Tuesday • 23 March 2004 • 9.00 am – 12.45 pm • Meritus Mandarin Singapore

Who should attend

By Job Titles
- Lawyers
- Counsellors
- Psychologists
- Social Workers

By industry
- Social Work
- Community Services
- Voluntary Welfare Organisations
- Family Service Centres

9.00 Registration

9.30 Session One
Children in the Courts
- Differing Approaches taken by the Criminal and Family Courts
- Criminal and Family Proceedings
- Testimonials in Family Matters
- Roles and Responsibilities of Child Representatives
- Considerations in Providing Support for Child Witnesses
- Vulnerable Witness Support Program
  - Target group
  - Procedures

Malathi Das, Partner, David Nayar and Vardan Koh Wah Khoon, Director, Community Development, Singapore Children’s Society

10.30 Break

11.00 Session Two
Children’s Arrangements: Custody, Care and Control, and Access
- Principles Applied by the Courts in Decisions on Custody, Care and Control, and Access:
  Latest Developments
- Practical Problems Faced in Access
  - Facilitating Easy Access and Joint Cooperation: Strategies for Lawyers and Social Workers
  - Approaches Used to Promote Joint Parenting

Debbie Ong, Associate Professor, Faculty of Law, National University of Singapore
Saradha Ramachandran, Senior Counsellor, HELP Family Service Centre

12.30 Question and Answer Session

12.45 Close
About the SPEAKERS

Koh Wah Khoon
Director, Community Development Singapore Children’s Society

Wah Khoon is Director of Community Development at the Singapore Children’s Society. She has more than 20 years of experience in the social work field, working with children, youth, families and volunteers.

Wah Khoon graduated with Bachelor of Arts and Social Science, majoring in social work and sociology. She obtained a Post-Graduate Diploma in Community Development with Special Emphasis on Children and Youth at Mount Carmel Training Centre in the University of Haifa, Israel.

Debbie Ong
Associate Professor, Faculty of Law
National University of Singapore

Debbie Ong is an Associate Professor in the Faculty of Law, National University of Singapore. She teaches Family Law, Private International Law in Family issues and the Law of Torts. She practises consultancy work and publishes in these areas. Her writings also cover the area of Succession Law. As a specialist in Family Law, she also serves as a Court Mediator in the Family Court and as Vice-Chairperson of the Law Society’s Family Law Practice Committee. She enjoys being involved in projects and seminars which further the development of a good family justice system. Believing in the need for community support for families in Singapore, she has also been serving on the Management Committee of the Tampines Family Service Centre.

Malathi Das
Partner
David Nayar and Vardan

Malathi Das is a litigation lawyer whose special interest is in family and child issues. She was admitted to the Singapore Bar in 1993 and has been in private practice with M/s Palakrishnan and Partners until last year, and is presently with M/s David Nayar and Vardan. A Council Member of the Law Society of Singapore since 1996 and presently its Treasurer: she is the Council representative on the Society’s Family Law Practice Committee. Malathi is also Singapore’s country councillor on the Law Associations for Asia and the Pacific (LAWASIA) and its youngest appointed Exco member.

She counsels at free legal clinics with the Family Court, the Association of Women’s Action and Research (AWARE) and is a founding member of Counselling Online.Com, an Internet crisis helpline. She teaches Family Law modules at the Board of Legal Education’s Postgraduate Practice Law Course and also heads the Legal Sub-Committee of the Golden Life Elder Abuse Prevention Workgroup, a multi-agency initiative towards raising elder awareness in Singapore.

Price

Members of the Law Society of Singapore: SGD220 + 5% GST
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