Asian American and Pacific Islander Discrimination: A Physician Perspective
Elisa Choi, MD, FACP, FIDSA
Saturday May 22, 2021

May is...

• Asian Pacific American Heritage month

• Mental Health Awareness Month

• Hepatitis Awareness Month
Pan Asian Community

- East Asia – China, Japan, South Korea, North Korea, Taiwan, Mongolia
- Southeast Asia - Brunei, Burma (Myanmar), Cambodia, Timor-Leste, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam
- South Asian - Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Pakistan, Nepal, and Sri Lanka; Afghanistan and the Maldives
- Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders (Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, French Polynesia, Kiribati, the Marshall Islands, Nauru, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Palau, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, and Wallis and Futuna)

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US Census (2020)

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“Chinese Virus”, “China Virus”, “Kung Flu”

• ”The United States will be powerfully supporting those industries, like Airlines and others, that are particularly affected by the *Chinese Virus*. We will be stronger than ever before!” – 45th President of the United States of America, Twitter, March 16, 2020

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Atlanta - March 16, 2021

Soon Chung Park 박순정, age 74
Hyun Jung Grant [김]현정, age 51
Sun Cha Kim 김선자, age 69
Yong Ae Yue 유영애, age 63
Delaina Ashley Yaun, age 33
Paul Andre Michels, age 54
Xiaojie Tan 谭小洁, age 49
Daoyou Feng 冯道友, age 44

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#RacismIsAVirus

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#IAmNotAVirus

#MyEthnicityIsNotAVirus

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“Yellow Peril”

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“Forever Foreigner”

“American Beats Out Kwan”

“Immigrants: they get the job done,”

“Model Minority” Myth

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“Invisibility” and Anti-Asian Racism & Discrimination

- LAAUNCH Survey 2021:
- More than 40% of respondents could not name a prominent Asian American
- Approximately 80% of Asian Americans say they are discriminated against in the US

Anti-Asian Racism update

- Stop AAPI Hate:
- More than 6600 reports of anti-Asian racist incidents
- Approximately 2/3 of reports were from women respondents
- CA has most reported cases, followed by NY
H. Res 908 - Condemning all forms of anti-Asian sentiment as related to COVID-19.

[Image of a page from a document]

Executive Order – January 26, 2021

“‘The Federal Government must recognize that it has played a role in furthering these xenophobic sentiments through the actions of political leaders, including references to the COVID-19 pandemic by the geographic location of its origin,’” Biden said in the order. “‘Such statements have stoked unfounded fears and perpetuated stigma about Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders and have contributed to increasing rates of bullying, harassment, and hate crimes against AAPI persons.’”

[Image of a page from a document]
Standing Up With And For Each Other

Photo credit- Westside Activists

Going “Viral”

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Take back the narrative

Shreya P. Trivedi MD
@ShreyaTrivediMD

"I have tried to stop using the word #minority because people who look like us are actually the majority in the world."

-- @MAACPGovernor

10:29 AM · 5/2/21 · Twitter Web App

The Linda Lindas

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Unity & Solidarity

In conclusion

• “We have to build things that we want to see accomplished, in life and in our country, based on our own personal experiences ... to make sure that others ... do not have to suffer the same discrimination.” – Patsy Takemoto Mink

• #RepresentASIAN
• #RacismIsAVirus
• #MyEthnicityIsNotAVirus
• #IAmNotAVirus
• #HateIsAVirus
• #IMProud (ACP)

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Thank you

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