



Graduate Student

Dear Jackie

This is the hands of my son. He graduated from the university with a degree in marketing. He says he does not want to go out to work. I worry about his future.

How is his career prospect?

Sandy (my son is 23 right-handed)

Dear Sandy

Thank you for sharing your son's hand with me.

Many parents who brought their children over to have their hands checked on careers often shared the same sentiment.

Their graduated kids do not want to go out to find jobs.

One of the reasons is kids have a life handed over to them. They do not need to work hard. The maid will do the laundry, cooking, ironing and cleaning. Dad would buy IPod, iPhone, a new car and an apartment while mom would give pocket money to shop and spend. Dad even has an inheritance or a trust fund drafted for them.

Parents love their kids and wanted to help them by paying everything for them so that they do not struggle and go without anything. Little do they realize that their actions are holding back their children from doing a job search.

But this is not the case with your son. Your son has an amazing career and a bright financial future. He is mature, intelligent and has a strong sense of independence. He stays committed to follow a career route.

Perhaps the reason why your son is not keen to work after graduation is because his priority is not with work but he wants to take a break and travel first before settling down to a lifelong engagement in work.

If you allow him to do this and set a timeline for him to come back and start his job search, he will be pleased to land himself a job, whether it is an entry-level graduate job, or whether it is a referral word- of- the mouth job or a part-time job to start with.

You can remind him that while he is in his travels to see cultures and countries, he can “kill two birds with one stone” by finding some short marketing internship or work placement with international companies. This will make his travel fruitful because he can accomplish two goals at the same time and these experiences of travels and works will be great assets to his CV.

Jackie