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Information Division, Ministry of Culture, City Hall, Singapore 0617 • TEL: 3378191 ext. 352, 353, 354 / 3362207 / 3362271

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SPEECH BY MR TEO CHONG TEE, PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY
(ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS), AT THE COURTESY
CAMPAIGN CHILDREN'S ON-THE-SPOT ART COMPETITION-CUM-
PRESENTATION OF APPOINTMENT LETTERS TO RESIDENTS'
COMMITTEE MEMBERS AT THE VOID DECK OF BLOCK 124,
BEDOK NORTH ROAD ON SUNDAY, 31 JULY 1983 AT 10 AM

In conjunction with the National Courtesy Campaign, the Bedok North Community Centre Management Committee (CCMC) and the Residents' Committees (RC) Zones 1 and 2 have jointly organised a Children's On-the-Spot Art Competition, which is held together with the presentation of appointment letters to RC members. The aim of the art competition is primarily to foster courtesy amongst the children and residents in the community and instill in them a better understanding of what courtesy is all about. Through the form of art, children will be able to crystallise their ideas and thoughts on this year's theme for the Courtesy Campaign which is "Courtesy and Social Responsibility".

In present day Singapore, with the increase in the number of persons living in high-rise buildings and in close proximity to each other, it is time that both children and adults alike, realise that courtesy implies the inculcation of social responsibility. Aspects of social responsibility which are directly applicable to you would be showing consideration to one another as neighbours, maintaining a clean living environment in your community and not create a nuisance of yourselves. In this way, we can build up a more caring community whereby mutual help and concern are expected.

Our living environment and the things we do in everyday life have a great influence on our children. We must teach our children to discriminate between what is wrong from right, courteous from discourteous and encourage them to conform to the norms of behaviour of the community. We want our children to grow up well mannered, courteous and good citizens. Thus it is our duty and that of every family to ensure that good habits and attitudes prevail amongst our young.

The duties and responsibilities of Residents' Committees are also important as they promote a closer link among the residents and help them to understand one another better so as to establish a harmonious living environment. RC members should continue their selfless attitudes and spirit and take initiative in every respect to organise and promote good neighbourliness. With the co-operation of the residents, I am sure that RC members will be able to organise more meaningful programmes for the people.

I take this opportunity to wish the newly appointed and re-appointed RC members every success. Their spirit and dedication in extending their voluntary services to the people is greatly appreciated. I am sure that the children taking part in today's competition will come to an understanding that "No one spits on a smiling face" or translated literally "people will like courteous people". We must make courtesy a habit and a daily routine. I would also like to thank the parents for encouraging their children to take part in this meaningful activity and also the effort of the Bedok North CCMC and RC members to make this event a success.
