

## Communications to the Editor

Lenore Manderson's review of Robert L. Winzeler's *Ethnic Relations in Kelantan* as published in *JAS* 46, no. 3 (August 1987): 712–13 begins, "In this book, ethnic relations in Malaysia are presented stereotypically as strife-ridden and tense. The violent riots of 1969 are portrayed only as the most dramatic and public face of constant, simmering disharmony."

Professor Winzeler has written to say that "in a generally misleading review of my book," Professor Manderson "seriously distorts my discussion on a major point. She states that I have presented ethnic relations in Malaysia 'stereotypically as strife-ridden and tense.'" Professor Winzeler notes that actually his book argues that "the relationship between Malays and non-Malays has been relatively easy going and peaceful . . . in comparison to some other regions of Malaysia or Southeast Asia generally, both the level of inter-ethnic hostility and conflict seems low." He observes that the 1969 riots are mentioned only once and that "Kelantan had remained peaceful during their occurrence . . . the thrust of the book is to show the complexity and non-stereotypical nature of Malaysian ethnicity."

Professor Manderson states in a letter to the editor that an error in editing distorted the intended meaning of the beginning of her review: "The opening paragraph aimed to set this new book apart from earlier work; the editorial change has reverted its meaning. The change . . . makes nonsense of the third paragraph of my review, where I spell out the refreshing originality of Professor Winzeler's approach to ethnic relations."

The editors regret the error.