

## Wi En Ng (she/her)

PhD Student, Wee Kim Wee School of Communication and Information  
Nanyang Technological University, Singapore

Communication Studies, Critical Technology Studies, and Gender Studies

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### ACADEMIC BACKGROUND

#### Nanyang Technological University, Singapore

Doctor of Philosophy

2026 - 2030

Communication Studies

Thesis Topic: Cyber (u/dys)topias: Glitching Sociotechnical Imaginaries in Singapore's Smart Nation.

Advisor: Asst. Prof. Pei-Sze Chow

#### National University of Singapore

Master of Arts

2022 - 2025

Communications and New Media

GPA 5/5

Thesis Topic: "Virtual worlds are a safe space for people to explore their gender identities as well": Exploring how virtual fashion shapes gender in Decentraland.

Advisors:

Asst. Prof. Michelle H. S. Ho

Dr Rimi Khan

#### National University of Singapore

Bachelor of Social Sciences (Hons), Highest Distinction

2018 - 2022

Major: Communications and New Media

GPA 4.57/5

Minor: Psychology

Thesis Topic: "No such thing as fake news back then": Understanding how the elderly in Singapore navigate the digital information landscape.

Advisor:

Dr Shobha Avadhani

### PUBLICATIONS

Ho, M. H. S., **Ng, W. E.**, Rosario, A. L. C., Lee, J., Wadhwa, B., Choy, O., & Tandoc Jr., E. C. (2025). 'When everything goes online, it's never really gone': Understanding technology-facilitated sexual violence (TFSV) in Singapore. *Journal of Gender Studies*, 0(0), 1–24. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09589236.2025.2561138>

#### Forthcoming

**Ng, W. E.**, & Ho, M. (2026). Has women's equality gone too far?: Theorizing gender-based violence in Singapore. In *Routledge companion to gender, violence and popular culture*. Routledge.

#### Under Review

Self, P. R., **Ng, W. E.**, & Ho, M. H. S. Intimate by Design: Digital Methods for Researching LGBTIQ+ Sexualities in Singapore. In *Routledge companion to LGBTIQ+ media*. Routledge.

#### In Preparation

**Ng, W. E.**, & Avadhani, S. "No such thing as fake news back then": Understanding how older adults in Singapore navigate the digital information landscape. (For submission to *New Media & Society*)

**Ng, W. E.**, From Ethopoeic Triggering to Epistemic Capture: Toward A Processual Extension of CASA for LLM Chatbots. (For submission to *Human-Machine Communication*)

**Ng, W. E.** Here, there, nowhere, and everywhere: Understanding presence through embodied disembodiment in virtual worlds. (For submission to *Virtual Reality*)

**Ng, W. E.** Pixelated Pride: Performative engagement and the neoliberal commodification of queerness in the Metaverse. (For submission to *GLQ*)

**Ng, W. E.** & Rosario, A. L. C. Cultural Reflections and Gendered Inflections: The Southeast Asian Heroes of Mobile Legends Bang Bang. (For submission to *Games and Culture*)

**Non-referred**

**Ng, W. E.,** & Yeong, E. (2023). "Identity crisis is our identity": Cultural cringe and the search for a Singaporean identity through nationalism. *Advance*.  
<https://doi.org/10.31124/advance.24144369.v>

## RESEARCH POSITIONS

### **Campus Sexual Misconduct in a Digital Age (CASMIDA)**

**Research Associate**

May 2024– 2026

**Research Assistant**

May 2023– 2024

National University of Singapore, Department of Communications and New Media

*Principal Investigator:* Asst. Prof. Michelle Ho

Investigated technology-facilitated sexual violence in campus settings. Conducted and transcribed interviews; managed six quantitative surveys; and handled qualitative and quantitative data cleaning and preparation. Assisted with updating of IRB forms and all other administrative duties related to the study.

Wrote papers and presented study findings at an international conference.

Planned a one-day symposium, "Online Sexual Harms in Singapore."

Study website: [casmidaproject.wordpress.com](http://casmidaproject.wordpress.com)

Symposium website: [oshsg.com](http://oshsg.com)

### **Queer Men in Singapore: A Research Study on Digital Intimacies, Sexual Behaviors & Mpox Perceptions**

**Research Assistant**

Oct 2024 – 2025

National University of Singapore, Department of Communications and New Media

*Principal Investigator:* Asst. Prof. Michelle Ho

Part of an interdisciplinary team conducting research on the perceptions, understandings, and lived experience of gay, bisexual, or queer men in Singapore. Conducted and transcribed interviews, as well as handled administrative work related to the study.

Study Website: [tinyurl.com/queermeninsg](http://tinyurl.com/queermeninsg)

### **Interventions in Young Singaporeans' Experiences and Understandings of Sexual Violence**

**Research Assistant**

Oct 2023 – 2024

National University of Singapore, Department of Communications and New Media

*Principal Investigator:* Dr Shobha Avadhani

Explored young Singaporeans' experiences and understandings of gender and sexual violence through a case study of NUS students. Conducted literature review and did data analysis on over 500 student papers.

### **Work and Savings Behaviours of Lower-Income Families in Singapore**

**Student Researcher**

Apr – June 2022

Institute of Policy Studies, Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy

*Principal Investigator:* Dr Mathew Mathews

Studied the work and savings behaviours of families living in three to four-room housing flats, aiming to propose policies to enhance long-term financial stability. Conducted door-to-door participant recruitment for the study.

### **Politics of Fatness in Media Cultures**

**Student Researcher**

Jan – May 2021

National University of Singapore, Department of Communications and New Media

*Principal Investigator:* Dr Shobha Avadhani

Examined how fatness is constructed as a discourse across multiple media artefacts and platforms, from government health campaigns to social media activism. Conducted systematic literature review and assisted the Principal Investigator in developing the research framework.

### **AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS AND SCHOLARSHIPS**

NTU Research Scholarship	2026-2030
World Cities Summit Young Leader	2026
Social Justice Fellowship, University of Manchester and Access Academia	2024
Department Conference Travel Grant	2024
NUS Research Scholarship	2022 – 2024
Annie Tan (Mrs Wan Boo Sow) Medal and Prize	2022

### **CONFERENCES**

<b>Society for Social Studies of Science Conference (Toronto, Canada)</b>	2026
This Paper May Contain Hope: The Cruel Optimism of the Feminist Cyborg	Sole Author
<b>International Communication Association Conference (Cape Town, South Africa)</b>	2026
“It’s Becoming More Common Online”: Technology-Facilitated Sexual Violence (TFSV) in Singapore.	Co-Author
Grindr as Digital Counterpublic: How Categories Shape Gay, Bisexual, and Queer Men’s Identities in Singapore.	Co-Author
<b>Mechademia Conference (Singapore)</b>	2026
Playing Southeast Asian Gendered Myths in Mobile Legends: Bang Bang (Accepted; not presented)	First Author
<b>International Communication Association Conference (Denver, Colorado, United States)</b>	
Pixelated Pride: Performative engagement and the neoliberal commodification of queerness in the Metaverse.	Sole Author
Dating App Desires: How Gay, Bisexual, and Queer Men in Singapore Navigate Intimacy in a Digital Age.	Co-Author
<b>International Association for Media and Communication Research Conference (Singapore)</b>	
Male Grievances on Reddit: Theorizing Gender-Based Violence in Singapore	First Author
Queer Side of Things: Digital Intimacies and Dating App Desires Among Men in Singapore	Co-Author
<b>Men &amp; Masculinities in Transition (Stockholm, Sweden)</b>	2025
Side of the Times: How New Dating App Categories Influence Gay, Bisexual and Queer Men’s Identities in Singapore	Co-Author
<b>National University of Singapore, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences Brown Bag Seminar Series (Singapore)</b>	2025
Digital Intimacies of Gay, Bisexual, and Queer Men (GBQ) in Singapore	Co-Author

<b>International Association for Media and Communication Research Conference(Christchurch, New Zealand)</b>	2024
“It’s freeing, guys have a lot of expectations on their shoulders”: Creating feminist realities through the wearing of virtual fashion in Decentraland.	Sole Author
“When everything goes online, it’s never really gone”: Understanding Technology-Facilitated Sexual Violence (TFSV) in Singapore.	Co-Author
“No such thing as fake news back then”: Understanding how older adults in Singapore navigate the digital information landscape.	First Author
<b>Research Workshop on Gender, Youth and Media in Asia; National University of Singapore, FASS Gender and Sexuality Research Cluster</b>	2024
Cultural reflections and gendered inflections: The Southeast Asian heroes of Mobile Legends Bang Bang.	First Author
“When everything goes online, it’s never really gone”: Understanding Technology-Facilitated Sexual Violence (TFSV) in Singapore.	Co-Author
<b>Graduate Research Conference; National University of Singapore, Department of Communications and New Media</b>	2023
Virtual Threads, Real Expressions: Exploring Gender Identity through Fashion in Decentraland.	Sole Author
<b>Graduate Research Symposium on Gender and Sexuality; National University of Singapore, FASS Gender and Sexuality Research Cluster</b>	2023
Flushed Margins: Decoding Toilet Cultures and Social Disparities in Singapore	Sole Author
<b>Graduate Research Symposium on Gender and Sexuality; National University of Singapore, FASS Gender and Sexuality Research Cluster</b>	2022
Fashioning an identity: Wearing Virtual Fashion in Decentraland.	
<b>TALKS AND GUEST LECTURES</b>	
UNESCO Capacity Building Workshops for Southeast Asia Regulators, Digital Platforms, and Civil Society	2026
<b>RESEARCH SKILLS</b>	
Qualitative Research, Quantitative Research Data analysis using research Software: MAXQDA, R	
<b>RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS</b>	
Communication and Media studies, Critical Technology studies, Gender studies, Cultural studies, Qualitative Research Methods, Feminist Methodologies	
<b>TEACHING</b>	
<b>Teaching Assistant</b>	
<u>National University of Singapore, Department of Communications and New Media</u>	
NM2207 Computational Media Literacy	Jan 2023 – May 2023
Student feedback: 4.3/5	
NM1101E Communications, New Media and Society	Aug 2022 – Nov 2022
Student feedback: 4.1/5	
<b>WORKSHOPS AND MASTERCLASSES ATTENDED</b>	
<u>17th Annual Feminist Theory Workshop</u> . Hosted by the department of Gender, Sexuality, and Feminist Studies, Duke University.	2024

Digital Authorship in the Age of Misinformation. Masterclass with A/P Nishant Shah of the Chinese University of Hong Kong. Hosted by the Department of Communications and New Media, National University of Singapore. 2023

#### **CERTIFICATES AND ELIGIBILITIES**

AWARE Singapore: Sexual Assault First Responder Training 2023

CITI Program: Social & Behavioural Research (Basic) Certificate 2023

The Open University: Humanities Research in the Digital Age 2023

United Nations: Gender Equality and Human Rights in Climate Action and Renewable Energy, Pathways 1 and 2 2023

United Nations: Specialised Module on Children and Climate Change 2023

CITI Program: Responsible Conduct of Research (Basic) Certificate 2022

The Safe Zone Project (SZP): Self-Guided Foundational Safe Zone Training 2022

#### **SERVICE**

**Event Assistant, International Symposium on Media Work in Asia** 2026

Assisted with the website and logo design, handled administrative work.

Website: <https://mediaindustries.asia/>

**Event Assistant, Online Sexual Harms in Singapore, a one-day Symposium** 2026

Coordinated all logistics for a high-profile one-day symposium on online sexual harms, graced and opened by Minister of State Rahayu Mahzam.

Website: [oshsg.com/](https://oshsg.com/)

**Panel Moderation, International Association for Media and Communication Research Conference (Singapore) 2025** 2025

Moderated a panel on *Methods, Approaches, and Challenges of Researching AI and Labour in Creative Media Ecologies from Global Perspectives*

**Co-organiser and Publicity director, gCON2023 (National University of Singapore)** 2023

Co-organized the department graduate student conference, coordinated publicity and put out the call for papers.

Secured funding for the event.

Conference theme: *Media, Borders, and Transformations: Rethinking the Role of Media in Shaping Societies and Cultures*.

Panel Moderator: *The Role of Smart Technologies in Our Everyday Lives*

**Co-organiser, Gender Studies Reading Group** 2023 - 2024

Co-organised and managed a gender studies reading group for 7 graduate students from the Department of Communications and New Media.

**Editor, Post Script Issue 01 (Semesterly student publication, National University of Singapore, Political Science Society)** 2020 - 2021

Peer-reviewed submissions and contributed an article to the issue.

#### **REFERENCES**

Asst. Prof Pei Sze Chow, Nanyang Technological University (PhD thesis advisor)

Email: [peisze.chow@ntu.edu.sg](mailto:peisze.chow@ntu.edu.sg)

Asst. Prof. Michelle H. S. Ho, National University of Singapore (MA thesis advisor)

Email: [michelle.ho@nus.edu.sg](mailto:michelle.ho@nus.edu.sg)

Dr Shobha Avadhani, National University of Singapore (BSS thesis advisor)

Email: [shobha@nus.edu.sg](mailto:shobha@nus.edu.sg)