“CHINESE VIRUS:” WHY ANTI-ASIAN RACISM IS SO CONTAGIOUS

Thursday, May 28, 2020
11:00 am - 12:15 pm PST
Live tweeting?

#ContagiousRacism

@SumunLPendakur
@JadeAgua
@wangjona
“Any study of the politics of identity must, therefore, be informed by a careful examination of the context of racial hierarchy and its relationship to state policies (Junn, 2007).”
#ContagiousRacism

THE ALIEN: The perpetual foreigner — the enigmatic, inscrutable, unassimilable outsider in our midst. (The Invincible Iron Man #130, January 1980)

THE KAMIKAZE: Mindlessly self-sacrificing, zealously loyal, feverishly patriotic, and utterly dismissive of the value of human life. (Air War Stories #6, February 1966)

THE BRUTE: The thug, the gangster, the henchman, the cannon-fodder minion, the martial arts master — stoic in suffering, silent in rage. (Iron Man #10, February 1969)

THE LOTUS BLOSSOM: The long-suffering wife, the left-behind lover; the hostage, the victim, the betrayed and forgotten. (Unknown Soldier #221, November 1978)
INSTRUCTIONS TO ALL PERSONS OF JAPANESE ANCESTRY

Living in the Following Area:

Western Defense Command and Fourth Army
Wartime Civil Control Administration
Presidio of San Francisco, California
May 3, 1942

Due to the current national emergency, all persons of Japanese ancestry, twenty-one years of age and over, will be required to report to the assembly area at 11:00 a.m. on May 5, 1942, at the Presidio of San Francisco, California. Persons under twenty-one years of age will not be required to report until May 6, 1942.

The following instructions must be observed:

1. Every person shall be assigned to the local unit of the family on the premises where one member of the family is required to be present.
2. Every member of the family shall be required to be present.
3. Every member of the family shall be required to be present.
4. Every member of the family shall be required to be present.
5. Every member of the family shall be required to be present.
6. Every member of the family shall be required to be present.
7. Every member of the family shall be required to be present.
8. Every member of the family shall be required to be present.
9. Every member of the family shall be required to be present.
10. Every member of the family shall be required to be present.
11. Every member of the family shall be required to be present.
12. Every member of the family shall be required to be present.
13. Every member of the family shall be required to be present.
14. Every member of the family shall be required to be present.
15. Every member of the family shall be required to be present.
16. Every member of the family shall be required to be present.
17. Every member of the family shall be required to be present.
18. Every member of the family shall be required to be present.
19. Every member of the family shall be required to be present.
20. Every member of the family shall be required to be present.

The following instructions must be observed:

1. Every person shall be assigned to the local unit of the family on the premises where one member of the family is required to be present.
2. Every member of the family shall be required to be present.
3. Every member of the family shall be required to be present.
4. Every member of the family shall be required to be present.
5. Every member of the family shall be required to be present.
6. Every member of the family shall be required to be present.
7. Every member of the family shall be required to be present.
8. Every member of the family shall be required to be present.
9. Every member of the family shall be required to be present.
10. Every member of the family shall be required to be present.
11. Every member of the family shall be required to be present.
12. Every member of the family shall be required to be present.
13. Every member of the family shall be required to be present.
14. Every member of the family shall be required to be present.
15. Every member of the family shall be required to be present.
16. Every member of the family shall be required to be present.
17. Every member of the family shall be required to be present.
18. Every member of the family shall be required to be present.
19. Every member of the family shall be required to be present.
20. Every member of the family shall be required to be present.

Go to the Civil Control Station between the hours of 9:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M. from May 5, 1942, and between the hours of 9:00 A.M. and 6:00 A.M. on Tuesday, May 6, 1942, for further instructions.

J. J. COX
Commander
Headquarters, 4th Army

May 1, 1942
COUNTER-STORYTELLING: An Alternative View of Asian American History

Wave 1: 1830's to 1924
- Citizenship and Marriage
- Asian Exclusion Acts

Wave 2: 1965 to present
- WWII and E.O. 9066

Wave 3: 1975 to present
- Refugee Relocation
- Family Re-Unification Laws
- Who are Chin, Lee, and Sodhi?
- Muslim Ban

TODAY

#ContagiousRacism
#ContagiousRacism

April 1984

Newsweek On Campus
Poll: Student Attitudes About the Opposite Sex
Asian-Americans
The Drive to Excel

August 1987

Time
Those Asian-American WHIZ KIDS
The Army's Secret Army
MODEL MINORITY... ?
Get your self-important, filthy, reeking, sloped eyed twats back to monkey land and eat a bowl of
“The Chinese quarters are the filthiest and most disgusting places in Victoria, overcrowded hotbeds of disease and vice, disseminating fever and polluting the air all around.”
WE'RE AT WAR WITH AN INVISIBLE ENEMY

DONALD TRUMP
Federal agencies are doing little about the rise in anti-Asian hate

The CDC and DOJ worked to stop bias incidents and hate crimes following the SARS outbreak and the 9/11 terrorist attacks. No such plans have been released amid the coronavirus pandemic.

April 16, 2020
By Alexia Fernández Campbell and Alex Ellerbeck
“If Chinese students want to come here and study Shakespeare & the Federalist Papers, that’s what they need to learn from America. They don’t need to learn quantum computing.”

–Sen. Tom Cotton
Kamala Harris introduces resolution condemning 'Chinese Virus' as racist

By Victor Morton - The Washington Times - Wednesday, May 20, 2020

Sen. Kamala Harris wants this on the record — the term “Chinese Virus” is hate speech fueling attacks against Asians.
How is *your* campus ready to combat Anti-Asian Racism?
UNDERSTANDING STUDENT NEEDS

• Stop AAPI Hate has documented over 1700 incidents of verbal harassment, shunning, and physical assaults, **including on campuses:**
  • Faculty actively using the term “Wuhan Virus”, “Chinese Virus”, and shunning students
  • Zoom-bombing incidents with racist and sexist language in class and in student organization meetings
  • Peers using harassing and racist language in class, group meetings, or in private messages

By @chung.woolrim
Students across the US are advocating for:

• more recognition/communication;
• a centralized response;
• access to individual and community support; and
• culture change
GET READY: ALL LEVELS

- Institutional
- Departmental/Program
- Individual
INSTITUTIONAL LEVEL

• Proactive Messaging
  • COVID-19 Website
  • Fall Welcome Letter
  • Direct reference to the historical, systemic, and institutional racism that currently exists on campuses (Cole & Harper, 2017)
Disaggregating Data

Where ever possible, disaggregating “Asian” and “Asian American” categories by ethnicity.
DEPARTMENTAL/PROGRAM LEVEL

- Admissions/Enrollment
- Academic/Career advising
- Counseling Center/ Psychological Services
- Diversity officers
President Folt & VPSA Crisp “visit” APASS
#ContagiousRacism

INDIVIDUAL LEVEL

- Staff and Faculty Training and Resources
- Student Leader Training
- Co-curricular Programming
INDIVIDUAL LEVEL

Race & Racism
• The centrality of race in the US cannot be ignored, nor are we in a post-racial society
• Racial Triangulation & Asian Americans
• Intercentricity of race and other multiple identities

Othering, Marginalization, and Silencing
• Effects of Model Minority Myth
  • Anti-Blackness
• Effects of Perpetual Foreigner Myth
  • Orientalism
• Effects of Pan-ethnic grouping
INDIVIDUAL LEVEL

• Using Asian American voices and narratives in trainings
• Positively supporting students
  • Refrain from minimizing or dismissing the incident
  • How to check-in with them, while also checking-in with yourself
  • Building support networks, and being part of a student’s support network
  • Recognizing the effects of discrimination, including microaggressions
Three titles to add to your collection!

1. **Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in Higher Education**
   - Research and Perspectives on Identity, Leadership, and Success
   - Edited by Doris Ching and Amefil Agyan

2. **Focusing on the Underserved**
   - Immigrant, Refugee, and Indigenous Asian American and Pacific Islanders in Higher Education
   - Edited by Sam D. Museus, Amefil Agyan, and Doris M. Ching

3. **Working with Asian American College Students**
THANK YOU

Dr. Sumun L. Pendakur
pendakur@usc.edu

Jade K. Agua, MPA
jagua@usc.edu

Dr. Jonathan Wang
wangjona@usc.edu