



█ █ @sharanvkaur Sun Jun 19 08:49:21 +0000 2022

icymi: the first politician to attend PinkDot was Vincent Wijesingha.

he was part of the SDP team that ran in Holland-Bukit Timah in 2011, garnering 39.9% of the votes even after a smear campaign by the PAP team. <https://t.co/Xtkfsn1zCN>

In 2011, Parliament was dissolved on 19 April, Nomination Day was on 27 April, and the election was held on 7 May.

the drama started early, with a mysterious video posted on Youtube on 14 Apr

(the video is still available, uploaded by JohnTan88888, look it up) <https://t.co/r0xMkLFgAW>

- fake Spore Democrats** @fakeSDP · Apr 14, 2011

Vincent Wijesingha gay video on youtube has been made private... Looks like we at SDP are not as open as we claim! #sgelections

...

🗨
↻
♥
↑
- Gintai_昇泰** @palmuser_alan · Apr 13, 2011

Why I joined the opposition: Dr **Vincent Wijesingha** - Yahoo!
<http://bit.ly/fdy5BB>

...

🗨
↻
♥
↑
- fake Spore Democrats** @fakeSDP · Apr 13, 2011

Vincent Wijesingha and Anwar Ibrahim can be good friends! Both like assholes! #gayjokes #sgelections

...

🗨
↻
♥
↑
- Basil Yeo** @basilyeo · Apr 13, 2011

I liked a @YouTube video <http://youtu.be/77IH5eaV7oU?a> **Vincent Wijesingha's** speech at the SDP's It's About You rally

...

🗨
↻
♥
↑
- fake Spore Democrats** @fakeSDP · Apr 12, 2011

Vincent Wijesingha is gay! Watch video for evidence
<http://bit.ly/hl19wx>

...

🗨
↻
♥
↑

the day after Parliament was dissolved, the Straits Times reported Vivian's comments, saying SDP will eventually have to "come out of the closet" <https://t.co/EqaMzyXjFX>

“ I am not sure what (the Singapore Democratic Party's) strategy is. I would like to know whether they have confirmed that they are contesting, I would like to know their line-up. I can't help feeling that part of the reason for their reticence is they have elements of their agenda they are not prepared to disclose and subject to scrutiny. Eventually, they will have to come out of the closet.

— Vivian Balakrishnan, Straits Times, 20 Apr 2011

on 23 apr, Vivian gave an interview to the Straits Times: <https://t.co/GU2pd7WvBT>

Sunday Times
24 April 2011

'Strange bedfellows' in SDP team

Vivian takes on Chee's party, hinting of a possible expose over YouTube video
By Judith Tan and Amresh Gunasingham

Dr Vivian Balakrishnan yesterday described the Singapore Democratic Party (SDP) team running against him as 'strange bedfellows' who do not have a shared vision or ideology.

Dismissing accusations by SDP candidate Tan Jee Say that the People's Action Party had 'lost its moral compass', he turned the spotlight back onto the SDP instead.

In an interview with The Sunday Times, he said: 'It has been brought to my attention - in fact it is the SDP which is suppressing a certain YouTube video, which raises some very awkward questions about the agenda and motivations of the SDP and its candidates.'

He declined to give more details about the clip.

'I suspect Mr Tan had not done appropriate due diligence of his teammates and his party,' he said.

'I am not going to go further into details but I think saying that and publishing that, the netizens will know what to do and they will discover this.'

The PAP team leader for Holland-Bukit Timah GRC made these pointed remarks while responding to Mr Tan's criticisms of Singapore's economic strategy.

Mr Tan, 57, the former principal private secretary to Senior Minister Goh Chok Tong, had argued that with policies such as the introduction of the integrated resorts, the PAP government had lost its moral compass.

on 25 apr, the PAP Holland-Bukit Timah team sent out a statement to the press. all 4 candidates who signed the statement are still MPs today.

here's the statement in full:

[[link: <https://www.asiaone.com/News/AsiaOne+News/Singapore/Story/A1Story20110425-275604.html>]]
<https://t.co/PT0y8PHlfj>

In a statement that was sent out to the press yesterday evening, the PAP team for Holland-Bukit Timah GRC wanted Dr Vincent Wijesingha to explain if he will pursue the gay cause in the political arena.

Below is Dr Balakrishnan and his team's statement:

What is his agenda?

A video has been posted on the internet showing Vincent Wijesingha participating at a forum which discussed the promotion of the gay cause in Singapore.

The discussion at the forum also touched on sex with boys and whether the age of consent for boys should be 14 years of age.

RELATED STORIES

- [Magic hour for GE candidates](#)
- [AsiaOne's General Election Special](#)
- [More Election stories](#)

In the video, Wijesingha was introduced as being from the SDP.

In addition to other comments, Wijesingha stated: 'I think the gay community has to rally ourselves. Perhaps one outcome of today's forum would be, for those of us who are interested, to come together to further consider how we can address the 377 issue as well as further rights issues in relation to gays and lesbians.'

We believe that candidates should be upfront about their political agenda and motives, so that voters are able to make an informed choice.

The issue is not Wijesingha's sexual orientation. That is a matter for him.

The video raises the question on whether Wijesingha will now pursue this cause in the political arena and what is the SDP's position on the matter.

Vivian Balakrishnan
Liang Eng Hwa
Christopher de Souza
Sim Ann

nation-building press doing their jobs, putting Vincent on the front pages <https://t.co/ICCYJ43SNr>

“ It is a six-minute video clip – posted on YouTube on April 14 – of what appears to be a recording of a forum discussing whether Section 377A of Singapore’s penal code, which criminalises sex between men, violates the Republic’s Constitution.

Is this the video which Minister for Community Development, Youth and Sports Vivian Balakrishnan was referring to in a news report published yesterday?

That is what netizens are suggesting.

[snip]

Some netizens have highlighted the video clip – a shorter version of which was uploaded on Saturday – in which, near the end, a man on the stage said: “At the end of the day, you all can petition the Prime Minister, this and that, and so on and so forth ... If you really want numbers, you have to vote an MP. Gay MP there, first gay MP in Singapore, ladies and gentlemen, Vincent Wijesingha.”

Dr Balakrishnan has not confirmed whether this video clip was what he was referring to.

— *Today newspaper, 25 April 2011, Netizens attempt to identify video SDP accused of ‘suppressing’*

MYSTERY VIDEO REVEALED

It shows SDP candidate Vincent Wijesingha at a gay forum, saying: 'I think the gay community has to rally ourselves.'

VIVIAN BALAKRISHNAN ASKS: What is his agenda?
The issue is not Wijesingha's sexual orientation ... (but) whether Wijesingha will now pursue this cause in the political arena and what is the SDP's position on the matter.

CHEE SOON JUAN REPLIES: There is none
We are not pursuing the gay agenda and none of our MPs will.

See Prime Page A7

The Straits Times (front page), 26 April 2011

SDP CANDIDATE 'OUTED' IN GAY FORUM VIDEO

IS S'PORE READY FOR GAY MP?

PAP TO SDP: What's your agenda?
SDP says...
PAGE 6

on 28 Apr, the day after nomination day, Vivian said no need to talk about the video anymore

<https://sg.news.yahoo.com/blogs/singaporescene/dr-vivian-let-not-talk-video-anymore-173058828.html>

fast forward - in 2013, Vincent posted this the day before PinkDot, and stepped down from the SDP shortly after.

<https://twitter.com/visakanv/status/372656166629031936?s=20&t=o17fxKag3g516-3iNH2mVw>

<https://t.co/1f1F1lhrmE>



Vincent Wijesingha shared a link.
42 minutes ago

Just in case Fabrications About The PAP was wondering, yes, I am going to Pink Dot tomorrow. And yes, I am gay.

PS. And no, I don't have a gay agenda.



PINK DOT 2013: HOME - 29 JUNE 2013
www.youtube.com

Can every Singaporean truly call this country "home"? That is one of the many questions posed by this video, accompanied by Dick Lee's own version of his pop...

he wrote a column about PinkDot for Fridae after he stepped down - it's still worth reading in full

[[link: <https://www.fridae.asia/gay-news/2013/08/28/12415.pink-dot-a-sign-and-symbol-of-a-day-that-must-come>]]

yeah so... i can't tell you what to think about MPs showing up at PinkDot.

maybe it's good (yay respectability and visibility!).

maybe it's bad (yay virtue signalling from people in power!).

but this... this is the backdrop we're operating against. <https://t.co/XHODmTMfQ6>

just found Ch 5 news snippet from 25 April 2011

pay attention to how this was framed -

1. "we believe this is one of the videos"
2. "the quality is not clear, but according to the (PAP) statement [insert groomer nonsense that wasn't actually said]"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ul0Pfn4EU8> <https://t.co/5dTGUJ5uJG>



1.00

PAP ON SDP VIDEO



- Discussion on sex with boys, lowering consent age
- Dr Wijesingha introduced as SDP member, quoted saying gays consider how to address 'the 377 issue'

The quality of the video is not clear,
but according to the statement,

1.00

PAP ON SDP VIDEO



- Discussion on sex with boys, lowering consent age
- Dr Wijesingha introduced as SDP member, quoted saying gays consider how to address 'the 377 issue'

the discussion touched on sex with boys
and whether the age of consent should be 14.