



Mrs Lim Hwee Hua, Minister in the Prime Minister's Office and Second Minister for Finance and Transport, and RADM Lui practising taiji at Punggol Park. RADM Lui advises workers to have a healthy lifestyle and to stay physically fit in order to work for far longer. ST PHOTO: DESMOND FOO

Minister prefers not having a maid

SEVEN years ago, Acting Minister for Information, Communications and the Arts Lui Tuck Yew stopped having a maid at home because his children and other adults in his family were relying too much on her to pick up after them.

Having a maid also subverts the adult-child relationship, and this is not a

healthy development, he said.

"When you have a domestic helper, there is a tendency for children to order the domestic help around.

"This subverts the adult-child relationship. When the child should be listening to the adult, it is the adult listening to the child." Rear-Admiral (NS) Lui said yester-

day. He made the remark when he agreed with a Aljunied-Hougang resident that children are getting too spoilt.

RADM Lui said schools, parents and grandparents need to play their part in moulding the young into useful citizens. Inculcating the right values in his daughters, who are 13 and 17 years old, meant

getting the entire family to do their share of chores, he said.

"You know, sometimes doing the best for the child isn't necessarily giving everything the child wants.

"We have got to be able to exercise a certain judgment as adults in order to train and bring up the child well," he said.