

**Cinema Ruling Delay - DAP's Tactic To Keep PAS Happy?**  
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**By Wong Koon Mun**

The situation on the segregation of men and women in cinema halls has apparently reached a stalemate, and the district council has passed the buck to Selangor state exco for Local Government, Research and Development Ronnie Liu to decide on the matter. Therefore the question that must be asked now is this: does the ruling still stand while Ronnie Liu mulls his decision?

This is because the sign asking men and women to sit separately is still up, and with no directive from anyone for it to be taken down, cinema staff will have no choice but to comply with the directive (The Star, 25 July 2012).

Why Ronnie Liu had not cancelled the decision by the district council earlier is a mystery, and such decisions only creates suspicion that this might be a ploy by DAP to make it appear to the Chinese community and non-Muslims that they are protecting their rights, while at the same time placating PAS by keeping the gender segregation ruling.

Hence, and form of delay by Ronnie Liu will not bode well for him or for Pakatan, not to mention prolonging the agony of the people in Kuala Selangor and depriving them, of cinematic entertainment as well as denying business to cinema operators and suppliers.

PAS starting to overstep DAP in Selangor as well

However, despite this question, we must still not forget the main point: Why was the ruling brought up in the first place? While PAS may hide under the excuse that Kelantan has a vast majority of Muslims therefore it can implement its own version of hudud, this is not the case in Selangor, or even Kedah for that matter.

If a mere PAS councilor can wield more power than the state government and implement such a controversial order without caring about the state government, what more can a PAS President, or even a member of the PAS Syura Council do, especially if they take over the federal government?

DAP is obviously incapable of protecting non-Muslim rights by having to resort to using underhand tricks like delaying or postponing rulings to balance between placating the public and bowing to PAS.