

Cops must take stern action against any form of abuse towards children, says CAP

By Audrey Dermawan - August 9, 2022 @ 4:43pm



CAP education officer N.V. Subbarow said one could see more and more incidents where cigarettes, vape, tobacco-related products and alcoholic beverages including beer had been given to a minor as young as an infant by their parents or family members. - NSTP/AIZUDDIN SAAD, for illustration purposes

GEORGE TOWN: The Consumers' Association of Penang (CAP) is urging police to take stern action against anyone who violates the rights of children.

This comes following reports of a man who was shown in a video placing a vaping device into a baby's mouth during an incident at a restaurant in Bandar Baru Uda, Johor Baru, recently.

CAP education officer N.V. Subbarow said one could see more and more incidents where cigarettes, vape, tobacco-related products and alcoholic beverages including beer had been given to a minor as young as an infant by their parents or family members.

"The children do not know what these items are. This is a violation of children's welfare rights. It is a form of violence against children," he said.

It was reported that police had arrested the man.

Johor Baru Utara police chief Assistant Commissioner Rupiah Abd Wahid was quoted as saying that the 23-year-old businessman was detained at the Criminal Investigation Department of the district police headquarters.

She said the arrest was made after her team received a police report lodged by the 7-month-old baby girl's mother on Aug 6.

The mother claimed the man was her sister's friend. A 17-second viral video showed a man placing a vape device into the mouth of a baby that he was carrying.

The video received criticisms and reactions from various parties.

Subbarow said the Women, Family and Community Development Ministry must use the law, including possibly enacting a new one, to protect children from such actions committed by adults.

"Those who commit such acts and those who recorded the action as well as shared it should be severely punished," he said, voicing his fear that treating minors in such a manner could have a psychological impact on the children, including anxiety and depression.

He said parents and adults should love their children.

"Don't make fun of them. Children are not toys. They are living beings," he added.