

Vote against 'sexist' candidates, urge NGOs
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A coalition, pushing for gender equality, has urged Malaysians to use their vote in the upcoming general election to reject candidates with inappropriate attitudes towards gender issues.

And for practice, the Joint Action Group for Gender Equality (JAG) said that Malaysians can cast their ballots in the group's annual Aiyoh... Wat Lah?! awards.

"The general elections are some days away, but Malaysians can vote right now for their least favourite sexist, misogynistic, homophobic, or transphobic statements and actions nominated at the Aiyoh... Wat Lah?! Awards," said JAG representative Yu Ren Chung.

"But at the general elections, Malaysians should vote against candidates who demonstrate such behaviour."

JAG said that voting for the seven categories can be done at the awards' website by April 5.

It added that more than 1,000 votes have been cast so far and winners will be announced at an awards ceremony at the Publika Mall, Kuala Lumpur on May 26.

Among prominent nominees this year is Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak (2nd from left in photo) for his statements against the LGBT community and High Court Judge Zamani Abdul Rahim for a statement in a judgment on a case involving the alleged rape of a 4-year-old girl.

Other award categories are "Foot in Mouth", "Insulting Intelligence", "Policy Fail", "Least Helpful to the Sisterhood", "Enough Already!", and "Right on Track".

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