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Umno Youth has a plan to combat social ills

THE UMNO Youth movement has a plan to combat social ills, its deputy chief, Datuk Hishamuddin Hussein said yesterday.

However, Hishamuddin declined to say what the plans were and wanted to leave the announcement to his chief Datuk Ahmad Zahid Hamidi.

Speaking to reporters after calling on Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad at the latter's open house celebrations in Kuala Lumpur yesterday, Hishamuddin said that since mostly youths were involved in social ills, the movement is greatly concerned about solving the problem.

"We have to think of something that will inspire the young people. In the past, the political approach has always been used, but maybe we have to look at other ways to attract their interest.

"For example, we could use not only politicians as role models but artists as well. I am hoping that artists can become role models to combat this problem.

"I have spoken to some of the artists in Johor and they are very supportive and willing to work with Pemuda Umno.

"Sometimes we have to be realistic and have an approach that will be able to attract their interest and attention," Hishamuddin said adding that steps taken by the authorities were welcomed by the people.

"The Prime Minister has brought the matter up a long time ago and his advice has been taken. Nowadays, we have no choice but think of a much more focused approach.

"Solving the problem involves a lot of factors and everybody has to play a role. You can't leave it on the shoulders of the Government and the leadership alone.

"The people who are closest to the youth are the parents. So parents are crucial to the molding of youth and eradicating this problems," he said.

The Prime Minister on Saturday called on Malaysians to be conscious of the ills affecting society and seek ways to overcome them, hoping that this could lead to everyone helping to combat the moral decline.

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