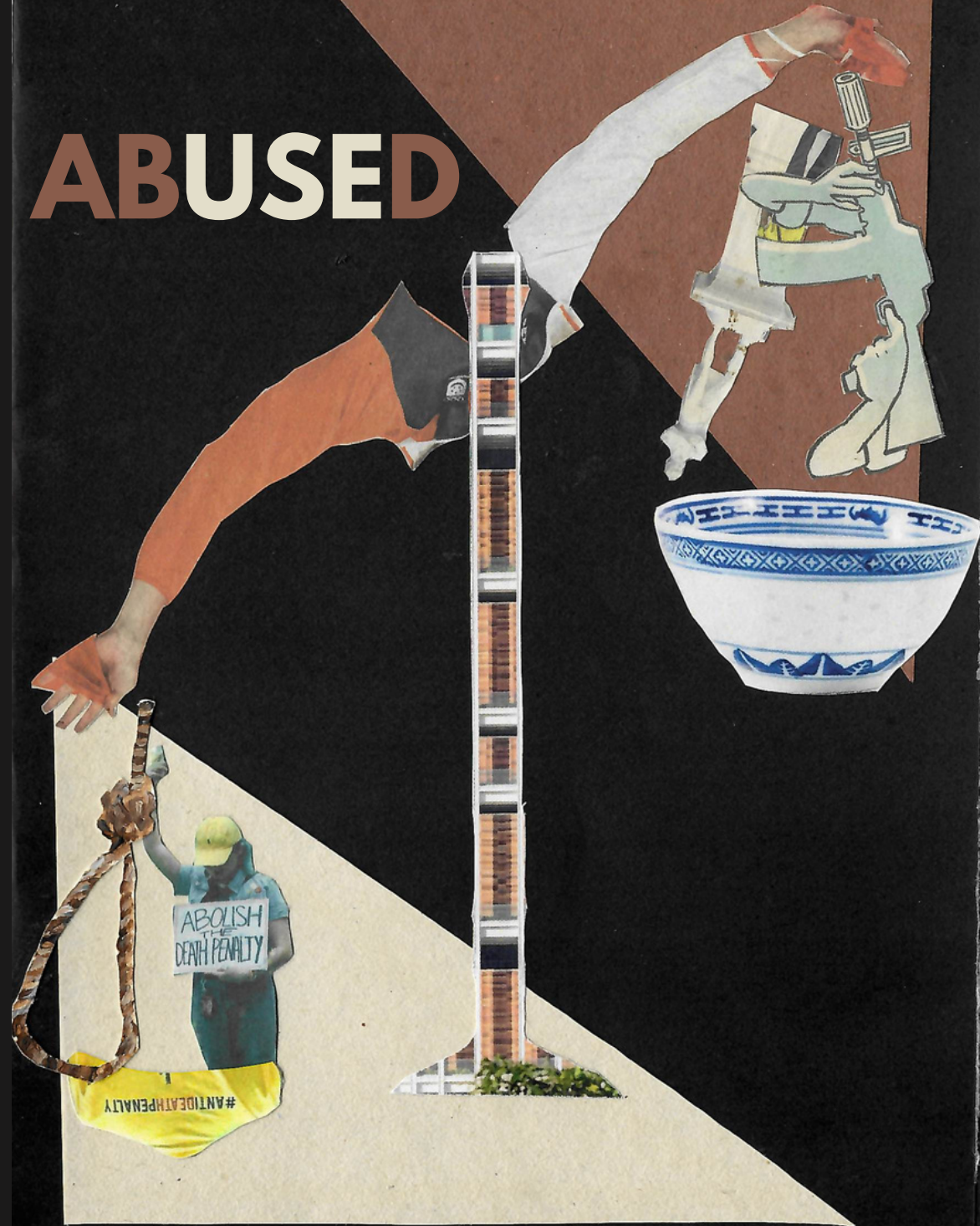


ABUSED



Narratives on drugs in Singapore have always played with extremes: from the construction of a racialised underclass in the 80s to recent narratives mobilising existing disdain for expats and the wealthy.

"Role models" from National swimmers to Sinda recipients have also been showcased for turning away from "bad". While no effort toward recovery should be discounted, it is worth asking whether these were instances that were labelled 'bad' because of effects on health and well-being of each individual user, or "bad" because they disagreed with state narratives, and became a ripe opportunity to cement them.

What if our system includes those who use drugs, as well as those around them?

With the primary focus to create a Singapore without drugs, the drug-control strategy is targeted at reducing supply and demand. Drug users and those in the drug trade are criminalised and forced into recovery. In this way, the system centres those who aren't involved with drugs, with the notion that they need protection, rather than those who use or are in the trade.

It's possible of cater to those who have relationships with drugs, and it's also safe for those who don't have relationships with drugs. it doesn't have to be an 'us versus them' mindset.

We can have normalised, rather than criminalised, conversations about drugs



The Old Guard

Who do drug policy laws really serve?

we see the potential in
our nation

THE CURRENT SYSTEM CENTERS
THOSE WITH SECONDARY OR NO
RELATIONSHIPS WITH DRUGS, WHO
ARE MADE TO BELIEVE THEY NEED

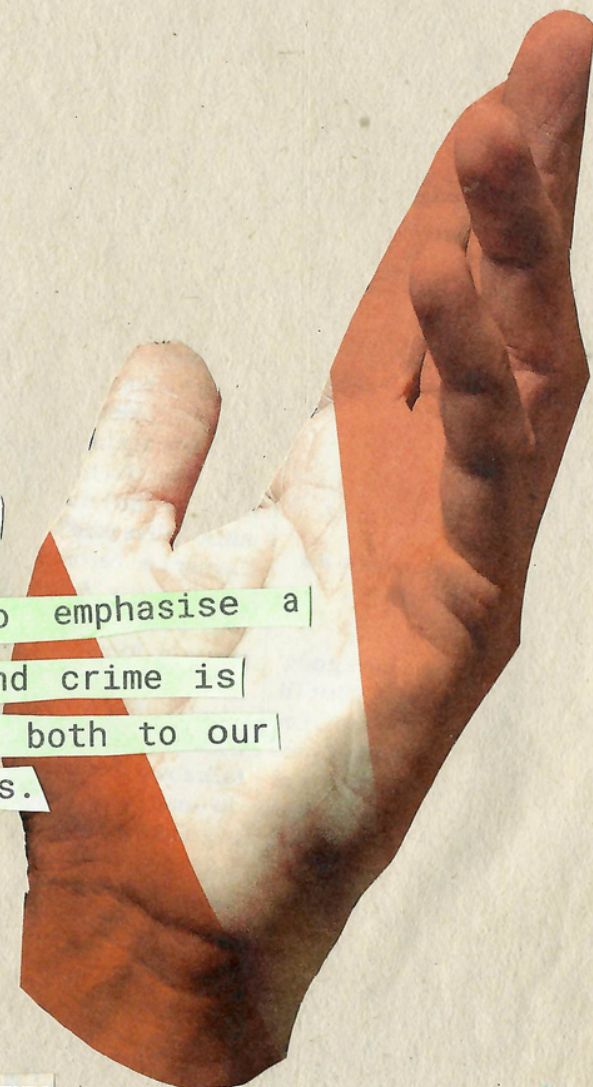
TO BE PROTECTED,
RATHER THAN THOSE
WHO INTERACT WITH

DRUGS



These feed into the image of
Singapore as a safe, clean and drug-free city
attractive to investors. But continuing to emphasise a
singular relationship between drugs and crime is
already proving too one-dimensional both to our
population and external onlookers.

BECOME MORE REALISTIC ABOUT THE OPPORTUNITIES



What would policy look like if users
formulated laws related to drugs?



Recent changes in drug policy in New York ensured that members of communities most badly affected by their nation's war on drugs were the first to be offered retail licences when the sale of marijuana was legalised.

IN PREPARATION FOR A WORLD OF ALTERNATIVE POLICIES,
HOW CAN WE ENSURE THAT INDIVIDUALS AND
COMMUNITIES MOST AFFECTED ARE PRIORITISED?

Changing the
disproportionate
stigma for drug
use

Training family and
friends to know how
to respond if my
safety is at risk

AND UNTIL WE REACH THAT WORLD, WHAT POLICIES DO
USERS THINK WILL BEST SUPPORT THEM?

Removing employer
discrimination for
previous instances
of use

Access to medicine,
safety and healthcare
without needing to be
immediately reported

Access to legal
support and
knowledge