

## VOICES ON RADIO

It was reported recently that hospitals are now allowing salespeople into maternity wards to sell their products and services to new mothers. Should this be allowed, and what are the limitations when it comes to patients' privacy? How do hospitals decide which vendors to allow in, and which ones to reject? What's your view? For a debate on this issue, tune in to *938LIVE's* Talkback programme from 8.15am to 8.45am tomorrow. Call 66911 938 during the show to share your thoughts.



## Men's room peeves addressed

Letter from **TAN PUAY HOON**,  
President,  
Restroom Assoc (Singapore)

I REFER to the letters, "Public toilets are open for all to see" (June 23-24) by Mr Goh Kian Huat and "Modesty issues at the urinals" (June 26) by Mr Nelson Quah.

The Restroom Association (Singapore), or RAS, agrees that user privacy in toilets is important and should not be compromised in the toilet's design. Urinals and water closets should not be in view when the door is left open.

In partnership with the National Environment Agency, the RAS has published a "Guide to Better Public Toilet Design and Maintenance" (available at [www.nea.gov.sg/cms/ehd/public\\_toilet\\_guide.pdf](http://www.nea.gov.sg/cms/ehd/public_toilet_guide.pdf)), which advocates that doors be replaced by the offset entrance maze which blocks the view yet allows easier, hands-free access. A number of shopping malls have already implemented such entrances for their toilets.

RAS will work with SMRT to

try and resolve the privacy issue at Jurong East MRT toilets.

As for the second matter concerning modesty at urinals, the RAS strongly encourages all cleaners to place the "Cleaning In Progress" signage outside the toilet when they are carrying out their duties. This would help resolve any modesty concerns that female cleaners and male toilet users face.

The RAS will continue to work with contractors to reinforce this instruction to the cleaners.

With regard to the issue of young daughters of two to three years of age accompanying their fathers into the male restrooms, the RAS recognises that there is a need to look into toilet design to cater to such situations. We will work with the relevant authorities to try to implement more family-friendly toilet designs.

We thank the public for their feedback. Please continue to share your opinions about local public toilets via email to [mysay@toilet.org.sg](mailto:mysay@toilet.org.sg) or via SMS to 9770-LOOS (9770 5667).