

HOME

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ST PHOTO: FRANCIS ONG

GUILTY: Chung, 43, also admitted to having pulled the maid's ear for using too much water to boil eggs. Her lawyer said she was suffering from post-natal depression at the time.

Housewife gets \$3,000 fine for slapping maid

A HOUSEWIFE who slapped and pulled the ear of her Indonesian maid was fined a total of \$3,000 yesterday.

Chung Yee Houng, 43, pleaded guilty last week to using her right hand to slap Madam Ratineh Madrowi, 31, at her Jurong East Street 21 flat on July 16 last year.

She had scolded the victim for hanging out the clothes when it was raining.

She also admitted to having pulled her ear in the first week of October 2005 for using too much water to boil eggs.

Madam Ratineh was then a month into her job.

The police came to know of the assault from a tip-off from a man on July 16 last year.

Five other charges were taken into consideration.

Mr Suppiah Thangaveloo said his client, a former actuary, had shown remorse by sending the victim a letter of apology, as well as compensating her \$1,700 for loss of income.

At the time of the offences, she was under tremendous stress, and suffering from post-natal and chronic reactive depression, he said, and anxious about the well-being of her daughter.

She had also been subjected to abuse by her mother when she was younger, he added.

ELENA CHONG

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Aug 13, 2007

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