Plenary Session II

YOUTH IN THE NET:

CHALLENGES FOR PARENTS AND GOVERNMENT

Author: Dr. Alfred Choi, PhD & Miss Toh Su Fen, LL.M
Nanyang Technological University & TOUCH Community Services

Speaker: Miss Toh Su Fen

Abstract:

As Singapore embraces the age of information technology as the way forward into the 21st century, there are some concerns that need to be addressed and obstacles to be overcome. Drawing on empirical data, the paper shows that Singapore youths are receptive to IT and are generally Internet savvy. However, a digital divide exists on two levels – between generations and among the youths in terms of socio-economic status. The challenges of promoting IT to youths in the light of various undesirable materials such as cyber-pornography will also be discussed. It also highlights examples of concerted efforts in public education within Singapore, spearheaded by the government and a parents’ group.