Don’t Be A Mentor

In the small IT company where I work, when there isn’t any work to do, my colleagues, especially the young ones, prefer to watch the news or TikTok rather than learn something. Sometimes I tried to encourage them to improve their skills by reading professional books which were written by prominent software engineers. However, they rejected my advice politely. Maybe I was too arrogant when talking to them. Perhaps these young people just want to lead a comfortable life. Or they don’t know how stiff the competition they will face in the coming years.

First, as presumptuous as I was, I found them awkward when I dropped a hint that they were lack of ambition. Nobody would like to admit that even they really were.

Second, some of them have just graduated for less than two years and apparently, no one would like to learn after doing so for years in the university. In addition, they were well protected by their parents and some even were utterly spoiled. However, being an exceptional engineer needs plain hard work, determination, sweat, and head-on battles. None of these couch potatoes has any of these qualities.

The last reason is that they don’t realize how difficult to find a job in a few years. It is acknowledged that the Chinese economy is in a long deep recession and the number of jobs is decreasing dramatically. Workers are becoming more and more as the jobs are becoming less and less. The rate of unemployment even reached 40% among new graduates. Unfortunately, none of them cares about it.

In conclusion, I realized that it was absolutely ridiculous to be a mentor of someone else especially when you were in danger of losing your job. What I should do is to help myself. All the suggestions that I have given to others should be given to only one person, myself.