

**DAP Publicity Chief Apologises For 'Compensated Dating' Remark
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KUALA LUMPUR, Feb 17 (Bernama) -- DAP election publicity chief Hew Kuan Yau has publicly apologised for an analogy which offended many media practitioners but blamed political opponents for "some distorted interpretations" as the cause for the debacle.

He recently made an allegation depicting "the compensated dating between local reporters and BN (Barisan Nasional)" on his social webpage, stirring controversy which many had said, was as good as calling journalists "prostitutes".

"Compensated dating" is a literal translation from the Japanese word, "Enjo-kosai" which means having no self-respect in exchange for material gain.

"I would like to publicly tender my sincere apologies for the 'analogy' which I had drawn, which offended many upright and honest media practitioners," he said in a statement issued here Friday.

The National Union of Journalists will convene an extraordinary delegates conference on March 3, to adopt a firm stand against Hew's statement which referred journalists as "prostitutes".

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