

UNDERSTANDING THE IMPACT OF THE POLITICISATION OF ETHNICITY AND RELIGION

STUDY SESSION 1: ECONOMICS WITH DR LEE HWOK AUN

Date: 19 June (Tuesday)

Time: 8 – 10pm

Venue: AWAM Centre

85 Jalan 21/1 Sea Park,
46300 Petaling Jaya.

Map: <http://www.awam.org.my/contact.html>

Ethnicity and religion are two important **identity markers** in Malaysia. While there is some awareness of the need to move beyond ethnic and religious lines, Malaysia remains, at various levels, segregated along such lines. This raises questions about our **future as a nation**.

In the course of AWAM's work, we have come to realise that there is a need to **understand** how ethnicity and religion is politicised in Malaysia and how this **impacts** society and women in particular. This is what we intend to do with the study sessions.

Our first study session will kick off with a discussion on **economic policies** in Malaysia, the extent to which such policies are driven by ethnic and religious concerns and how has this impacted Malaysians today.

This is part of a series of sessions that will cover economics, politics, religion and women.



All Women's Action Society

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Does race-based
affirmative action
make sense?

Are we asking the right
questions?

Speaker's bio: Dr Lee Hwok Aun is Senior Lecturer in the Department of Development Studies, Faculty of Economics and Administration, University of Malaya. He obtained his doctorate in economics from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. He has published works on inequality, social policy, labour and affirmative action. He is a member of the Technical Committee of the National Wage Consultative Council, and writes a monthly column in the *Selangor Times*.

To register: Send the following information to Wei San at advocacy-programs@awam.org.my by **15 June 2012**.

1.	Name:	
2.	Email address:	
3.	Telephone number:	
4.	I can attend the study session on 19 June 2012 (Tuesday).	YES / NO *please delete where appropriate.
5.	I can attend the follow up chai + chat for this study session on 21 June 2012 (Thursday) at 8 -10pm	YES / NO *please delete where appropriate.

Preparation: Some key readings will be circulated for the study session. Participants are asked to read them to maximise their participation and engagement at the study session.

What are our
aspirations for a better
Malaysia?

What does the
'politicisation of
ethnicity and religion
mean?'