

## **Takeaways**

A newsletter by RICE



#### It's a tough time to be a Swiftie...

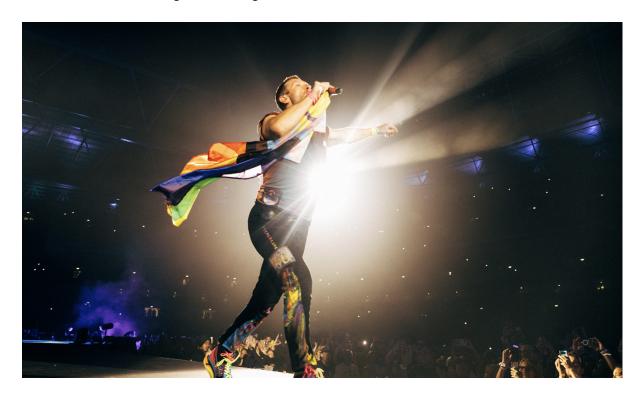
By now, you'd had heard about Coldplay's massive killing at the Ticketmaster box office. 300,000 attendees will flock to the National Stadium next January over six nights of mega Coldplay action.

Singaporeans are *dying* for large-scale concert experiences, that is clear. We've had live shows resume its course for more than a year, but it's only recently that the big names have made their return here. This also means that it'll get tougher to get the good seats. Why else are Swifties flocking to <u>apply for UOB cards?</u>

If the Coldplay ticket sales were any indication—one act commanding awe, the other pure devotion—ticket queues for Taylor Swift will be quite a bloodbath. In the wake of sold-out ticket sales, there will always be disappointment. But is this demand unprecedented in our lifetime? We'll see.

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#### **Don't Play Play**



Coldplay announced a staggering four dates at the National Stadium next year. And then another one. And then another one.

If you dropped off listening to Coldplay after *A Rush of Blood to the Head* or *Viva La Vida*—says more about your age than anything—the band has evolved into less of sadboy pop rock, and more outrageous live spectacle. That about sums up why they're the biggest draw in the country since, well, Coldplay in 2017, and why, in a small country, there are still plenty of people who are sad they'll miss out.

Nobody Said Singapore's Coldplay FOMO Was Easy

# A New Kind of Singaporean Family



It's Pride month, and our latest feature explores what it means to conceive, build, and dream of a family as a married lesbian couple—a status not officially recognized in our country as of yet. Despite all that, as one commenter put it, a child is a child.

Family First: A Lesbian Couple's Singaporean Dream for Legitimacy with a Biological Child

### Family (Guilt) Trip?



Have you ever felt like you're not giving enough? Or that you're not giving anything at all?

We unpack what it means to have filial piety—a phrase you'd see often in the English subtitles of Channel 8 family dramas—and how we manage carving out our own lives while hoping to support the ones who first took care of us.

When Parents Expect an Allowance from Their Kids, Is That Toxic Filial Piety?

### **Running On and Mouthing Off**



Soh Rui Yong remains one of the most divisive public figures in our country. Nonetheless, the man is *winning*. Fresh off clinching Singapore's first medal in the 10,000m race, and finding some virality with exhibiting pure sportsmanship, Rui Yong seems at the top of his game.

It's all the more confusing that he's been excluded from our national team for the upcoming Asian Games. In this piece, he speaks to RICE to address the headline issue, along with the hateful comments that come with it.

> Soh Rui Yong Isn't Perfect. And He Shouldn't Have to Be.

### **Political Work-in-Progress**



Another profile feature we had this week explored a compelling figure in Singapore politics: Leong Mun Wai, secretary-general of Dr. Tan Cheng Bock's Progress Singapore Party.

Mun Wai has made a name for himself as an outspoken, animated voice during parliamentary debates. He tells us he has no plans to change himself—he only wants to learn how to be true to himself while taking up a demanding job.

Leong Mun Wai Doesn't Know How to Be a Politician Yet

# Short Grains, or piping-hot topics by the spoonful.

- Forget about intergenerational trauma: what have you inherited from your dad that <u>you're thankful for?</u>
- Serious question: could <u>Lee Kuan Yew's face</u> be a future fashion statement?
- E-sports is getting <u>e-scrutinized</u>. (*via Channel NewsAsia*)
- Grab has let go over <u>1,000 of its employees</u>. (*via Reuters*) One of them has even gone on <u>LinkedIn</u> to express her disappointment.
- The submarine that dared to venture out into the ocean in search of the Titanic was <u>confirmed to have imploded</u> on Sunday. (*via CNN*)



The story of Cally, Ching and their quest to build a family of their own.

Video out tonight (23 Jun) at 9pm!

For now... last week's video feature:
Is the Morning-After Pill
Accessible Enough?

#### We like to go out! We also hate our weather.

But as much as our team is full of contradictions, we simply can't go by our weekend without checking out some things. If you're still deciding on where to go, let us highlight some unmissable events for you:

- 1. <u>Pink Dot</u> is happening! It's the first since the 377A repeal, so you know it's going to be a special one.
- 2. Go crack a cold one (or several) at this year's <u>BeerFest</u>.
- 3. If you want to know what the fuss is about, the <u>Olympic Esports Week</u> competitions will take place at Suntec Convention Centre.
- 4. Goodman Arts Centre is opening its doors this Sat with an <u>open house</u> <u>programme</u>.

5. If you missed out on it, the terrific Spider-Man: Across the Spider-Verse has been <u>brought back in IMAX</u> after a limited one-week engagement.

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