

Ethnic manipulation and its effects : memory of disharmony in singapore's election history

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Abstrak

ABSTRAK

This paper reviews the making of singapore's ethnic conflicts during the 1950s and 1960s, the rise of opposition forces during 1980s, the theory asserting that the group representation constituency has helped the minority groups enter the parliament, and contemporary ethnic concerns in 2017 presidential election. the authors argue that singapore's ceaseless memory of conflicting ethnic relations is the product of political management. the singapore government therefore creates an electoral system that ensures minority representations in politics, but is in fact favorable to the ruling party and its political elites from the majority group. as a result, the ruling party consolidates its power by strengthening negative stereotypes of the minority, and continues to reproduces ethnic disharmony