



# Reflections on Intergenerational Ties in Singapore: CMP Case Studies.



# Brief Overview of the Maintenance of Parents Act

## Who is eligible?

### **Section 3(1)**

- Domiciled and resident in Singapore
- Aged 60 & above
- Unable to maintain himself adequately

### **Section 3(5)**

Aged below 60 :

- Infirmary of mind/body
- Unable to maintain himself
- Other special reason

## Who is liable?

“Child” – includes illegitimate, adopted child & step-child

S 14A –Tracing

## Key Principles

- Family is the first line of care and support for elderly
  - Children have moral responsibility
- Reciprocity of care
- No vulnerable elderly person should fall through the cracks
- Conciliation should be amicable

# Work of the Commissioner

1. CMP is first stop for all new applications
2. Conducts conciliation/mediation sessions to achieve an amicable resolution on the maintenance issue
3. Referrals
4. Monitors compliance of agreement to pay

# Intergenerational ties

1. Parent-child – the ANA elements
2. In – laws – son is caught in between
3. Siblings – the favoured son
4. Grandchildren – doting grandparents

## This table shows the annual resolution rate .

| Year | Fresh cases | Agreed Maintenance | Withdrawn | Referral to agencies | Resolution rate | Filed at TMP |
|------|-------------|--------------------|-----------|----------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| 2010 | 269         | 68                 | 84        | 61                   | 79%             | 56           |
| 2011 | 286         | 131                | 98        | 30                   | 90%             | 27           |
| 2012 | 303         | 121                | 104       | 47                   | 89%             | 31           |
| 2013 | 257         | 116                | 92        | 28                   | 92%             | 21           |
| 2014 | 213         | 115                | 50        | 31                   | 92%             | 17           |
| 2015 | 221         | 108                | 64        | 28                   | 90%             | 21           |
| 2016 | 216         | 102                | 75        | 25                   | 94%             | 14           |

## This table shows the annual completion timeframe.

| Years                         | 2010      | 2011      | 2012      | 2013      | 2014      | 2015      | 2016      |
|-------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| <b>Within 1 month</b>         | 176 (65%) | 188 (66%) | 221 (73%) | 203 (79%) | 162 (76%) | 160 (72%) | 188 (87%) |
| <b>Between 1 and 3 months</b> | 85 (32%)  | 92 (32%)  | 78 (26%)  | 51 (20%)  | 49 (23%)  | 58 (23%)  | 28 (13%)  |
| <b>Beyond 3 months</b>        | 8 (3%)    | 6 (2%)    | 4 (1%)    | 3 (1%)    | 2 (1%)    | 3 (2%)    | 0         |
|                               |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| <b>Total number of cases</b>  | 269       | 286       | 303       | 257       | 213       | 221       | 216       |

**Thank You**