faces her complexity and challenges which have created a diverse society that is divisive and confrontational. The omnipresence of social media and its undesirable features have further led to the accusation that it has created division in our society while some are quick to deny this charge that social media worsen division in Singapore. It is easy and logical for many to accuse the social media for worsening division in our society after examining how it contributes to development that undermines the unity in our society from the existing divide we can observe.

Elaboration:

Category of discussion – idea (divide in society – features of social media – effects on how it worsens divide.

TS: Main body

1. Opposing view

Supporters of the view that social media do not worsen divide in our society see the media as a unifying force as it is able forge alignments for many who share common beliefs and values.

The pink dot movement

Rebuttal:

However, this same benefit can be a double edge sword as it can form diverse camps of members that create confrontational views that further divide society.

Behavioural differences that divide lifestyle – entrenched ideas

How they become confrontational – campaign for their justification – contradictory to the social yardstick – communities build through Facebook and social media – diverse opinions – further entrenched the divide – the white dot movement

Supporting view

Topic sentence – category – reflect the area of divide – features of social media – how it worsens the divide

**Supporting view 1**

Furthermore, social media are often used as a manipulative tool to propagate values and develop mind control for agenda set by institutions.

Manipulative tool is disseminating undesirable information – corrupting the immature mind of the youths or individuals – brainwash to act in confrontational manner against the society.

Example – ISIS – lone-wolf terrorism

**Support view 2**

The social media also possess algorithm that shape views of the individuals to become biased and subjective, affirming what they hold true but differs from others.

- heart landers and cosmopolitans, locals and foreigners

Example – CECA – FTA agreement that allows more Indian Nationals

Supporting view 3

**Supporting view 3**

its capacity as a platform for public vigilantism creates the stage to promotes individualism that alienated individuals from the society.

Amos Yee – alternative views

Conclusion

It is unfortunate that Singapore is divisive despite the efforts we have put in to unify the country. Although we have achieved a certain degree of success, the negative usage of social media has undermined the milestones we attained, worsening the divide in our society. Therefore, it is imperative that we take note of the impact of social media, imposing regulation to minimise the negative influences.