Singaporeans still conservative about certain social issues, says IPS survey

Olivia Siong Channel News Asia, 28 January 2014

SINGAPORE: A survey by the Institute of Policy Studies revealed that Singapore remains a largely conservative society with regard to certain social issues.

80.3 per cent of respondents said they felt sexual relations with someone other than their marriage partner was always or almost always wrong. Though slightly less than half of the respondents (44 per cent) disapproved of living with a partner before marriage.

78.2 per cent felt likewise about sexual relations between two adults of the same sex.

When it came to adoption of a child by a gay couple, respondents who found it always or almost always wrong fell to 61.1 per cent. 72.9 per cent found gay marriage always or in certain cases wrong, and 15.7 per cent thought it was not.

Respondents disagreed less with issues like divorce and gambling.

The survey showed about 43 per cent of respondents felt divorce was wrong always, or in most instances.

About 69 per cent felt that way about gambling.

22.5 per cent felt divorce and 13.5 per cent thought gambling was not wrong most of the time or at all.