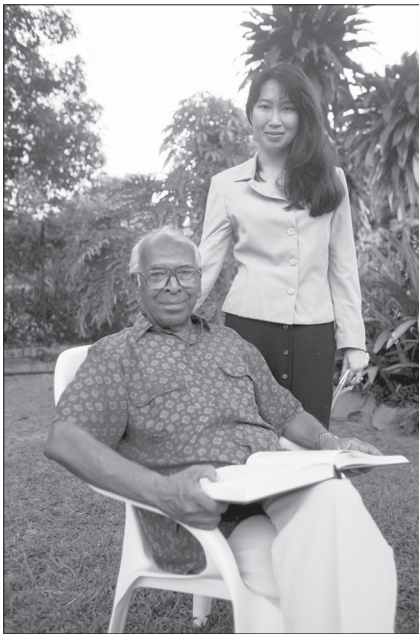


## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Born in Penang, Malaysia, Irene Ng came to Singapore to further her studies in 1980. She is now a Singaporean. She studied sociology, English language and philosophy at the National University of Singapore and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts and Social Science in 1986. She later obtained her Master of Science in international relations from the London School of Economics and Political Science. In June 2006, she was awarded an Honorary Professorial Fellowship at the University of Edinburgh. From 1986 to 2001, she worked as a journalist for the Singapore Press Holdings and was the senior political

correspondent of *The New Paper* and *The Straits Times*. She has won journalism and writing awards.

In 2001, she gave up journalism to join politics in Singapore. She currently serves as the Member of Parliament for Tampines GRC. After joining politics, she worked as director of programmes and senior research fellow at the Singapore Institute of International Affairs, and later, as a director at National Trades Union Congress. In 2009, she returned to her passion for writing as a full-time writer. She is currently Writer-in-Residence at the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, Singapore.



Irene Ng, then a journalist, with S. Rajaratnam at his home, 1997. (SPH)