



"Education through Struggle"
mural at the UCLA Asian
American Studies Center

From Exclusion to Inclusion: Reframing the AAPI Narrative & Cross - Racial Solidarity Building

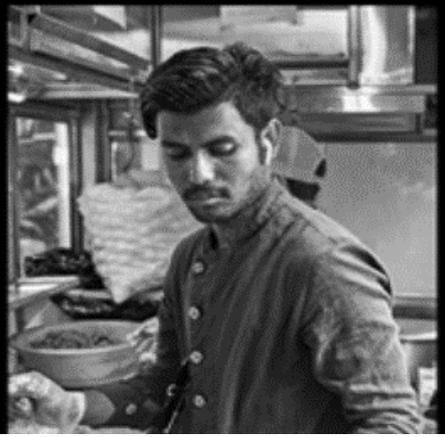
Melany De La Cruz-Viesca

May 25, 2022

UCLA Asian American Studies Center

Overview

- ▣ Who are AAPIs? How have AAPI communities changed over time?
- ▣ Complex History of Exclusion against Asians in America and Racialized Tropes
- ▣ Educating and Caring Across Generations



We Are Not A Monolith

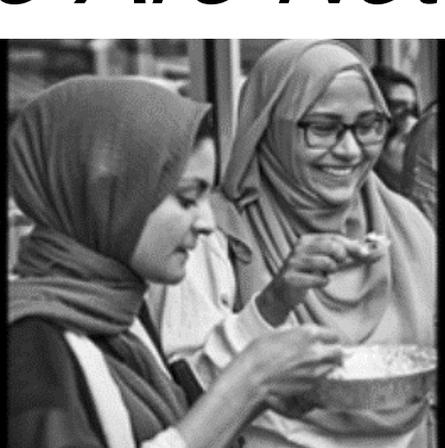


Photo Credit: The Asian American Foundation

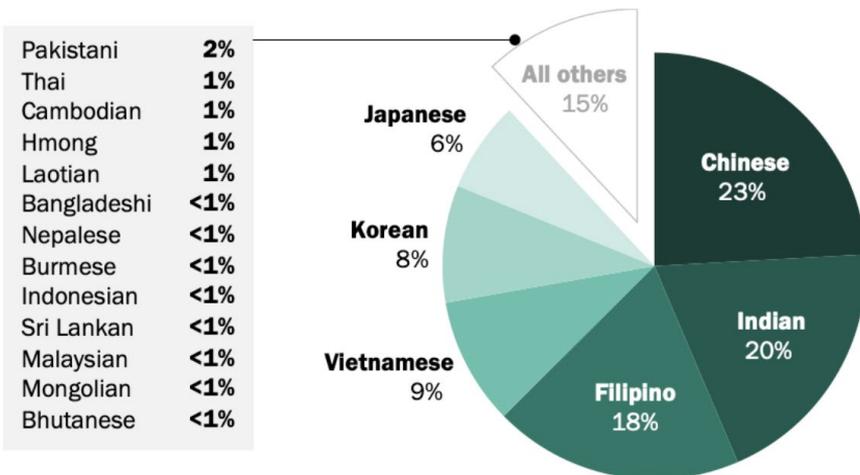
Six Asian origin groups in the U.S. had populations of at least 1 million people in 2019 ...

In thousands

| Origin group | Population | | | % growth, 2000–2019 |
|--------------|------------|-------|-------|---------------------|
| | 2019 | 2010 | 2000 | |
| Chinese | 5,399 | 4,010 | 2,865 | 88% |
| Indian | 4,606 | 3,183 | 1,900 | 142% |
| Filipino | 4,211 | 3,417 | 2,365 | 78% |
| Vietnamese | 2,183 | 1,737 | 1,224 | 78% |
| Korean | 1,908 | 1,707 | 1,228 | 55% |
| Japanese | 1,498 | 1,316 | 1,160 | 29% |
| Pakistani | 554 | 409 | 204 | 171% |
| Thai | 343 | 238 | 150 | 128% |
| Cambodian | 339 | 277 | 206 | 64% |
| Hmong | 327 | 260 | 186 | 75% |
| Laotian | 254 | 232 | 198 | 28% |
| Bangladeshi | 208 | 147 | 57 | 263% |
| Nepalese | 198 | 59 | 9 | 2,005% |
| Burmese | 189 | 100 | 17 | 1,031% |
| Indonesian | 129 | 95 | 63 | 105% |
| Sri Lankan | 56 | 45 | 25 | 127% |
| Malaysian | 38 | 26 | 19 | 106% |
| Mongolian | 27 | 18 | 6 | 358% |
| Bhutanese | 24 | 19 | <1 | 11,288% |

... accounting for 85% of the nation's Asian population

% of the U.S. Asian population that is ___, 2019



Note: "Chinese" includes those identifying as Taiwanese. "All others" includes the category "Other Asian, not specified." Figures may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

Source: For 2019, Pew Research Center analysis of 2019 American Community Survey 1-year estimates (Census Data). For 2000 and 2010, population estimates from U.S. Census Bureau, "The Asian Population: 2010" Census Brief, Table 6.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander Population by Ethnic Group

| | Estimate | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|-------|
| Total Groups Tallied: | 1,452,822 | |
| Native Hawaiian | 599,868 | 41.3% |
| Samoan | 208,942 | 14.4% |
| Tongan | 63,078 | 4.3% |
| Other Polynesian | 20,872 | 1.4% |
| Guamanian Or Chamorro | 158,740 | 10.9% |
| Marshallese | 34,191 | 2.4% |
| Other Micronesian | 65,003 | 4.5% |
| Fijian | 47,132 | 3.2% |
| Other Melanesian | 2,386 | 0.2% |
| Other Pacific Islander, Not Specified | 252,610 | 17.4% |

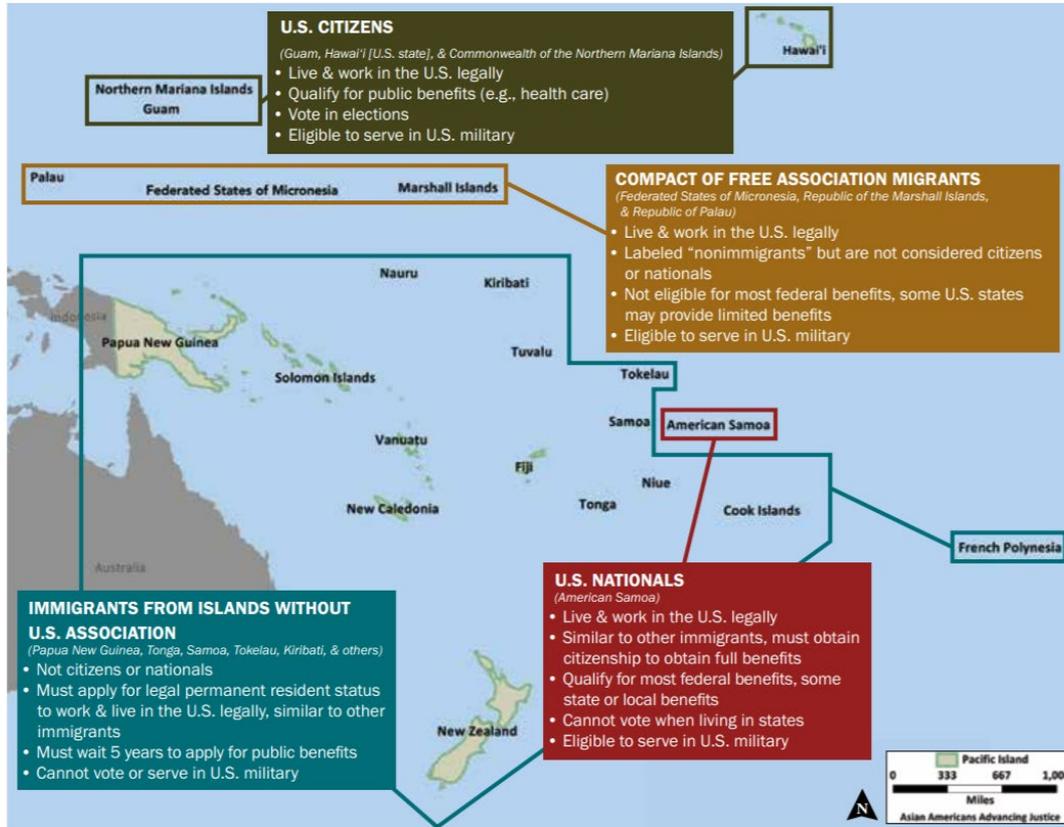
Native Hawaiians are more likely to be multiracial than any other racial group.

NHOPIs of mixed - race will comprise over half the population a quarter century from now.

Source: ACS2019 (5Year Estimates)

Paul Ong, Elena Ong, and Jonathan Ong (2016) The Future of Pacific Islander America in 2040. AAPI Nexus: Policy, Practice and Community: 2016, Vol. 14, No. 1, pp.-113.

U.S. Immigration Status by Pacific Island of Birth



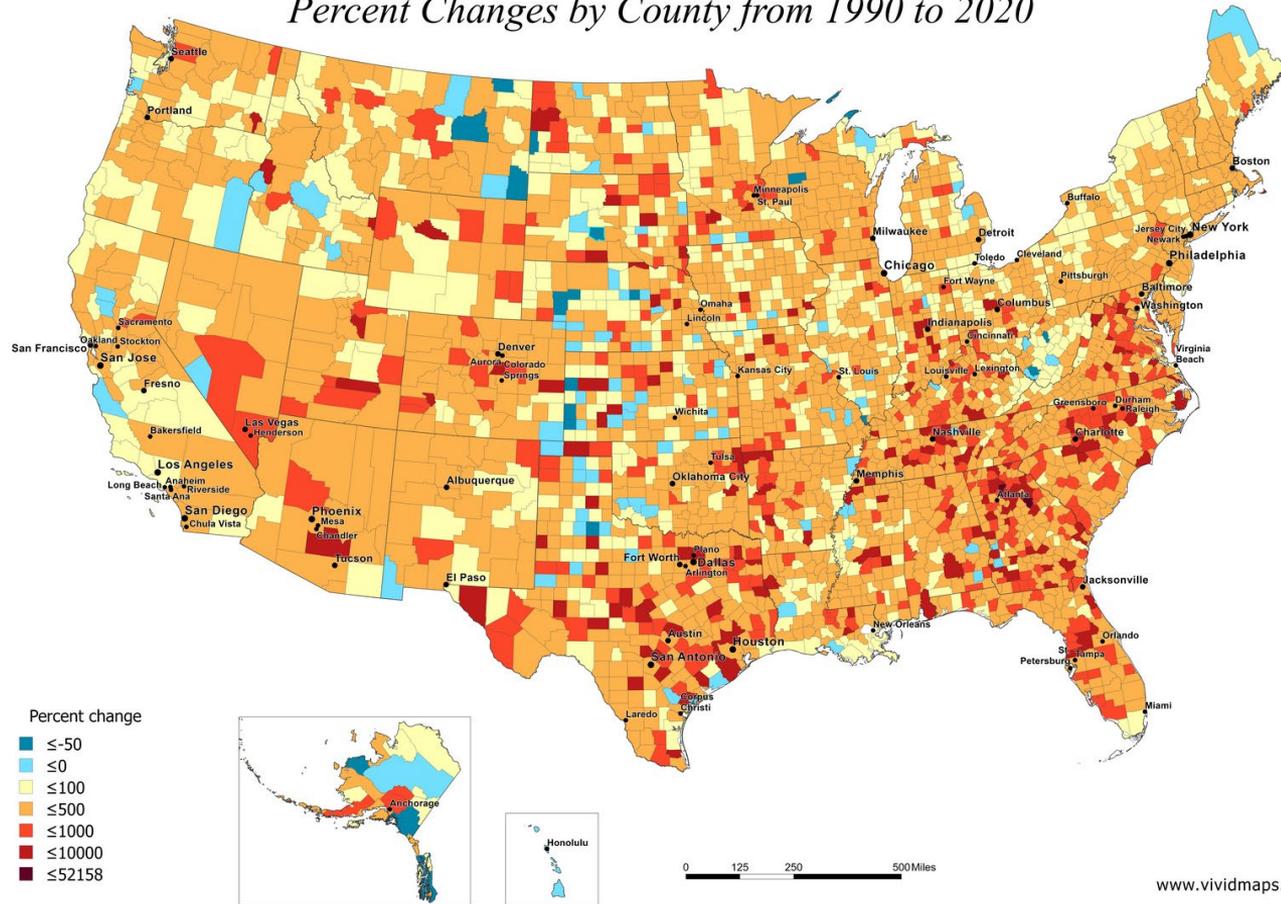
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, National Immigration Law Center, U.S. Department of the Interior, Office of Insular Affairs; Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice; APIAHF "Access to Health Coverage for Pacific Islanders in the United States." Note: Smaller islands not labeled on map. Information provided on the chart is generalized information based on islands of birth. The information above may not be true for all immigrants born on these islands. Native Hawaiians living in Hawai'i are indigenous people and not immigrants. As indigenous people, Native Hawaiians qualify for other federal benefits through programs such as the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act.

NHPs in the United States have vastly different rights and privileges depending upon where they originated from.

Source: Empowering Pacific Islander Communities & Asian Americans Advancing Justice, 2014.

U.S. Asian Population

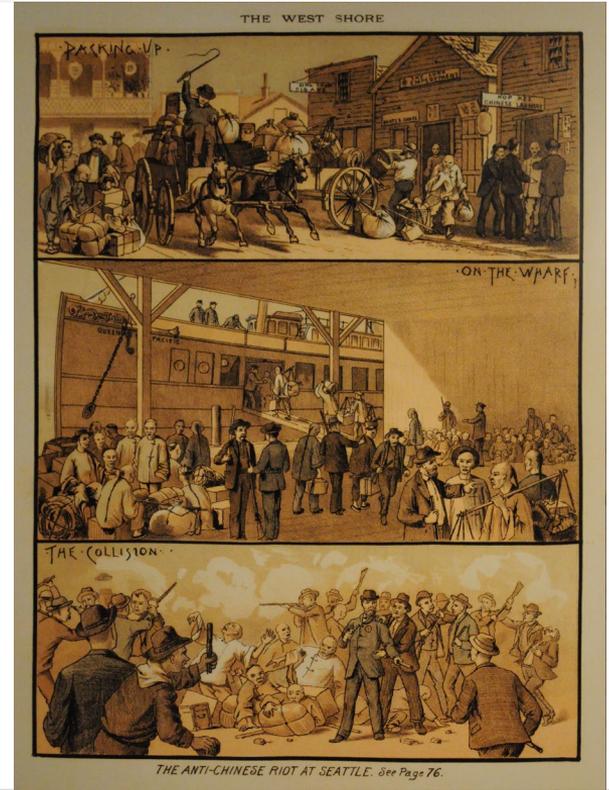
Percent Changes by County from 1990 to 2020



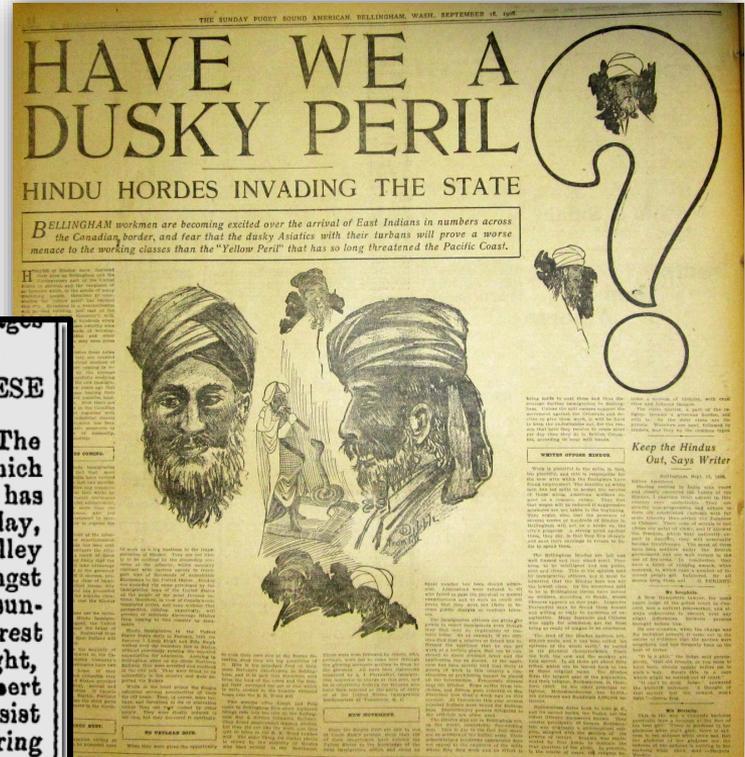
A Long History of Anti - Chinese Sentiment & Violence in America

Anti -Chinese attacks shadowing the
“Long Depression”

- 1871 Los Angeles Chinatown Massacre
- 1877 San Francisco Riot
- 1885 Wyoming Rock Springs Massacre
- 1885 Tacoma Riot and Chinese Expulsion
- 1886 Seattle Riot
- 1887 Oregon Chinese Massacre Cove
- 1907 Pacific Coast race riots



Violence & Exclusion



Segregation & Exclusion

1875



"Among the Chinese on the Pacific Coast," in *Harper's Weekly*, May 27, 1893. Reproduction, New York Historical Society.

The Page Act

National debate over the "Chinese Question" led Congress to pass the Page Act, directed at Chinese and other Asians. The act enforced the 1862 ban on the "coolie trade," even though Chinese migrants came to the US voluntarily. It also required that women prove they were not prostitutes. Prostitutes of every background worked the American West, but the Page Act slashed immigration rates for all Chinese women for decades to come.

HIP! HURRAH!
CHINESE EXCLUDED
 —The—
Democratic Chinese Exclusion Bill
 Has Been Signed by
OUR DEMOCRATIC PRESIDENT
 Hip! Hurrah! The White Man is on Top.
 Let every DEMOCRAT and all other GOOD Citizens turn out and Ratify this:
DEMOCRATIC MEASURE
 At the
HORTON HOUSE PLAZA
 This Wednesday Evening at 8 O'clock.
To-Night
 Speeches will be made by Leading Democratic Orators.
COME OUT AND RATIFY!
 Come Everybody!
NO MORE CHINESE!
 By Order of
Democratic County Central Committee.

Frederick, Longstrech & Co., News Vendors, 30 Fourth Street.

WESTERN DEFENSE COMMAND AND FOURTH ARMY WARTIME CIVIL CONTROL ADMINISTRATION

Residio of San Francisco, California
 May 3, 1942

INSTRUCTIONS TO ALL PERSONS OF JAPANESE ANCESTRY

Living in the Following Area:

All of that portion of the City of Los Angeles, State of California, within that boundary beginning at the point at which North Figueroa Street meets a line following the middle of the Los Angeles River; thence southerly and following the said line to East First Street; thence westerly on East First Street to Alameda Street; thence southerly on Alameda Street to East Third Street; thence southwesterly on East Third Street to Main Street; thence southerly on Main Street to First Street; thence southwesterly on First Street to Figueroa Street; thence northwesterly on Figueroa Street to the point of beginning.

Pursuant to the provisions of Civilian Exclusion Order No. 33, this Headquarters, dated May 3, 1942, all persons of Japanese ancestry, both alien and non-alien, will be evacuated from the above area by 12 o'clock noon, P. M. T., Saturday, May 9, 1942.

No Japanese person living in the above area will be permitted to change residence after 12 o'clock noon, P. M. T., Sunday, May 3, 1942, without obtaining special permission from the representative of the Commanding General, Southern California Sector, at the Civil Control Station located at:

Japanese Union Church,
 120 North San Pedro Street,
 Los Angeles, California.

Such permits will only be granted for the purpose of visiting members of a family, or in cases of grave emergency. The Civil Control Station is equipped to assist the Japanese population affected by this evacuation in the following ways:

1. Give advice and instructions on the evacuation.
2. Provide services with respect to the management, leasing, sale, storage or other disposition of most kinds of property, such as real estate, business and professional equipment, household goods, boats, automobiles and livestock.
3. Provide temporary residence elsewhere for all Japanese in family groups.
4. Transport persons and a limited amount of clothing and equipment to their new residence.

The Following Instructions Must Be Observed:

1. A responsible member of each family, preferably the head of the family, or the person whose name must of the property is held, and each individual living alone, will report to the Civil Control Station to receive further instructions. This must be done between 8:00 A. M. and 5:00 P. M. on Monday, May 4, 1942, or between 8:00 A. M. and 5:00 P. M. on Tuesday, May 5, 1942.

2. Evacuees must carry with them on departure for the Assembly Center, the following property:

- (a) Bedding and linens (no mattress) for each member of the family;
- (b) Toilet articles for each member of the family;
- (c) Extra clothing for each member of the family;
- (d) Sufficient knives, forks, spoons, plates, bowls and cups for each member of the family;
- (e) Essential personal effects for each member of the family.

All items carried will be securely packaged, tied and plainly marked with the name of the owner and numbered in accordance with instructions obtained at the Civil Control Station. The size and number of packages is limited to that which can be carried by the individual or family group.

3. No pets of any kind will be permitted.
4. No personal items and no household goods will be shipped to the Assembly Center.
5. The United States Government through its agencies will provide for the storage, at the sole risk of the owner, of the more substantial household items, such as iceboxes, washing machines, pianos and other heavy furniture. Cooking utensils and other small items will be accepted for storage if crated, packed and plainly marked with the name and address of the owner. Only one name and address will be used by a given family.
6. Each family, and individual living alone, will be furnished transportation to the Assembly Center or will be authorized to travel by private automobile in a supervised group. All instructions pertaining to the movement will be obtained at the Civil Control Station.

Go to the Civil Control Station between the hours of 8:00 A. M. and 5:00 P. M., Monday, May 4, 1942, or between the hours of 8:00 A. M. and 5:00 P. M., Tuesday, May 5, 1942, to receive further instructions.

J. L. DeWITT
 Lieutenant General, U. S. Army
 Commanding

The “Perpetual Foreigner” Syndrome



Choy, et al, The Coming Man

Where are you REALLY From?



Model Minority & Bamboo Ceiling



Despite Asian Americans being well-represented in law as more than 10% of graduates from the top 30 law schools, they have the "highest attrition rates and lowest ratio of partners to associates among all (racial) groups."

Source: 2017 study from Yale Law School and the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association

Asian Americans & Invisibility



Asian Americans remain invisible despite their economic and cultural contributions—58% of Americans couldn't name a prominent Asian American and 42% couldn't name a significant Asian American historical moment more recent than the internment of Japanese Americans during World War II.

Source: 2022 The STAATUS (Social Tracking of Asian Americans in the U.S.) Index

Do you know who is Patsy Mink?



PATSY MINK

First Woman of Color Elected to Congress in 1964

Authored the first draft and co-authored the final Title IX legislation, which changed opportunities in education for women.

Must Watch: *Need to Talk: Patsy Mink Changed Everything for Women in Sports*

<https://247sports.com/high-school/washington/Video/We-Need-to-Talk-Patsy-Mink-Changed-Everything-for-Women-in-Sport-11075014/>

The “Dragon Lady” Stereotype



The Public Safety of AAPI Women

**Stop AAPI Hate Statistics: 10,370 incidents reported from 3/19/20 to 9/30/21.
Hate incidents reported by women make up 62.0% of all reports.**



Mourners visit and leave flowers at the site of two shootings at spas across the street from one another, in memorial for the lives lost, on March 17, 2021 in Atlanta, Georgia. Suspect Robert Aaron Long, 21, was arrested after a series of shootings at three Atlanta-area spas left eight people dead on Tuesday night, including six Asian women. *Megan Varner, Getty Images*



A person holds a candle during a vigil, Jan. 18, 2022, in New York's Times Square, in honor of Michelle Alyssa Go, a victim of a subway attack several days earlier. *Yuki Iwamura, AP*

Source: USA TODAY: <https://www.usatoday.com/story/life/health-wellness/2022/05/10/asian-fetishization-isnt-flattery-how-weve-dehumanized-asian-women/7450959001/>



Letters for Black Lives | Inaugural ENG Letter

LETTERS FOR BLACK LIVES



Watch later



Share



Watch on  YouTube

YouTube



Letters for Black Lives

An Open Letter Project on Anti-Blackness

The letter also brought up a subject that Xu and many others felt really uncomfortable broaching with their parents: anti-blackness in Asian-American and immigrant communities. Here's some of what they wrote:

"When a policeman shoots a Black person, you might think it's the victim's fault because you see so many images of them in the media as thugs and criminals. After all, you might say, we managed to come to America with nothing and build good lives for ourselves despite discrimination, so why can't they?"

Watch video at: https://youtu.be/vrR-8_odGh4

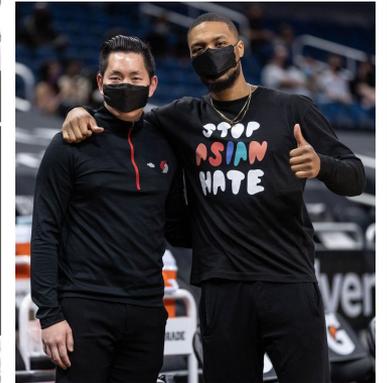
Read the letter, as well as its various translations to Korean, Urdu, Vietnamese, Tagalog and other languages at: <https://lettersforblacklives.com/>

Hundreds Are Volunteering to Escort Elderly Asian Americans in Oakland's Chinatown



To help deter further attacks against the Asian community, hundreds of volunteers have signed up to accompany older Asian Americans walking around Oakland's Chinatown. Of the more than 2,800 anti-Asian attacks reported nationally between March 19 and Dec. 31 last year, 7.3% involved victims aged 60 and above, according to [Stop AAPI Hate](#). A [new surge in attacks](#) -- particularly in California's Bay Area -- has been reported in the past few weeks. One of the recent attacks involved an 84-year-old Thai American man who was shoved to his death, an incident that his loved ones are calling [an act of racism](#).

Standing Together in Solidarity



<https://www.seeusunite.org/unite/>
<https://www.kcet.org/news-community/may-19th-project>

**“We may have all come on different ships,
but we’re in the same boat now.”
- Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.**

Thank You!

Acknowledgements to Melanie Hart, Jonah Nigh, and Nicole Stephen