Would you take virus test to go clubbing?

Most polled won't patronise karaoke outlets and nightclubs in pilot if they have to take test

Cara Wong

The need to recover for Singapore's underperforming nightlife industry will be a long one, a trend that has been observed among nightclubs, karaoke outlets and karaoke rooms, according to a survey conducted by The Sunday Times. The survey shows that the public is wary of attending such venues due to the risk of COVID-19 transmission. A total of 400 respondents were interviewed, and 85 per cent said they would not visit a karaoke outlet or nightclub if they had to take a test before entering.

The survey was conducted by market research firm Kantar Singapore, which is part of the International Group. The survey was conducted online among 1,000 Singaporeans aged 18 and older, and respondents were asked to rate their likelihood of patronising karaoke outlets and nightclubs if they had to take a test before entering.

The results showed that 85 per cent of respondents said they would not visit a karaoke outlet or nightclub if they had to take a test. The reasons given were concerns about the accuracy of the test, the risk of transmission, and the inconvenience of having to take a test.

Kantar Singapore president Robert Tan said the findings were significant, given the government's efforts to get the economy back up and running. "The findings are significant, as they suggest that even with the right measures in place, consumers are still hesitant to return to these venues," he said.

The survey also found that 79 per cent of respondents said they would prefer to go to a venue that requires a test before entry. The reasons given were that it would be safer and more convenient.

The findings come as the government is considering proposals to allow karaoke outlets and nightclubs to reopen in limited capacity. The government has said it is concerned about the potential for transmission, but is also aware of the economic impact of continuing to ban these venues.

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