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.

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50 Years of Social Issues in Singapore

Edited by David Chan (Professor of Psychology, Director, Behavioural Sciences Institute, Singapore Management University)

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

About the Editor

David Chan received his PhD in Industrial and Organizational Psychology from Michigan State University. He is Lee Kuan Yew Fellow, Professor of Psychology & Director of the Behavioural Sciences Institute at Singapore Management University (SMU). He is also Adjunct Principal Scientist at the Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A*STAR) and Co-Director of the Centre for Technology and Social-Behavioural Insights which is a centre jointly established by A*STAR and SMU. He was formerly Deputy Provost of SMU and Deputy Director of the Wharton-SMU Research Centre.

Professor Chan’s research includes areas in research methods and data analysis with a focus on longitudinal modeling and multilevel issues, work and organizational psychology with a focus on personnel selection and adaptation to changes, and subjective well-being. He has published numerous journal articles and book chapters, authored a textbook in personnel selection and delivered several keynote speeches and papers at international conferences.

Professor Chan has received several international scholarly awards including the William Owens Scholarly Achievement Award and the Edwin Ghiselli Award for Innovative Research Design presented by the Society for Industrial and Organizational Psychology (SIOP) and the Dissertation Research Award presented by the American Psychological Association. He is the first non-American to receive the Distinguished Early Career Contributions Award from the SIOP. In 2000, he was ranked 9th world-wide in the list of Top 100 most published researchers of the 1990’s in the top journals of Industrial and Organizational Psychology. His works have been cited over 3000 times in published articles in various disciplines.

Professor Chan has served as Senior Editor of the Asia Pacific Journal of Management, Associate Editor of the Journal of Organizational Behavior, and member on the editorial boards of several journals. He is the Advisory Editor for Oxford Bibliographies (Management), published by the Oxford University Press. He also serves as regular reviewer for over 10 journals, the National Science Foundation in United States, the Hong Kong Research Grants Council and evaluation panel members for several government agencies in Singapore.

Professor Chan has worked with public and private organizations in Singapore and United States on personnel selection, national surveys and related projects. He is Consultant to the Prime Minister’s Office and numerous government organizations in Singapore. He is a member of the National Council on Problem Gambling (NCPG), the Public Hygiene Council, the International Advisory Board of the Centre for the Advancement of Research Methods and Analysis, the Economics and Social Research Network which advises the Singapore Government on issues in economic and social sciences research, the Governing Board for the Workplace Safety and Health Institute, the International Panel of Experts for the Urban Redevelopment Authority, the Board of the Singapore Corporation of Rehabilitative Enterprises, the Research Advisory Panel for the National Population and Talent Division, the Resource Panel for the National Environment Agency, and Chairman of the International Advisory Panel to the NCPG & National Addictions Management Service. He also does volunteer work as scientific advisor to the National Volunteerism and Philanthropy Centre. He writes regularly on social issues as an invited columnist for The Straits Times and appears regularly on Channel NewsAsia current affairs television programmes. He was also the consultant to The Social Experiment, a 5-part programme series produced by Channel NewsAsia that examines social phenomena in Singapore through scientific experiments.

Together with Nobel Laureate in Economics Professor Daniel Kahneman and world-renowned psychologist Professor Ed Diener, Professor Chan served on an international committee which submitted to the United Nations a report on measures of national well-being across countries. He is an Elected Fellow of the SIOP, the Association for Psychological Science, the American Psychological Association and the International Association of Applied Psychology.

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