

# They could buy beer, rent car

ST reporter and two interns went undercover and purchased three fake identification cards. -ST

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A STRAITS Times reporter and two interns went undercover and purchased three fake identification cards from a printing shop at Bencoolen Street.

The interns - both aged 16 - made IDs that reflected their ages as 20 and 21. The reporter, 25, does not have a driver's licence. But he succeeded in making an international driver's licence that identified him as a 27-year-old.

The interns then tried using their fake IDs to buy alcohol and cigarettes, rent M-18 movie DVDs and get into clubs.

The reporter also attempted to rent a car with his fake licence.



## BUYING ALCOHOL (LEGAL AGE: 18)

Tried to buy bottled beer and cocktails with the fake IDs at two mini-marts and a supermarket, claiming the IDs were the only identification they had on them.

The counter staff merely glanced at the IDs before accepting payment.

**RESULT:** Success



## **BUYING CIGARETTES (LEGAL AGE: 18)**

Asked for packs of cigarettes at three other mini-marts and supermarkets. The counter staff asked for the IDs, and accepted them without question.

**RESULT:** Success





## **GETTING INTO CLUBS (CLUB RESTRICTION: 18, 20)**

Produced the IDs when they were stopped by bouncers at two clubs.

At the first club, the bouncer politely but firmly turned them away, insisting that only a Singaporean identity card or SAF card would do.

Better luck at the second club - the bouncer glanced at the cards, then let them in.

**RESULT:** Partial success



## RENTING A CAR

The reporter asked two car rental services if he could use his international driver's licence to rent a car for the day.

Even though both insisted on his passport and pink identity card as part of the application process, they were satisfied with the licence as proof that he could operate a vehicle.

**RESULT:** Technical success