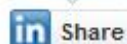
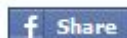
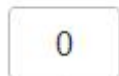


# Zoo of a restroom...

Published on  
Jan 28, 2012



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I VISITED the Singapore Zoo on Monday with my family, and was appalled at the state of the women's restrooms at the entrance of the zoo.

The stench was overwhelming, only a couple of stalls had toilet paper, the floors and toilet bowls were visibly dirty, and the stall I occupied had a faulty flush.

Is this unsanitary environment the kind of image an award-winning attraction wishes to portray to its paying customers, and that too at the entrance, the first point of contact the zoo has with its visitors?

I was embarrassed at overhearing a foreigner in the queue telling her friend: 'Oh dear me, I don't think I can go in that one', referring to an empty, filthy stall which had no toilet paper.

The soap dispenser I attempted to use while washing my hands at the taps was faulty and I had to resort to using my own compact hand sanitiser.

While it was the Chinese New Year holiday, and the zoo might have been more crowded than usual, it is no excuse for the abysmal state of the restrooms.

Having visited, during peak periods, attractions such as Disneyland in Los Angeles or Ocean Park in Hong Kong, which have open-air restrooms that remain clean and hygienic despite the high number of visitors, I cannot fathom why the state of our zoo restrooms remains less than satisfactory.

**Wrightia Isabella Abdul Wahid (Miss)**