

50 Years of Social Issues in Singapore

Edited by **David Chan** (*Professor of Psychology, Singapore Management University*)

Foreword by **Tharman Shanmugaratnam** (*Deputy Prime Minister of Singapore & Minister for Finance*)

The social context of Singapore is changing rapidly, and understanding how people think, feel and behave in various situations has become a key driver of effectiveness in addressing social issues. *50 Years of Social Issues in Singapore* provides a comprehensive review and examination of various social issues at multiple levels of analysis including the individual, group and society.

This invaluable book adopts a translational approach to social issues in Singapore by explicitly bridging intellectual and practical perspectives. Contributed by a distinguished team of authors, the chapters examine the critical ideas underlying public debates of social issues and their policy and practical implications.

The book is organized into three parts. Part I examines issues of population and social fundamentals in Singapore such as ageing, marriage, urban planning, healthcare and racial and religious harmony. Part II analyses Singapore's social progress through issues of inclusivity such as social mobility, developing communities and marginal groups that deserve more attention. Part III focuses on core principles and social processes related to social justice, doing good, social media and approaches to understanding and addressing social issues in Singapore.

Most importantly, the chapters in this book clearly identify many of the critical, unresolved and emerging questions on various social issues that will guide the next generation of public discussion and policy deliberations on what matter in Singapore.

Contents

Population and Social Fundamentals

- Ageing in Singapore: Social Issues and Policy Challenges (*Yap Mui Teng & Christopher Gee*)
- Psychology of Aging: Social Implications for Singapore (*John Elliott*)
- Social Challenges in Singapore's Healthcare System (*Jeremy Lim & Manav Saxena*)
- Marriage and Parenthood in Singapore (*Paulin Straughan*)
- Preserving Racial and Religious Harmony in Singapore (*Mathew Mathews & Mohammad Khamsya Bin Khidzer*)
- Social Dimension in Singapore's Urban Planning (*Liu Thai Ker & Astrid Tuminez*)

Inclusivity and Social Progress

- Social Mobility in Singapore (*Tan Ern Ser*)
- The Soul of Nation Building in Singapore: Contributions from Social Work (*Ang Bee Lian*)
- Social Impact of Policies for the Disabled in Singapore (*Reuben Wong & Wong Meng Ee*)
- Foreign Domestic Workers in Singapore: A Neglected Social Issue? (*Shirlena Huang & Brenda Yeoh*)
- Social Issues in Developing a Community in Singapore (*Mohamad Maliki Bin Osman*)
- Developing Civil Society in Singapore (*Gillian Koh*)

Principles and Social Processes

- Social Justice in Singapore: Some Personal Reflections (*Tommy Koh*)
- Doing Good in Singapore (*Willie Cheng & Sharifah Maisharah*)
- Social Media and Social Issues in Singapore (*Tan Tarn How*)
- Understanding and Addressing Social Issues in Singapore (*David Chan*)