

**Embattled Gerakan Youth Chief Defends 'Sexist Remark'**  
**Malaysianmirror.com**  
**January 6 , 2011**

Kuala Lumpur – Gerakan youth chief, Tan Keng Liang who is under fire over his tweet to a friend regarding the pregnancy of Subang Jaya assemblyperson Hannah Yeoh moves tries to clarify his stand today.

In his statement to Malaysian Mirror, he said that "clearly, nowhere in my conversation in twitter did I ever say I am against pregnant women to become state representatives nor did I request anyone to vote against pregnant women".

Tan attempted a convoluted explanation that he did not intend to demean pregnant women since he did present Yeoh as a viable candidate opposite MCA Beliauwani's Jessica Lai in the first place. His statement mentioned, "I have presented...a choice of a pregnant woman to be the candidate of Subang jaya state constituency in the next general election. How could I then be against pregnant women?"

Tan went on to debase the actions of politicians from Pakatan Rakyat to capitalise on matter to "salvage their political predicament."

However, the young politician from Kedah came under attack from not only from Pakatan Rakyat but also faced pressure from within his own party. Recently, Gerakan Wanita deputy chief Ng Siew Lai advised Tan to issue a public retraction of his twitter comments.

He was also reported to be chided by the Council of Churches Malaysia (CCM) Youth movement that demanded for his suspension.

The most intense attacks was reserved for him from Pakatan Rakyat's Elizabeth Wong and Teresa Kok, who described his statements referring to maternity leave as affecting a leader's productivity as "bloody appalling" and for insulting women in general.

There were also calls for Tan to undergo gender sensitivity training.

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