

RAISING AWARENESS OF THERAPEUTIC JUSTICE



District Judge Lim Choi Ming was featured in a Yahoo! News clip about the FJC.

Media Pitch to Yahoo!

As part of the Courts' efforts to demystify the Judiciary and provide insights on the inner workings of the Courts, the former Office of Public Affairs (OPA) of the Supreme Court and the Family Justice Courts (FJC) worked with Yahoo! News Singapore on a story about the role of Judge-Mediators in resolving marital and familial disputes.

District Judge (DJ) Lim Choi Ming took the news crew on a journey inside the FJC, where she talked about her mediation work to help parties reach an amicable solution and avoid bitter court battles, and how this is integral to the concept of Therapeutic Justice (TJ). She candidly shared the types of cases that affected her the most, her observations on the trends in FJC cases, and how her work affected her views on marriage.

For instance, DJ Lim recalled a case involving a young couple who had filed for protection orders against each other and called on their family members to testify. Through mediation, she was able to diffuse the tension and persuaded the couple to work on their marriage with their parents' help. This experience was deeply moving for DJ Lim because she realised that the Family Court can be a place where healing happens, instead of merely dispensing the law. DJ Lim noted that a wise judge once told her, "You can have a bad marriage, but you can have a good divorce."

Emily's Day in the Family Justice Courts

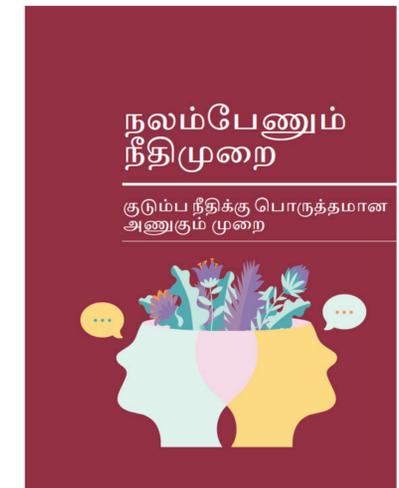
Coming to court can be an intimidating and overwhelming experience for children. To help young court users better understand the possible situations they may encounter or hear about in a Family Court proceeding, the FJC produced a children's video titled "Emily's Day in the Family Justice Courts".

In the animated video, little Emily visits the FJC with her parents who are filing for divorce. Emily is guided by Renee, a Court Family Specialist, who shows her around and assures Emily that she can safely share her feelings, needs and wishes in court to alleviate her stress and fear.

This is a free resource that family lawyers and parents may wish to tap on to prepare children who need to attend court at the FJC.



A YouTube video produced by the FJC shows a young character, Emily, being shown around the premises.



Brochures on therapeutic justice are available in all four official languages for members of the public.

Translation of Collaterals in Vernacular Languages

In her FJC's Work Plan speech in 2020, Justice Debbie Ong introduced a renewed vision of family justice guided by the principles of TJ. She highlighted that family cases are special in nature and require a different case-management approach, where concerned parties must keep an open mind and work together to cultivate the best solutions for the benefit of all family members.

In line with this new approach, the former OPA produced a brochure and video on TJ in English and our three official vernacular languages for court users' awareness. Subsequently, the language team was also roped in to provide subtitles for the video in the three official vernacular languages.

These translated works enable the FJC's TJ vision to reach out to a wider audience and facilitate court users to better understand the TJ approach and manage their cases in the FJC for positive outcomes.