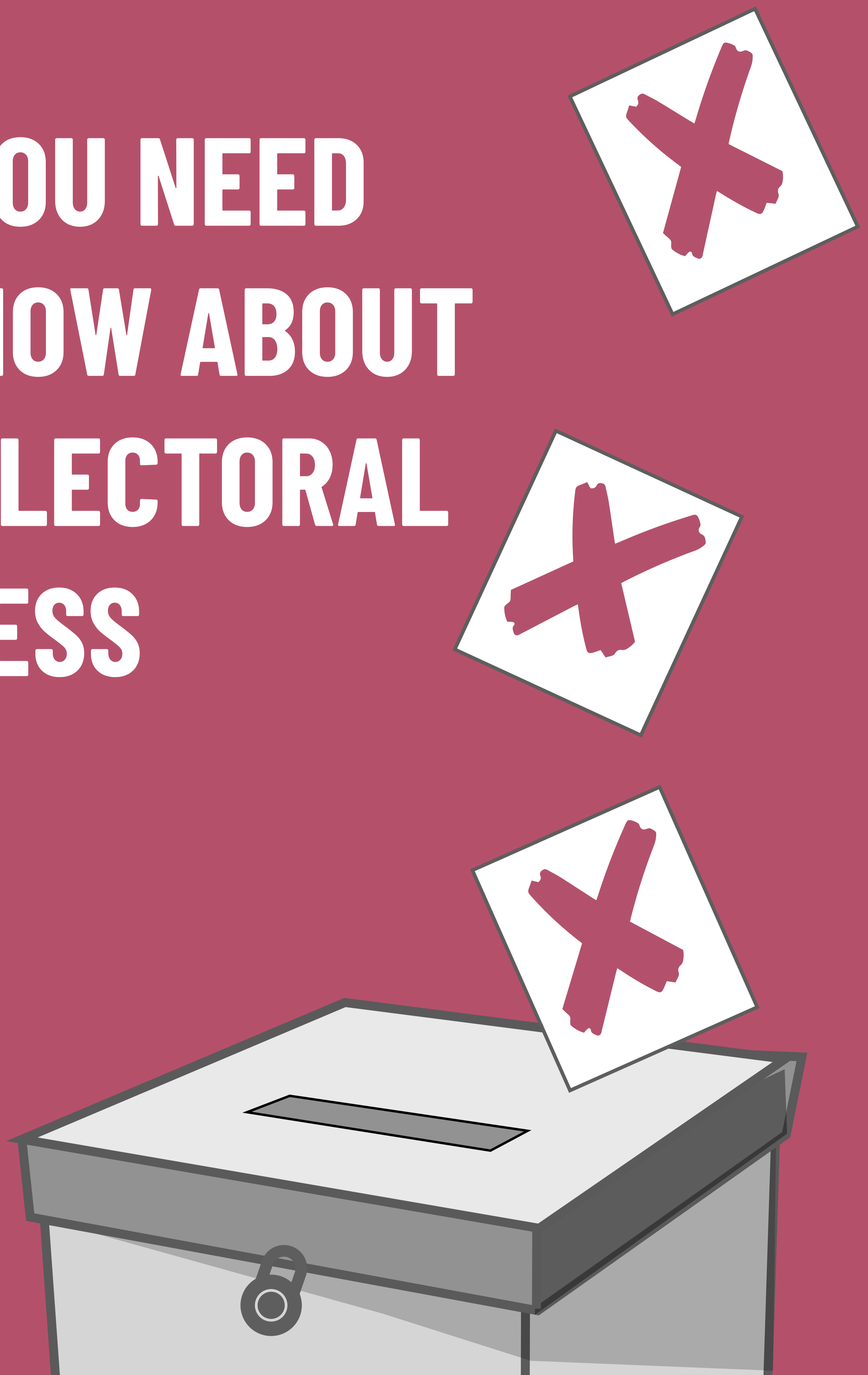


ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE ELECTORAL PROCESS



this infographic is part of CAPE's
GE VOTER EDUCATION SERIES

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PE



According to the Constitution, the maximum term of Parliament is five years. As such, the next Singapore election must be held by April 21, 2021.



Approximately 2.5 million Singaporeans will be heading to the polls to vote in Singapore's 14th Parliament since its independence.



01.

Electoral Boundaries Report (EBR) Is Released

This year's report was released on 13th March 2020 with the committee being formed in August 2019.

The committee

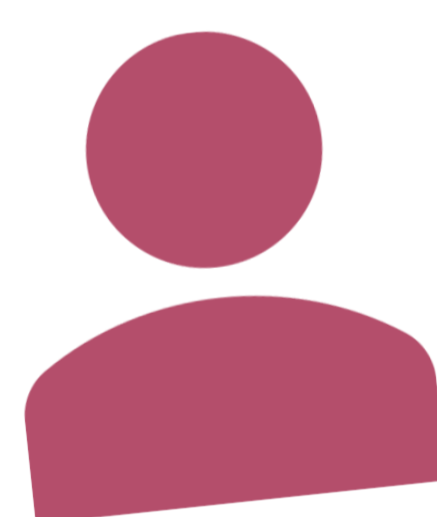
1. is typically made up of civil servants and is appointed by the PM
2. is expected "to review the boundaries of the present electoral divisions and to recommend the number and boundaries of Group Representation Constituencies and Single Member Constituencies, based on the number of electors found in the latest Registers of Electors"
3. submits its report to the PM after which Parliament decides whether to accept the new boundaries

Key changes in this year's electoral boundaries

1. Recommended increased number of elected MPs from 89 to 93
2. 13% of voters will find themselves in a new constituency. This is a 6% decrease from the 2015 elections!
3. No more six-member Group Representation Constituencies (GRCs)
4. Increased number of SMCs and GRCs

2015

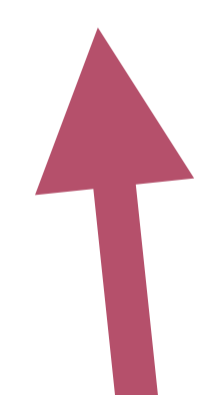
13



16



2020

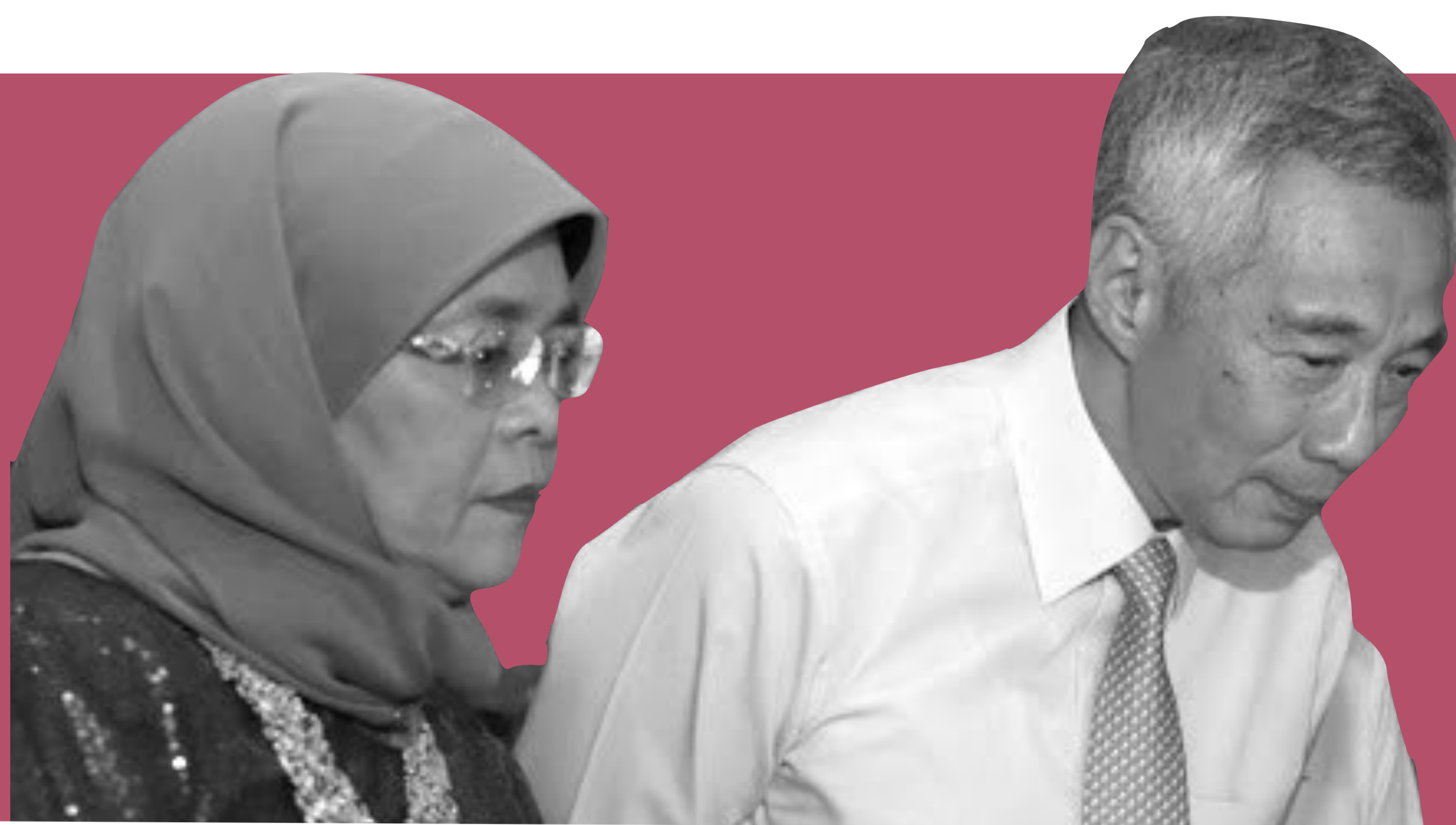


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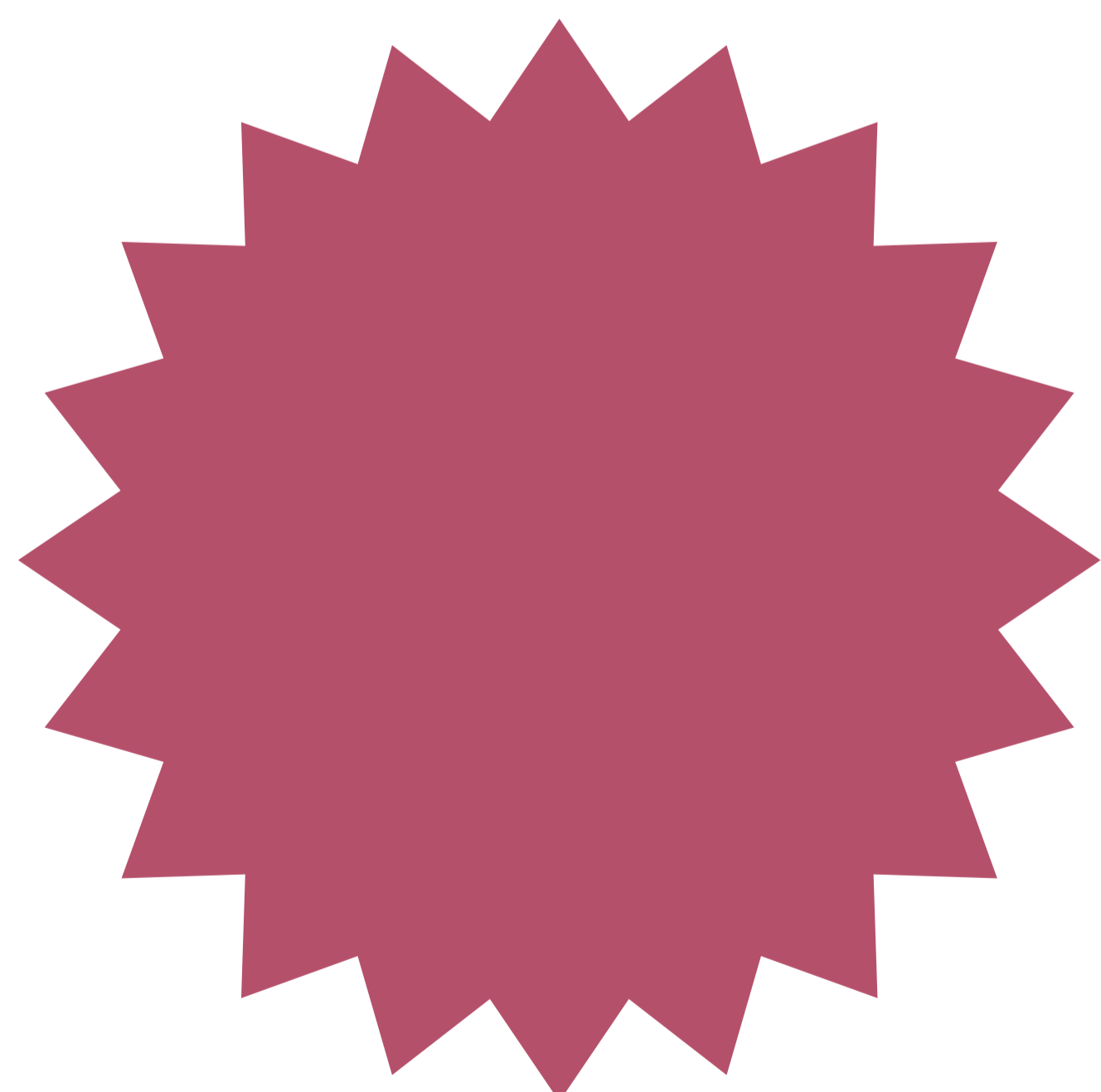




02.

Parliament is dissolved by the President on the advice of the Prime Minister

Parliament has been dissolved from 1 day (2001 GE) to 1 month and 26 days (2011 GE) after EBR was released



& Writ of Election is issued

03. Nomination Day

Under the law, nomination day must be no earlier than 5 days and no later than 1 month after the Writ has been issued.

Marks day 1 of the campaigning period which is usually 9 or 10 days.

On nomination day, candidates present their nomination papers, statutory declarations and political donation certificate at the nomination centre.

There are 2 possible scenarios:

1

1 candidate (SMC) or 1 group of candidates (GRC)

No poll. Walkover.

More than 1 candidate (SMC) or more than 1 group of candidates (GRC)

2

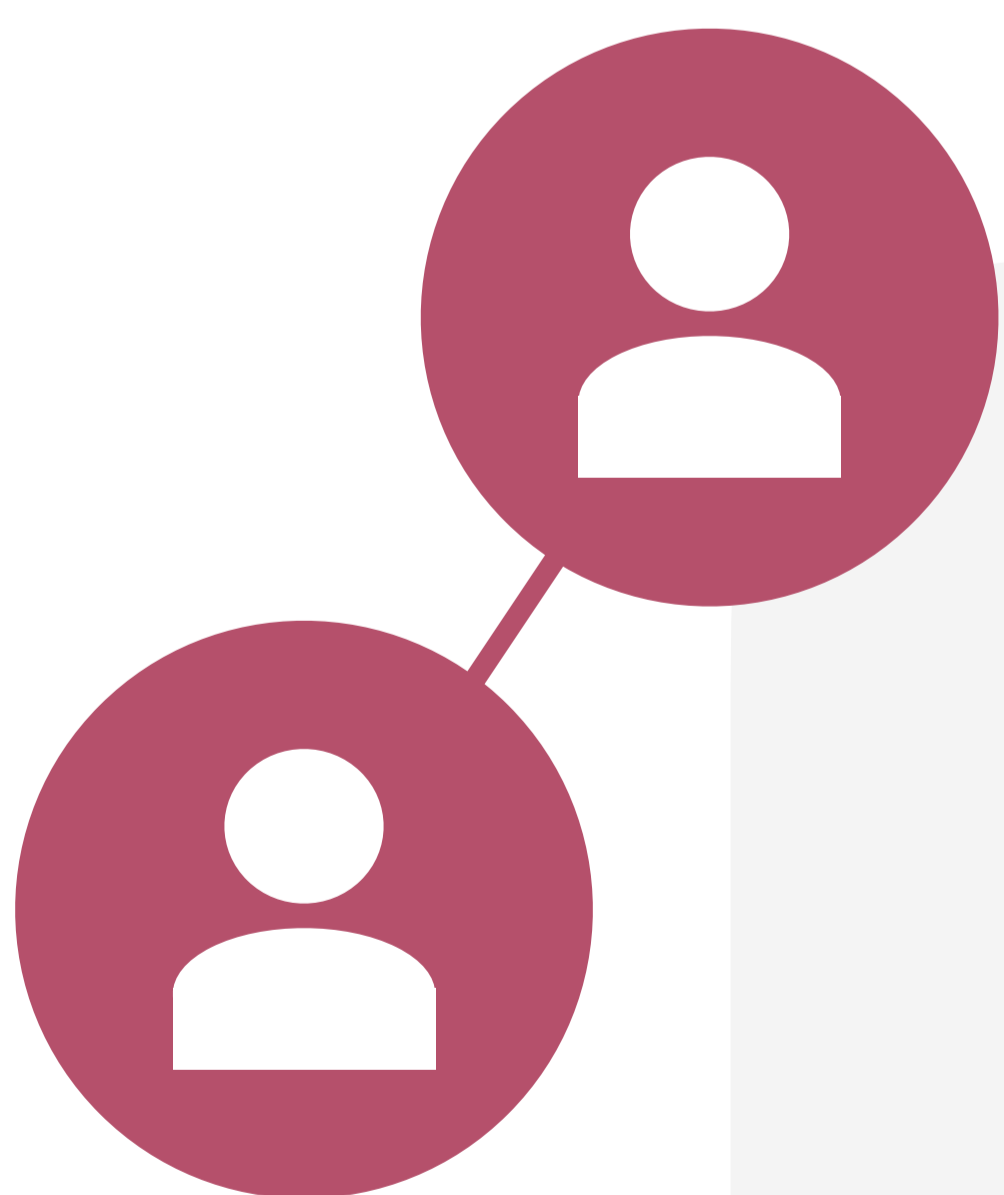
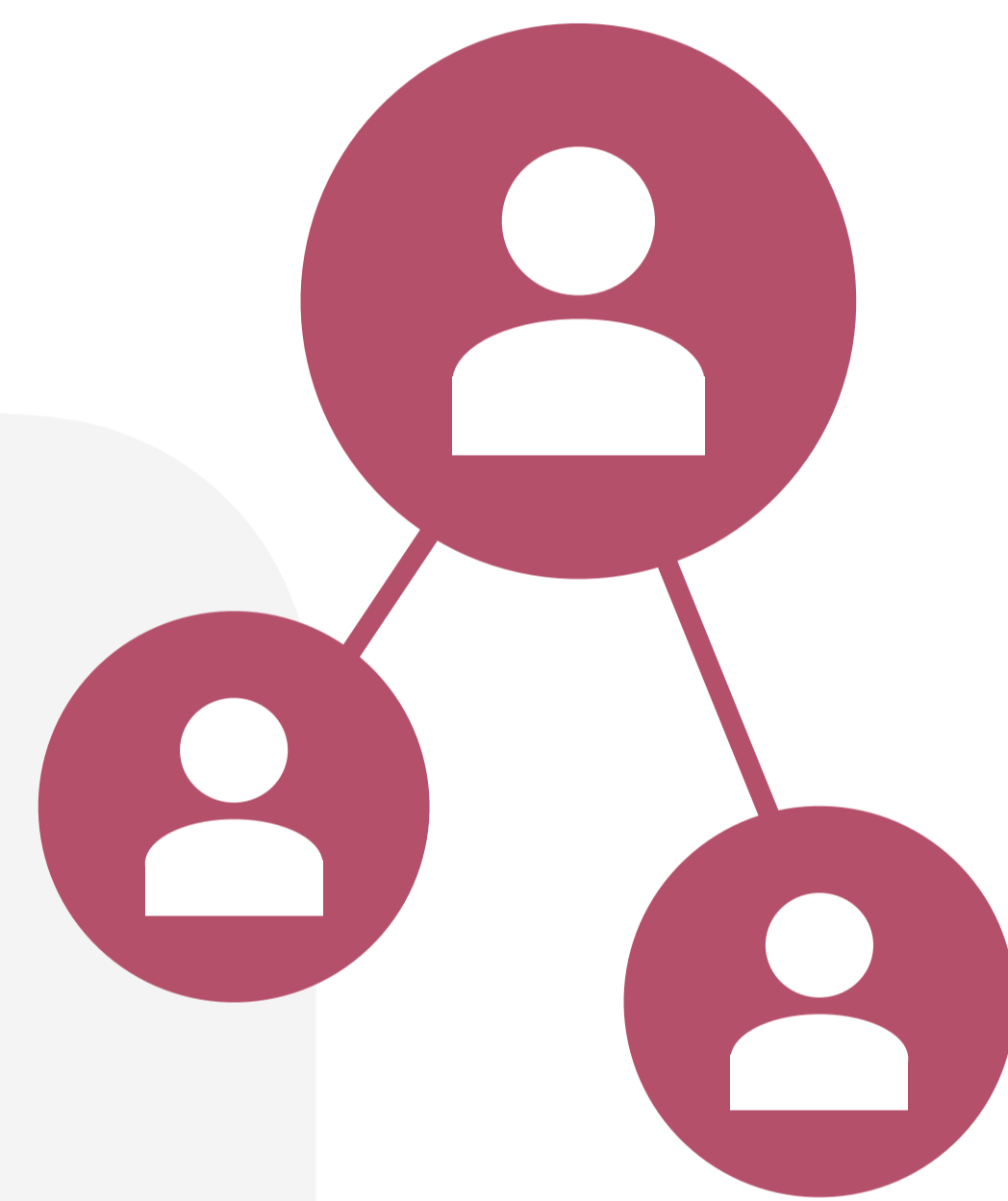
All assigned voters cast their votes and **the one with the most votes win.**

Fun Fact:

To prevent vote-splitting, SG's opposition parties have been coordinating!

Before 2015,

many of the districts were either uncontested allowing a walkover by PAP or had more than 1 opposition party contesting which split the opposition vote.



In 2015,

only MacPherson SMC had a 3-cornered fight with WP, NSP and PAP contesting. All 28 other GRCs and SMCs had only 1 opposition party contesting.

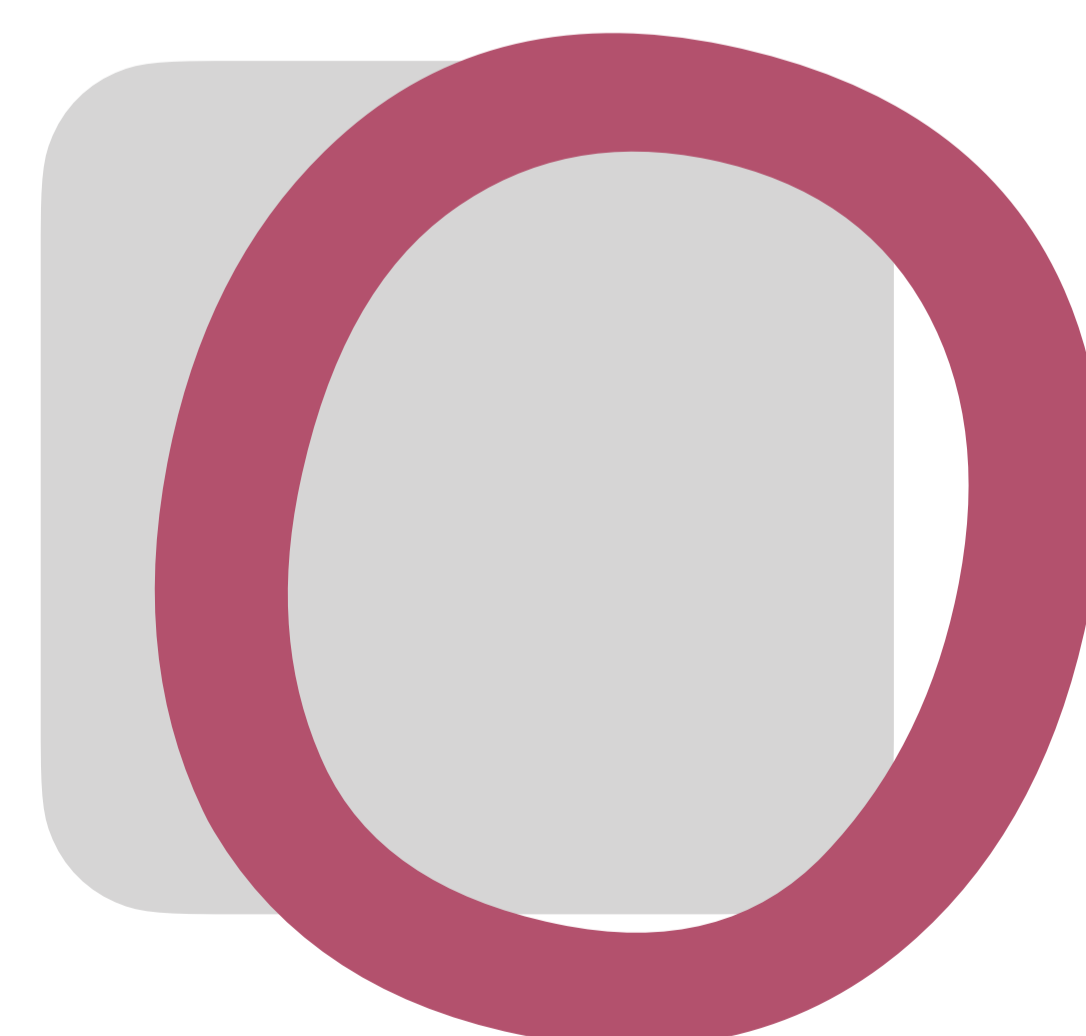
04.

Cooling-Off Day and Polling Day



Cooling-off day was first implemented in the 2011 GE. No campaigning activities are allowed. It is intended to give voters a day to detach themselves from the excitement of elections and reflect on campaign issues before hitting the polls the next day.

Polling day is typically held on a Saturday from 8am to 8pm and is a public holiday.



Reading List:

1. Grassroots Level Party. 2020. [GE Crash Course](#).
2. New Naratif. 26 Mar 2020. [Explainer: Singapore's Electoral System](#).
3. New Naratif. 02 Apr 2020. [How Gerrymandering Creates Unfair Elections in Singapore](#).
4. Mothership. 07 Sep 2019. [Why it's so hard for the opposition to challenge PAP's dominance in S'pore](#).
5. Nicky Case. Dec 2016. [To Build a Better Ballot](#) (An interactive website that visualises how different voting systems work, and why the FPTP is flawed)
6. The Straits Times. 04 Sep 2019. [Electoral boundaries committee formed: What does it mean and when will Singapore's GE be?](#)

This resource is part of CAPE's GE Voter Education Series. CAPE, or the Community for Advocacy & Political Education – a student organisation based in Yale-NUS College – was founded in 2017 by students from Yale-NUS College and the Law Faculty of the National University of Singapore (NUS). An independent and non-partisan community, we aim to build capacity for political literacy and constructive participation in Singapore's civic democracy.