

**Muhyiddin tells youth: Don't fall into trap of self-interest groups**  
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KUALA LUMPUR - Deputy Prime Minister Muhyiddin Yassin reminded the younger generation not to let themselves to be manipulated by what he described as self-interest groups whose struggle may seem admirable at first but is actually based on skewed agenda.

Speaking at the Young Malaysian Leaders seminar at parliament house Thursday, Muhyiddin, who is Education Minister, said the young leaders should not be easily hoodwinked into believing in a struggle that is no longer based on the truth.

"Lately in Malaysia we see issues are being sensationalised and politicised ... religious issues, the law such as the Internal Security Act, race relations, freedom of speech and human rights are becoming the subject of intense debates which could affect race relation and undermine peace.

"You as young leaders should not let yourselves be used by these irresponsible groups," he said at the seminar attended by Senate President Abu Zahar Ujang and Deputy Higher Education Minister Saifuddin Abdullah.

The younger generation, he said, should instead galvanise their energies towards helping to find solutions to the relevant issues and help propel Malaysia into a developed country.

"The younger leaders should act in a progressive manner and nurture the right attitude in order to realise their potentials and help build the country," he said, adding that the government had put in place various programmes to ensure the country's human capital are of high integrity.

The government, he said, viewed seriously the development needs of the younger generation.

There are 11.9 million people aged between 15 and 40 currently, he said.

"You are an important generation who can be assessors, moderators and agents of change in creating a large pool of human capital whose thinking is in tune with the world's development.

"It is our hope that the younger generation and students like you can think rationally and objectively and not be easily influence by negative elements," he said. - Bernama

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