



Forum *Ibubapa Selamanya*

- *Melayari Cabaran Keibubapaan Bersama Selepas Perceraian*

Parents Forever Forum

- Navigating the Challenges of Co-Parenting After Divorce

Singapore, Saturday, 4 February 2017. Associate Professor Dr Muhammad Faishal Ibrahim, Parliamentary Secretary for the Ministry of Education and Ministry of Social and Family Development, officiates the *Ibu Bapa Selamanya - Melayari Cabaran Keibubapaan Bersama Selepas Perceraian (Parents Forever - Navigating the Challenges of Co-Parenting After Divorce) Forum 2017*. The first forum organised by PPIS As-Salaam Family Support Centre since it was officially designated as a Divorce Support Specialist Agency (DSSA) in January 2015.

Yearly, more than 1,700 children are affected by parental divorce. Apart from having to face the changes and adjustments following a divorce, parents will be nudged into a different kind of parenting situation and that is to co-parent their children with their ex-spouse. With more parents being granted 'joint custody' of their children, it is thus natural that divorced families will have to embrace 'co-parenting' as the new norm.

Divorced couples will also need to have new ways of managing children and their relationships with ex-spouses, for the best interest of their children and the family. With the right attitude, skills, knowledge, as well as support from resources, it is hoped that divorced couples will be able to rebuild their lives and have a more harmonious relationship with the parents of their children.

"One of the toughest relationships to navigate is that of ex-spouses after a divorce. This is because both of them might still have serious struggles in their relationship due to the pain of divorce and yet still have to communicate with each other about their children. As such, we believe they need a lot of support and understanding from those around them, including their family and friends. They too need to work hard on focusing their communication on issues related to their children and not on their past hurts and pains." says Ms Marjiana Abu Bakar, Senior Social Worker, PPIS As-Salaam.

The forum will provide a platform for sharing and learning with participants to:

- increase their awareness and knowledge on the challenges in co-parenting and ways to address them,
- increase their readiness to seek assistance should they need help in co-parenting their children.

“We are cognisant that the number of families we reach out to, is only a fraction of those affected by divorce in the Malay/Muslim community. Therefore through this forum, we hope to increase awareness of the support available for divorced families and their loved ones. At the same time, introducing a change in mindset to ensure that co-parenting, and not just single-parenting, is the accepted paradigm in our community where divorced parents work together for the benefit of their children,” Ms Rahayu Mohamad, President PPIS, had this to add.

Forum Ibulapa Selamanya - Melayari Cabaran Keibubapaan Bersama Selepas Perceraian hopes to reach out to not only divorcing individuals in the Malay/Muslim community but also to divorced single parent families and their loved ones so that the community is aware of the support programmes and services available through PPIS As-Salaam. The event also represents a confluence of several efforts undertaken by the Ministry of Social and Family Development (MSF), the Courts as well as PPIS, to address a crucial issue in the development of any nation - the well-being of the children of the nation especially those disadvantaged by the break-up of their families.

This forum is part of a string of events lined up throughout the year in celebration of PPIS' 65th Anniversary.

Associate Professor Dr Muhammad Faishal Ibrahim will be available for a doorstep interview at the event after the stage programme.

Guest of Honour:

Associate Professor Dr Muhammad Faishal Ibrahim

Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Education and Ministry of Social and Family Development

Member of Parliament for Nee Soon GRC GRO

Speakers:

Ustaz Mustazah Bahari (MUIS Appeal Board Member)

Ms Marjiana Abu Bakar (Senior Social Worker, PPIS As-Salaam)

Event Details:

Date: Saturday, 4 February 2017

Location: Life Long Learning Institute (11 Eunus Road 8, 408601)

Time: 1400 – 1700 hours

This forum will be conducted in Malay.

Event registration details:

Find out more at <http://ppis.sg/get-involved/events/event/13-forum-ibu-bapa-selamanya>

Pre-event registration at <http://tiny.cc/gn8ciy>

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About PPIS

Founded in 1952, PPIS (Persatuan Pemudi Islam Singapura or Singapore Muslim Women's Association) is a non-profit organisation focused on community services. We are dedicated to working with women of all ages in carrying out their multiple roles in society. PPIS runs three core community services namely Family Services, Student Care and Early Childhood Education (ECE). With 15 centres islandwide, the services work together to provide a quality and holistic support as well as developmental programmes for women and their families.

About PPIS As-Salaam

PPIS As-Salaam is a centre of specialisation, with more than 25 years of experience in working with Malay-Muslim single parent families. In 2015, PPIS As-Salaam set another milestone by being appointed as a Divorce Support Specialist Agency (DSSA) by the Ministry of Social and Family Development (MSF). Through specialised training, the staff were further equipped with knowledge and skills in handling divorce issues, as part of their effort to strive in providing the support needed for divorcing/divorced families.

For more information, please visit: <http://www.ppis.sg>

Annexe (Profiles of various speakers as a separate file/document)