

Gay awareness events not beneficial, says DPM

The Malaysian Insider

November 10, 2011

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PUTRAJAYA, Nov 10 — Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin said today gay awareness programmes such as the banned Seksualiti Merdeka do not help improve society and Malaysia as a whole.

Police banned the sexuality rights event that began last week after complaints that it promoted free sex.

"Gay awareness programmes or the recent Seksualiti Merdeka are against the wants and needs of religion and of our country," Muhyiddin said in his speech during the Enculturation of Integrity in Malaysian Society convention here.

"In my opinion, programmes like these do not bring benefit to society and country, especially in efforts to build personality and future generations that are good, have integrity and high moral values," he added.

Muhyiddin, who is also education minister, said such activities would only have a negative impact on youths and should be avoided.

"Everyone has a responsibility to engage and plan programmes that are beneficial, because this reflects culture and integrity of a group or society," he said.

"What more as activists... it is their responsibility to stop and prevent all these negative perceptions and give faith to the people that Malaysia's youths are always committed, credible and responsible in helping build society and a developed country," he added.

Muhyiddin expressed hope that youth organisations would always be sensitive towards Malaysian culture.

"It is also important for all parties, not only the government, but also NGOs and the private sector, to plan activities that shape substantive youths which are also compatible with our society and culture," he said.

"Therefore, I urge all NGOs to work closely with the government, so programmes aimed at shaping our youths take into account the needs and policies of youth development."

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