

# Channel NewsAsia-Institute of Policy Studies (CNA-IPS) Survey on Race Relations

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# Outline

- Methodology
- Race & Society
- Race & Policy
- Multiculturalism
- Racism
- Racial Preferences
- Differential Treatment & Discrimination
- Discussing Race
- Racial Socialisation

# Methodology

- Stratified random sampling of dwelling types
- 1500 respondents for main group, additional 250 Malays and 250 Indian respondents\* to ensure sufficient minority representation in sample.
- Fieldwork carried out by Blackbox.
- Reasonable response rate achieved with 72% of households identified completing the survey.

\* “Others” constitute a small group in this survey and they are diverse. As such it is difficult to make reasonable conclusions about this group. As such they were not oversampled. Results from the Others group should also be read with caution.

# Methodology (cont'd)

- Drop-off Pick Up Methodology was employed
- Surveyor approached prospective household, identified eligible person and invited him/her to complete survey questionnaire on their own and return it to the surveyor in a sealed envelope
- In the rare situation, if respondent had difficulty completing the survey because of an inability to read any of the 4 official languages, then surveyor would assist.
- Only Singaporean Residents (Citizens and PRs) 21 years and above were eligible to participate in the survey.

# Profile of Respondents

## Race

	Chinese	Malay	Indian	Others
Weighted	75.2%	13.0%	9.0%	2.8%
Non-weighted	62.6%	16.3%	17.3%	3.8%

## Citizenship

	Singapore Citizen	PR
Weighted	90.1%	9.9%
Non-weighted	80.8%	19.2%

## Gender

	Female	Male
Weighted	51.8%	48.2%
Non-weighted	51.9%	48.1%

## Age

	Weighted	Non-weighted
Below 30 years	29.4%	28.6%
30-39 years	21.5%	23.2%
40-49 years	18.6%	19.0%
50-59 years	18.2%	17.5%
60 years & above	12.3%	11.7%

## Housing

	Weighted	Non-weighted
HDB 1-2 room	2.6%	3.0%
HDB 3 room	21.5%	21.1%
HDB 4 room	32.0%	40.1%
HDB 5 room	24.1%	27.7%
Private apartment/ condominium	13.8%	7.1%
Landed property	5.9%	1.0%

# Highest level of education

	Weighted	Non-weighted
Master's and/ or Doctoral degree	4.0%	4.4%
Bachelor's degree	29.3%	27.9%
Diploma and professional qualification	28.0%	27.6%
Secondary	19.9%	20.3%
Below secondary	8.9%	8.8%
Post secondary (ITE)	5.5%	6.3%
'A' levels	4.3%	4.5%

# FINDINGS

Based on sample size of 2,000 respondents & weighted for ethnicity

Figures presented in tables may not add up to 100 percent because of rounding.



# Summary

- Strong support that success in Singapore is meritocratic and independent of race.
- Strong endorsement of multiracial values
- Very high proportion of Singaporeans report living out multicultural ideals
- Many have positive interactions across ethnic groups.
- Few have been socialised to minimise interaction with those of other races.
- Practically all think that parents should communicate information to their children about racial practices of others and what may lead to offense and why racism is bad.

- Nearly 50% of respondents still recognise that racism can be a problem and are aware that there are substantial portions of Singaporeans who are at least mildly racist.
- Across races, respondents have heard racist comments with 45% at their workplaces.
- Many respondents have a clear sense of what racism entails and find such acts unacceptable especially if they involve exclusion from work.
- Many respondents do not support race based information in media that demeans a group.

- There is still in-group preference with respondents preferring those who are racially similar to themselves for many roles.
- Minorities are more likely to view differential experiences they encounter as a product of racial differences.
- Many regard talking about racial issues as disconcerting and having the potential for tension.
- Most have broached sensitive issues with those of other races.



Attitudes towards

# RACE & SOCIETY

# Meritocracy & Race

- There is strong support for meritocracy – race is perceived not to influence one’s success.
  - Majority of respondents disagreed that race is important in determining who is successful\*
  - Most respondents felt that every one who works hard has an equal opportunity to become rich

	Strongly Disagree/ Disagree	Strongly Agree/ Agree
Race is very important in determining who is successful and who is not.	73%	26%
Everyone who works hard, no matter what race they are, has an equal chance to become rich.	11%	89%

\* Fewer Malays were likely to disagree (66%) cf to Chinese (75%) and Indians (75%)

# Majority (Chinese) Privilege

- Non-Chinese however are more likely to believe that there is majority privilege/advantage.

	Strongly Agree / Agree	
	% of total	% by race
Being of the majority race is an advantage in Singapore society.	53%	C – 49% M – 63% I – 62% O – 72%

# Support for Racial Majoritarian Agenda

- Comparatively little support (a third or so), even among the Chinese, that their interests should be looked after before those of the minorities.

	Strongly Agree / Agree	
	% of total	% by race
It is only natural that the needs of the majority race should be looked after first before the needs of the minority races.	33%	C – 34% M – 31% I – 26% O – 43%

# Race-based Rights

- About 30% of respondents felt that the races were pushing for their cultural rights.
- About 40% of minority respondents felt that the majority race was demanding for more rights.
- Nearly 30% of the majority race, felt minority races were demanding for more with nearly 40% of Malays agreeing to this too.

	Strongly Disagree/ Disagree	Strongly Agree/ Agree
The majority race has been getting too demanding in their push for their racial/cultural rights.	70%	30% C – 26% M – 45% I – 35%
Minorities have been getting too demanding in their push for their racial/cultural rights	71%	29% C – 29% M – 39% I – 25%





Attitudes towards

# RACE & POLICY

# Relevance of Policies

- More than 70% of respondents viewed various policies meant to safeguard racial/religious harmony as helpful in building trust between the races.
- Racial Harmony Day celebrations were viewed positively by most respondents.

	Helps build trust between the races	Fosters greater interaction between races	Safeguards minority rights
Maintenance of Religious Harmony Act	72%	67%	72%
CMIO Racial Categorisation	69%	65%	71%
Racial Harmony Day Celebrations	85%	87%	75%

# Race-based Public Information

- About 65% of respondents did not favour race based public information when it came to crime, educational performance or social problems
- More were supportive of information that portrayed the successes of different races and health based information.

	Yes	No
The type of <b>crime</b> that different races are more likely to commit	30%	70%
<b>Educational performance</b> of the different races	35%	65%
The <b>social problems</b> of different races such as drug abuse, gambling, alcoholism	38%	62%
<b>The successes</b> of the different races	45%	55%
<b>Health issues</b> that affect the different races	54%	46%



Attitudes towards

# MULTICULTURALISM

# Multicultural Values

- Strong endorsement by respondents for features of multiculturalism such as according respect, equality and value for people of other races.

	Strongly Disagree/ Disagree	Strongly Agree/ Agree
I have respect for people from all races	4%	96%
People from all races should be treated equally.	4%	96%
People from all races are equal.	5%	95%
Having people of many different races in Singapore is a good thing.	12%	88%

# Living out Multicultural Ideals

Respondents also indicated that they lived out a multicultural ethos – with over 90% stating that they liked talking to people of all races and lived in peace with everyone

	Strongly Disagree/ Disagree	Strongly Agree/ Agree
I live peacefully with people from all races.	7%	93%
I like talking to people from all races.	9%	91%
I stand up for people from all races.	10%	90%
I accept people from all races	4%	96%

# Inter-ethnic Interactions

Self-reported interactions with people of other races		Chinese Respondents	Malay Respondents	Indian Respondents	Other Participants
Taken an interest in understanding the culture of those who are of this race.	Chinese	-	83%	80%	76%
	Malay	73%	-	69%	63%
	Indian	60%	64%	-	69%
	Others	43%	49%	47%	-
Made friends with those of this race.	Chinese	-	89%	85%	83%
	Malay	86%	-	82%	74%
	Indian	76%	78%	-	77%
	Others	52%	57%	57%	-
Attended an event such as a wedding or celebration of someone of this race.	Chinese	-	75%	70%	74%
	Malay	68%	-	72%	72%
	Indian	41%	57%	-	58%
	Others	26%	30%	34%	-
Tried to learn the language of people of this race.	Chinese	-	84%	67%	74%
	Malay	71%	-	64%	59%
	Indian	27%	38%	-	42%
	Others	35%	36%	30%	-

Most respondents have interacted with those of other races, although it is impossible to judge the depth of these interactions.

# Limits of Multiculturalism: Persistence of Stereotypes

- Respondents were more nuanced when it came to rejecting stereotypes about different races.
- More than 40% of them noted that there were negative qualities among different races.
- Both Chinese and non-Chinese respondents engaged in stereotyping.

	Strongly Disagree/Disagree	Strongly Agree/Agree
People from some races are more violent than others.	56%	44%
People from some races are not friendly.	54%	46%
People from some races are more likely to get into trouble than others.	54%	46%



# Predicting Lower Levels of Multiculturalism

Regression analysis showed that lower levels of multiculturalism was associated with those who were

- Not of the minority races
- Older
- Likely to self label themselves as more racist



Attitudes towards

# RACISM

# Racism as a Persisting Concern

- Nearly half of respondents acknowledge the persistence of racism as a problem.
- This recognition was consistent across age groups.
- Chinese respondents were just as likely to acknowledge this as Malays.

Racism may have been a problem in the past, but it is not an important problem today.

Strongly Disagree	11%
Disagree	36%
Agree	43%
Strongly Agree	10%

# Perceived Racism of Self & Close Circle

How racist are...?

You	Very Racist/ Moderately Racist	Mildly Racist	Hardly Racist/ Not Racist
All Participants	6%	21%	74%
Chinese	6%	23%	72%
Malay	7%	17%	76%
Indian	4%	12%	84%
Family	Very Racist/ Moderately Racist	Mildly Racist	Hardly Racist/ Not Racist
All Participants	7%	24%	69%
Chinese	7%	26%	67%
Malay	7%	21%	72%
Indian	6%	11%	83%
Close Friends	Very Racist/ Moderately Racist	Mildly Racist	Hardly Racist/ Not Racist
All Participants	8%	30%	61%
Chinese	9%	33%	58%
Malay	9%	25%	66%
Indian	3%	19%	77%

- Respondents viewed themselves as hardly or not racist.
- However they were more likely to notice racism in others.
- 42% of Chinese respondents' close friends were deemed as at least mildly racist.

# Perceived Racism of Races in Singapore

How racist are.....?

Most Singaporean Chinese	Very Racist/ Moderately Racist	Mildly Racist	Hardly Racist/ Not Racist
All Participants	18%	38%	44%
Chinese	17%	40%	43%
Malay	23%	31%	46%
Indian	24%	29%	47%
Most Singaporean Malay	Very Racist/ Moderately Racist	Mildly Racist	Hardly Racist/ Not Racist
All Participants	17%	36%	47%
Chinese	18%	38%	45%
Malay	13%	33%	54%
Indian	22%	24%	54%
Most Singaporean Indians	Very Racist/ Moderately Racist	Mildly Racist	Hardly Racist/ Not Racist
All Participants	13%	36%	51%
Chinese	12%	38%	50%
Malay	17%	30%	54%
Indian	12%	28%	60%

- Respondents judged the generalised other as more racist than those in their close circles.
- Less than a quarter of Indians and Malays indicated that most Singaporean Chinese were very or moderately racist.

# Perceived Racism of Migrants

How racist are.....?

Most New Migrants (China)	Very Racist/ Moderately Racist	Mildly Racist	Hardly Racist/ Not Racist
All Participants	36%	29%	36%
Chinese	34%	30%	36%
Malay	40%	27%	33%
Indian	42%	21%	38%
Most New Migrants (India)	Very Racist/ Moderately Racist	Mildly Racist	Hardly Racist/ Not Racist
All Participants	23%	31%	47%
Chinese	21%	31%	48%
Malay	30%	26%	44%
Indian	26%	29%	45%
Most New Migrants (Philippines)	Very Racist/ Moderately Racist	Mildly Racist	Hardly Racist/ Not Racist
All Participants	27%	29%	44%
Chinese	24%	30%	46%
Malay	32%	30%	38%
Indian	38%	20%	42%

- Respondents judged new immigrants as more racist than Singaporeans.
- New migrants from China were viewed as at least mildly racist by 65% of respondents.

# Views on What Constitutes Racism

- About 70% of respondents found that outright discrimination such as not hiring someone because of race/religion; or insulting others because of race was never acceptable.
- They also viewed such acts as racist.

	Always/ Sometimes Acceptable	Never Acceptable	Do you consider these actions as “racist”?	
			Yes	No
Remarking that people of a particular racial group are normally dirty, lazy, or too money minded	34%	66%	73%	27%
Employer not hiring someone because of his or her race	27%	73%	79%	21%
Employer not hiring someone because they wear a sign that identifies them with a particular religion. (E.g. a cross, head scarf)	24%	76%	79%	21%

There was more divergence in views as to whether an action was racist for issues such as not having friends of other races.

	Always Acceptable/ Sometimes Acceptable	Never Acceptable	Do you consider these actions as “racist”?	
			Yes	No
Not sharing a seat with/sitting beside a person of another race	42%	58%	65%	35%
Making jokes about another race in the company of friends	42%	58%	66%	34%
Commenting to someone that their ability is an exemption which members of their race do not have	38%	62%	64%	36%
Not having friends of other races	53%	47%	48%	52%
Offering food to members of another race without considering whether they have dietary restrictions.	51%	49%	41%	59%
Speaking with a person of a different race in a language they may not be familiar with instead of in English	63%	37%	37%	63%



# More minorities viewed racist acts as never acceptable

	Never Acceptable
Remarking that people of a particular racial group are normally dirty, lazy, or too money minded	C – 64% M – 73% I – 77% O – 66%
Employer not hiring someone because of his or her race	C – 72% M – 81% I – 79% O – 68%
Employer not hiring someone because they wear a sign that identifies them with a particular religion. (E.g. a cross, head scarf)	C – 74% M – 81% I – 81% O – 72%

# Racism & Social Policing

- Respondents did not believe that race affected their ability to police bad behaviour or problematic situations.
  - Only about a quarter of respondents felt that they will be accused of being a racist if they intervened in a situation involving someone from another race.

Do you fear that you will be accused of being a racist if you...	Yes	No
Intervene when you see a male of a different race mistreating or disrespecting a woman	23%	77%
Report or talk to a colleague/subordinate of a different race about his poor performance at work.	24%	76%
Intervene when you see someone of another race doing something wrong	25%	75%

# Predictors of those more fearful of being accused of being racist

Regression analysis showed that fear of being accused as racist was stronger among

- those not born in Singapore
- the less educated
- those who held more racist beliefs / less inclusive



Attitudes towards

# RACIAL PREFERENCES

# In-group Preferences for Roles and Relationships

- High level of in-group preference
  - Great majority of Chinese, Malays and Indians find those of their own race as acceptable partners to marry into the family, to help with business issues or to share personal problems with.
- More minority respondents were accepting of Chinese compared to the Chinese accepting minority respondents for various roles and relationships.
- Least preference among respondents were for New Citizens\*

\*figures for New Citizens are not included in the following slides. They range between 7% for roles such as Prime Minister to about 50% for invitations to one's home for a meal.

# Racial Preference for Familial Relationships

Marrying into your family	Acceptability by Race		
	Singaporean Chinese	Singaporean Malay	Singaporean Indian
Chinese Respondents	98%	24%	21%
Malay Respondents	63%	95%	41%
Indian Respondents	50%	30%	86%
Other Respondents	78%	60%	40%

For this and subsequent slides , note that respondents were presented a list of groups that they could choose from. They were instructed to choose as many groups as they found acceptable from 7 options – Singaporean Chinese; Singaporean Malay; Singaporean Indian; New Singaporean from China/India/Philippines/Of Western origin

# Racial Preference for Personal Relationships

To share your personal problems with	Acceptability by Race		
	Singaporean Chinese	Singaporean Malay	Singaporean Indian
Chinese Respondents	98%	48%	43%
Malay Respondents	72%	97%	53%
Indian Respondents	56%	47%	84%
Other Respondents	73%	76%	61%

# Racial Preference for Economic Activity

To help you manage your business	Acceptability by Race		
	Singaporean Chinese	Singaporean Malay	Singaporean Indian
Chinese Respondents	98%	38%	41%
Malay Respondents	82%	85%	47%
Indian Respondents	72%	42%	80%
Other Respondents	85%	52%	58%



# Racial Preference for Social Interaction

- About 66-68% of the Chinese were amenable to inviting Indians and Malays to their house for a meal.

To invite to your house for a meal	Acceptability by Race		
	Singaporean Chinese	Singaporean Malay	Singaporean Indian
Chinese Respondents	97%	66%	68%
Malay Respondents	89%	95%	81%
Indian Respondents	86%	79%	89%
Other Respondents	90%	86%	78%

# Racial Preference for Child Social Interaction

- Approximately 70% of Chinese were amenable to Indians and Malays playing with their children/grandchildren.

To play with your children/grandchildren	Acceptability by Race		
	Singaporean Chinese	Singaporean Malay	Singaporean Indian
Chinese Respondents	97%	72%	68%
Malay Respondents	87%	96%	77%
Indian Respondents	87%	79%	88%
Other Respondents	85%	82%	76%

# Racial Preference for Provision of Services

To tutor your children/grandchildren Mathematics	Acceptability by Race		
	Singaporean Chinese	Singaporean Malay	Singaporean Indian
Chinese Respondents	97%	51%	57%
Malay Respondents	88%	86%	70%
Indian Respondents	85%	56%	78%
Other Respondents	84%	70%	64%

# Racial Preference for Prime Minister

To be Prime Minister of Singapore	Acceptability by Race		
	Singaporean Chinese	Singaporean Malay	Singaporean Indian
Chinese Respondents	98%	53%	60%
Malay Respondents	86%	93%	75%
Indian Respondents	88%	70%	89%
Other Respondents	87%	81%	68%

# Racial Preference for President

To be President of Singapore	Acceptability by Race		
	Singaporean Chinese	Singaporean Malay	Singaporean Indian
Chinese Respondents	96%	59%	68%
Malay Respondents	84%	94%	75%
Indian Respondents	87%	73%	92%
Other Respondents	84%	84%	69%

Singapore-an Chinese respondents of different age groups	To Be President of Singapore			To be Prime Minister of Singapore		
	Singapore-an Chinese	Singaporean Malay	Singapore-an Indian	Singaporean Chinese	Singaporean Malay	Singaporean Indian
<30	95%	64%	75%	99%	63%	70%
30-39	96%	63%	72%	98%	59%	65%
40-49	95%	61%	70%	99%	50%	56%
50-59	97%	51%	60%	99%	42%	50%
>60	97%	48%	50%	98%	42%	45%
Breakdown of non-Chinese respondents by age is not possible because of smaller numbers in total sample						

# Predictors of those who are more Inclusive

Based on regression analysis, those who were more inclusive tended to be

- Younger respondents
- Better educated
- Those who reported greater interaction across races



Attitudes towards

# DIFFERENTIAL TREATMENT AND DISCRIMINATION



# Frequency of Perceptions of Negative Treatment

- Most respondents reported that over the last two years, they had never experienced forms of negative treatment such as being insulted or harassed.
- Where there were negative experiences, it tended to be perceptions that others were acting as if they were superior.

		Chinese	Malay	Indian	Others
You have received poorer service than other people at restaurants or stores	Four or more times	9%	8%	8%	10%
	Two or three times	23%	21%	24%	39%
	Once	10%	13%	13%	13%
	Never	58%	58%	54%	38%
		Chinese	Malay	Indian	Others
People have acted as if they think you are not smart	Four or more times	7%	9%	10%	12%
	Two or three times	19%	26%	23%	29%
	Once	10%	16%	15%	19%
	Never	64%	50%	52%	40%

		Chinese	Malay	Indian	Others
People have acted as if they're better than you are	Four or more times	11%	17%	18%	30%
	Two or three times	24%	26%	23%	17%
	Once	10%	14%	14%	23%
	Never	54%	43%	46%	29%

		Chinese	Malay	Indian	Others
You have been called names or insulted	Four or more times	5%	7%	8%	6%
	Two or three times	9%	13%	13%	22%
	Once	11%	10%	12%	12%
	Never	75%	70%	67%	59%

		Chinese	Malay	Indian	Others
You have been threatened or harassed	Four or more times	2%	3%	2%	4%
	Two or three times	4%	5%	4%	9%
	Once	6%	8%	7%	9%
	Never	88%	85%	87%	78%

# Perceptions about Cause of Negative Treatment

- Ethnic minorities tend to perceive more instances of negative (differential) treatment (e.g. people have acted as if they are better than you are)
- Among those who have ever felt such negative treatment, a larger proportion of ethnic minorities think that they are treated negatively on the basis on race (67% Malays and 67% Indians).
  - A large proportion of Malays (48%) think that they are treated negatively also on the basis of religion and income/education (44%).
  - About 62% of Indians feel treated negatively also because on skin colour.

Perceptions of Negative Treatment along the lines of...	Percentage by race
Race	C – 35%
	M – 67%
	I – 67%
	O – 48%
Religion	C – 21%
	M – 48%
	I – 28%
	O – 24%
Shade of skin color	C – 20%
	M – 38 %
	I – 62%
	O – 29 %
Education or income level	C – 36 %
	M – 44%
	I – 26%
	O – 32%

# Responses to Differential Treatment

A higher proportion of ethnic minorities respond to perceived differential treatment (e.g. talk to someone, work harder, tried to do something).

Response to perceived differential treatment	Percentage by race
Tried to do something about it	C – 32%
	M – 40%
	I – 36%
	O – 40%
Worked harder to prove them wrong	C – 37%
	M – 49%
	I – 37%
	O – 59%
Talked to someone about how you are feeling	C – 36%
	M – 41 %
	I – 42%
	O – 38 %

# Perceptions of Racial Discrimination

- While many minority respondents attributed the negative experiences they have encountered to race, comparatively few felt that they had been racially discriminated.
- More minorities had heard someone share about racial discrimination / prejudice.

Race	Ever felt racially discriminated			Someone shared their experiences of prejudice/discrimination		
	Yes	No	Not sure	Yes	No	Not sure
Chinese	17%	63%	20%	36%	55%	9%
Malay	33%	48%	19%	45%	40%	15%
Indian	36%	40%	24%	48%	42%	10%
Others	38%	38%	25%	56%	32%	12%

# Racist Comments

- About 60% of respondents (regardless of race) had heard racist comments.
- Under half of the respondents noted that such comments were made by workplace colleagues.

Who made the most recent comment?		
Family members	23%	C – 23% M – 23% I – 20% O – 24%
Workplace colleagues	45%	C – 44% M – 44% I – 54% O – 44%
Friends	61%	C – 62% M – 57% I – 60% O – 52%
Online Contacts	21%	C – 19% M – 28% I – 28% O – 28%

# Response to Racist Comments

- The primary way of dealing with such information was to ignore these comments, which 63% did.
- 29% of respondents argued with the person who had made the statement about the truth of their assertion.

How did you react?	
17%	Agreed with the person
29%	Argued with the person about the truth of their statement
65%	Ignored the person's comments



Attitudes towards

# DISCUSSING RACE



# Openness to Race Discussion

- About two thirds of respondents noted that discussions of race was disconcerting in that it could be offensive and lead to tension.
- About half of respondents (including minorities) cited that minorities are being over-sensitive about racial issues.

	Strongly Disagree/ Disagree	Strongly Agree/ Agree
Talking about racial issues causes unnecessary tension.	34%	66%
It is very hard to discuss issues related to race without someone getting offended.	36%	64%
Minorities are getting too sensitive when people talk about racial issues.	50%	50%

- 78% of Malays, 58% of Indians and 71% of Others had asked a Chinese person about racial sensitivities.
- Among the Chinese, 67% had asked a Malay, but fewer an Indian (44%) about such sensitivities.

	Chinese	Malay	Indian	Others
Asked someone from this race about some sensitive issue related to their race or religion.	67%	65%	46%	32%
	C – 66 %	C – 67%	C – 44%	C – 31%
	M – 78%	M – 57%	M – 54%	M – 35%
	I – 58%	I – 65%	I – 49%	I – 28%
	O – 71%	O – 62%	O – 59%	O – 64%

# Racial Issues that Require Clarification

- A quarter of respondents had wanted to ask someone about issues related to their race but did not.
- The issues that people were concerned about largely related to religious beliefs and practices associated with racial groups and cultural practices.

Rank	Theme
1	Cultural practices e.g. how is a Chinese/Indian/Malay funeral/wedding conducted? Why do Indians eat with their hands? Why do Indian women need to give dowry?
2	Religious beliefs and practices e.g. why do you burn joss paper, what is halal food, why Muslims cannot eat pork?
3	Geopolitics/Current Affairs that are associated with ethnic communities e.g. terrorism, rape in India
4	Experiences/thoughts/perceived reasons of racial discrimination e.g. Why do you feel discriminated? Do you Chinese know how it feels to be a racial minority?



Attitudes towards

# RACIAL SOCIALISATION

# Onset of Perception of Racial Differences

- About half of respondents realised the differences between races before 13 years.

	Percentage of respondents who discovered racial difference <7 years	Percentage of respondents who discovered racial difference 7 -12 years	Mean Age when respondents discovered racial difference	Median Age* when respondents discovered racial differences
Chinese	15%	42%	12.8	10.0
Malay	17%	36%	13.3	10.0
Indian	10%	36%	15.6	12.0
Others	30%	16%	14.5	12.4

\*It is more reliable to use median age since some report higher ages, and this affects the calculation of means

# Parents & Race Based Education

- More than 90% of respondents think that parents should educate children about a wide range of racial matters.
- Despite this, only about 60% of parents have actually done so.

	Unimportant/ Somewhat Unimportant	Important/ Somewhat Important	Percentage of Parents who have talked to children
About what people of some races find offensive	8%	92%	58%
About why people of some races do things differently	9%	91%	61%
About why racism is bad for society	6%	94%	59%

# Parental Concerns about Inter-ethnic Mixing

Most respondents did not report that their parents limited their inter-ethnic mixing. There were proportionally more Chinese who reported this compared to minorities.

When you were growing up, did your parents/elders tell you not to mix too much with people of other races?

Yes	<b>19%</b> C – 21% M – 14% I – 13% O – 24%
No	<b>81%</b> C – 79% M – 86% I – 87% O – 76%

# CNA-IPS Survey on Race Relations

Please contact Dr Mathew Mathews at [mathew.mathews@nus.edu.sg](mailto:mathew.mathews@nus.edu.sg) or 6601-1416 if you have any questions. Click [here](#) for a summary of the survey findings.