



ASIAN AMERICANS
**ADVANCING
JUSTICE**
LOS ANGELES

Building API Solidarity & Safe Communities

Protect | Resist | Advance

Building upon the legacy of the Asian Pacific American Legal Center

OUR MISSION

“ To advocate for civil rights, provide legal services and education, and build coalitions to positively influence and impact Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders and to create a more equitable and harmonious society. ”



Victoria “Nikki” Dominguez
Policy Director
Pronouns: She/hers



Sheng Thao
President, League of CA
Cities API Caucus
Pronouns: She/hers



Benjamin Tran
Policy Strategist
Pronouns: He/him



OUR SPEAKERS



WHO IS THE AAPI COMMUNITY IN CA?

AANHPI Population

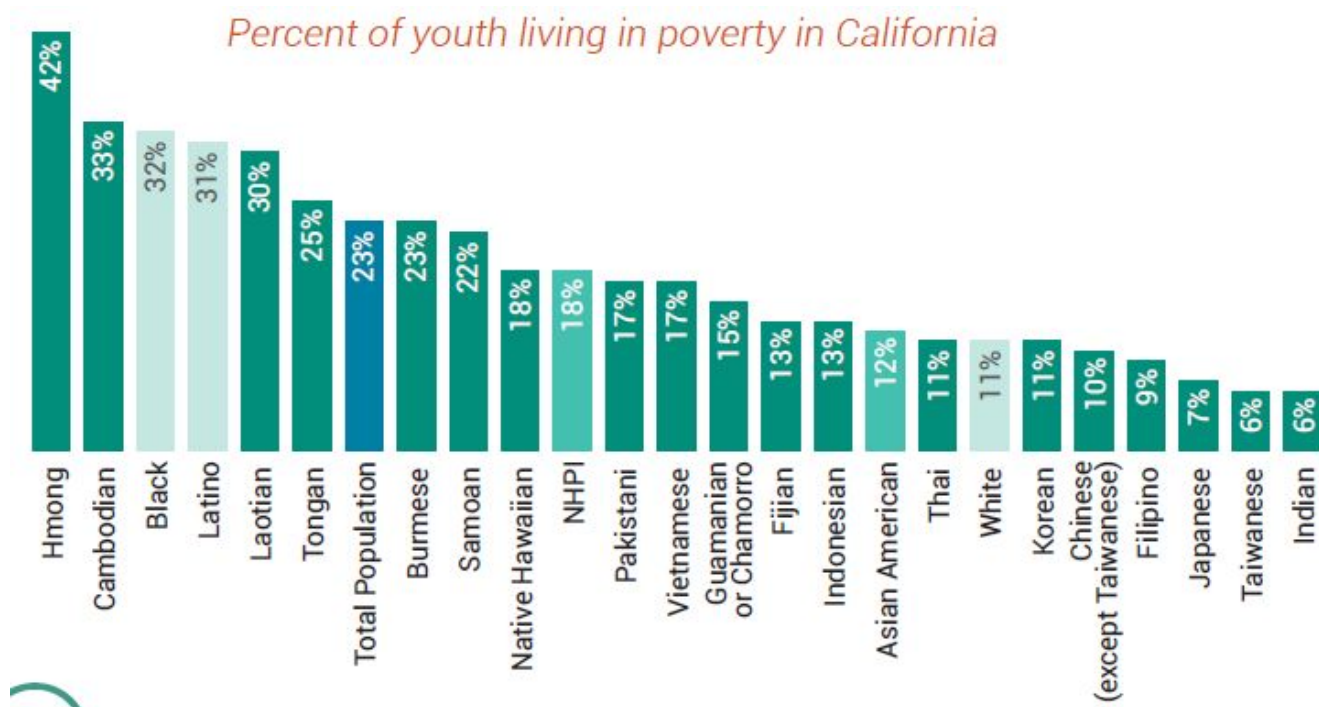
- 1 out of 7 Californians are of AANHPI heritage.
- It is estimated that over one-quarter (28%) of undocumented Asians reside in California.
- Nearly $\frac{1}{3}$ of the total AANHPI population in the United States lives in California.
- Asians are the largest growing undocumented population in the United States.



Poverty

2013

Hmong and Cambodians have some of the highest poverty rates in the state.



Language / EL Education

Language	Percent
Spanish	82.19%
Vietnamese	2.17%
Mandarin (Putonghua)	1.78%
Arabic	1.50%
Filipino (Pilipino or Tagalog)	1.27%
Cantonese	1.20%
Korean	0.79%
Hmong	0.74%
Punjabi	0.72%
Russian	0.69%

In 2013, more than 1/3 (35%) of Asian Americans and 13% of NHPI were limited English Proficient- a rate higher than Latinos (30%)

**WHAT IS HAPPENING
NOW?**



#StopAAPIHate:

- Reports collected from March 19, 2020 to June 30, 2021. The number of hate incidents reported to our center increased from 6,603 to 9,081 during April–June 2021 of racism and discrimination targeting Asian Americans nationally.
 - 38.6% or 3,505 incidents from CA
 - **Types of incidents:**
 - Verbal harassment made up 68% of incidents;
 - Shunning or avoidance comprised 20%
 - Physical assaults made up 11% of incidents;
 - Coughing/spitting comprised 7%;
-

#StopAAPIHate:



- **Vulnerable populations:**
 - Women attacked 2.3 times more than men
 - Youth under 20 yrs old comprise 13%
 - Elderly over 60 yrs old comprise 6%
 - **Location of incidents:**
 - Clear civil rights violations — workplace discrimination, refusal of service from establishments, transit or ride-shares — make up 9% of the incidents
 - Businesses were the top site of discrimination incidents, making up 35% of locations of discrimination
-

HOW DID WE GET HERE?

Safe Space Guideline

Brave Space Reframe

Agree to Disagree

Controversy with Civility

No Personal Attacks

**Distinguish Between
Ideas and People**

Don't Take Things Personally

Take Care of Yourself

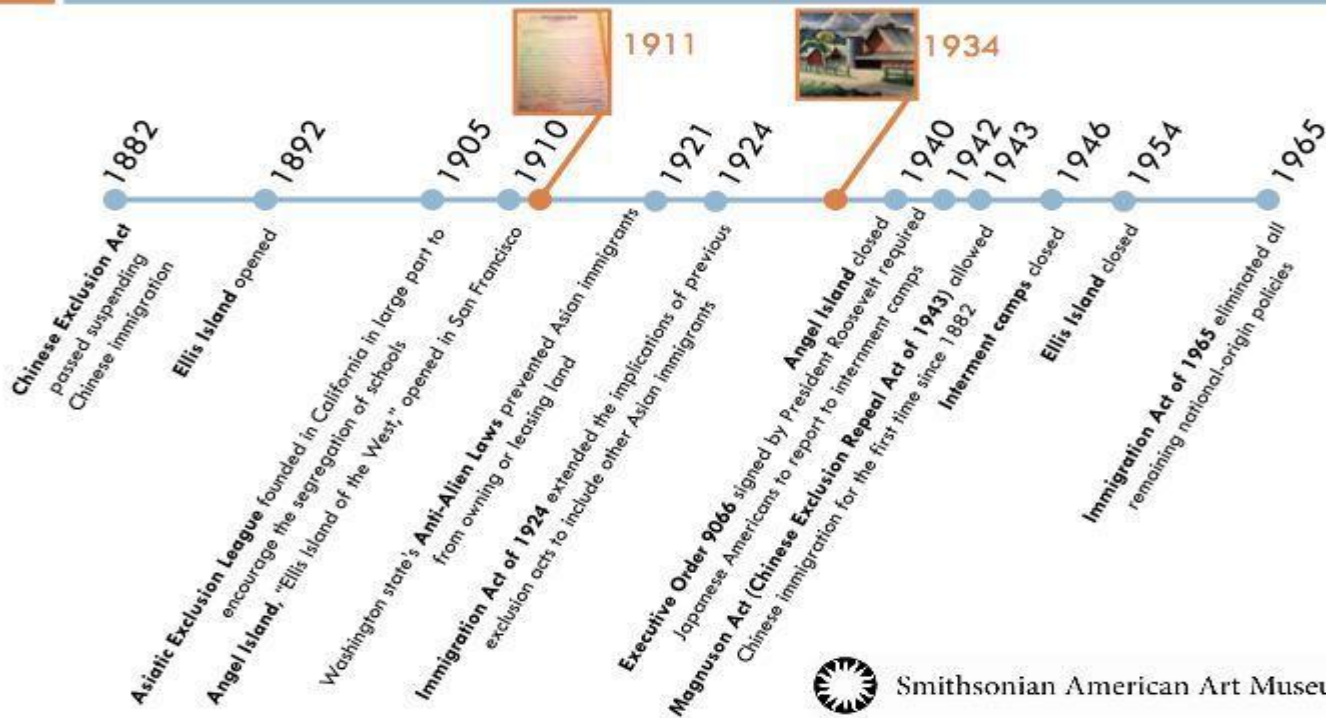
Assume the Positive Intent

**Own Your Intentions
AND Your Impact**

Respect Others

Controversy with Civility

History of the Exclusion of Asian Immigrants



Smithsonian American Art Museum

ANTI-BLACKNESS

COLORISM

WHITE SUPREMACY

Chinese Americans in the Jim Crow South

Chinese American families in the South were able to obtain access to white schools during a time in which they were considered “color”/“black” - by assimilating and adopting white racial paradigms, and desirable cultural/societal markers.

.... This is our first introduction of the “model minority” stereotype as these families were seen as “passive” and “nontreating” by White Americans - which in return allowed them access quality education.



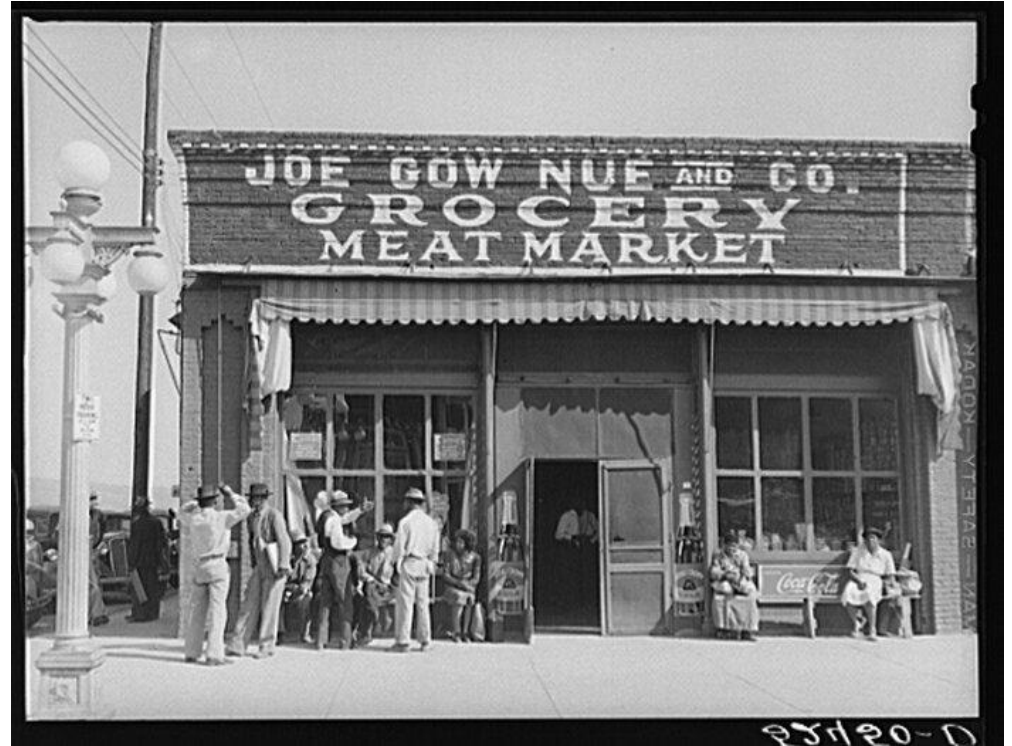
What is the “Model Minority” Stereotype?

Model Minority is a socio-political term/concept used to downplay the struggles/claims of other communities of color by uplifting Asian Americans as exemplars of upward mobility through individual achievement; and characterizes Asian Americans as integrated, modernized and civilized.



Chinese Americans in the Jim Crow South

Chinese Americans established grocery stores that would serve Black Americans in the South - as they would not be served by White own stores.



GROUP CONVERSATION

WHAT IS HAPPENING IN OUR CITIES/COMMUNITIES?

WHAT HAVE YOU SEEN/EXPERIENCE?



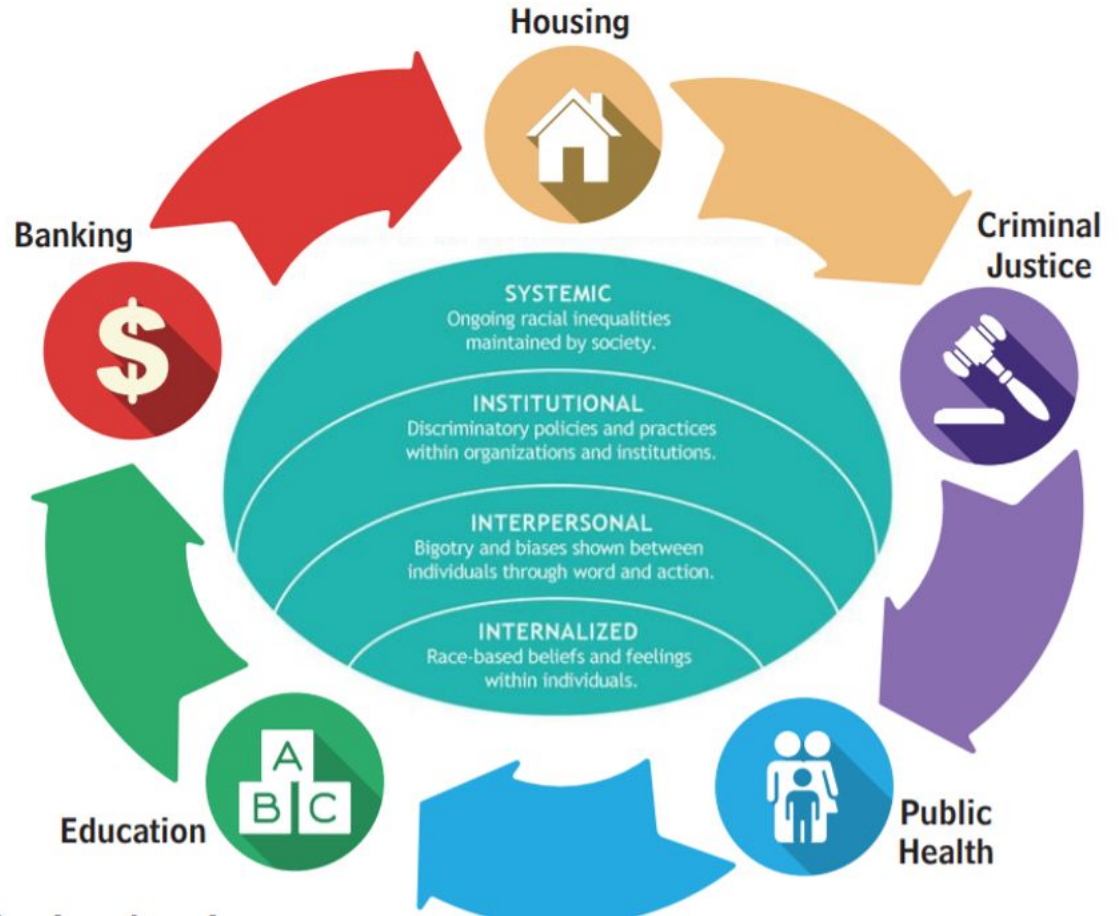
Unity in Diversity: Advocating for AAPI's Means Advocating For All

WHAT CAN WE DO?

What is hate violence?

Hate violence can occur through physical violence. It also can take place in the form of verbal harassment, threats, intimidation, vandalism, bullying, and civil rights violations.

Hate violence can be systemic, institutional, or interpersonal.



Community Focus Strategies

- ❑ **Multi-faceted response** to incidents of hate violence directed at Asian Americans.
- ❑ Focuses on **community-centered solutions** because the solutions to interpersonal violence is not more systemic state violence in the form of aggressive and discriminatory law enforcement, that inevitably harms communities of color.
- ❑ Supports and funds **restorative justice programs**:
 - ❑ Centers repairing the harm caused to victims and our communities and reduces recidivism.



POLICY GUIDE

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ATww3j0s2FUWnYkc7r4QU5TFTfZNI-xx/view>

Policy Recommendations for Addressing Hate Violence

ASIAN AMERICANS ADVANCING JUSTICE -
ASIAN LAW CAUCUS

INTRODUCTION

The history of hate violence against Asian Americans is a long and ugly one. Unfortunately, attacks against Asian Americans have been on the rise due to a climate of fear, xenophobia, and racism during the COVID-19 pandemic, which has been perpetuated by the highest echelons of government. Such violence has left individuals and communities devastated and afraid. **The recent mass shooting in Georgia also has laid bare the urgency of addressing both gender and race-based violence, as women of color are twice as likely to be the target of violence.** This policy recommendations guide is a collaborative effort by Asian American-serving organizations to provide forward-thinking and practical policy solutions to address violence against Asian American communities for policymakers, survivors, and allies.

1. Establish rapid response network to track and respond to incidents
2. Provide bystander training to educate and empower allies
3. Fund and support restorative justice programs
4. Ensure victim funds are accessible
5. Fund culturally competent and mental health services for victims
6. Fund Community-Based Ambassador Programs
7. Support K-12 Ethnic Studies and Comprehensive Sex Education Curriculum
8. Stop Criminalization, Detentions, and Deportations
9. Strengthen Worker Protections and the Power to Organize

SACRAMENTO RESOLUTION

<https://maivang.org/stopaapihate>

BASED ON THE FACTS SET FORTH IN THE BACKGROUND, THE CITY COUNCIL RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Sacramento's Mayor and City Council hereby condemn and will combat racism, xenophobia, and intolerance against Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

Section 2. The Mayor and Sacramento City Council will work with AAPI community partners in support of data-gathering that is culturally appropriate and to acknowledge the systemic barriers to reporting hate crimes impacting AAPIs.

Section 3. The Mayor and Sacramento City Council will work jointly with members of the AAPI community to develop tangible, community-led solutions through the City's racial equity initiative that acknowledge the experiences of AAPI residents, root out systemic racism, and uplift racial solidarity.

City of Sacramento Resolution Condemning and Combating Racism, Xenophobia, and Intolerance Against Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders

Following repeated incidents of anti-Asian racism, violence, and hate in Sacramento and across the nation, Councilmember Mai Vang introduced a resolution on Tuesday, March 2nd to the Sacramento City Council condemning anti-Asian hate and resolving to fight racism as a city and community.

School/Classroom Focused Strategies

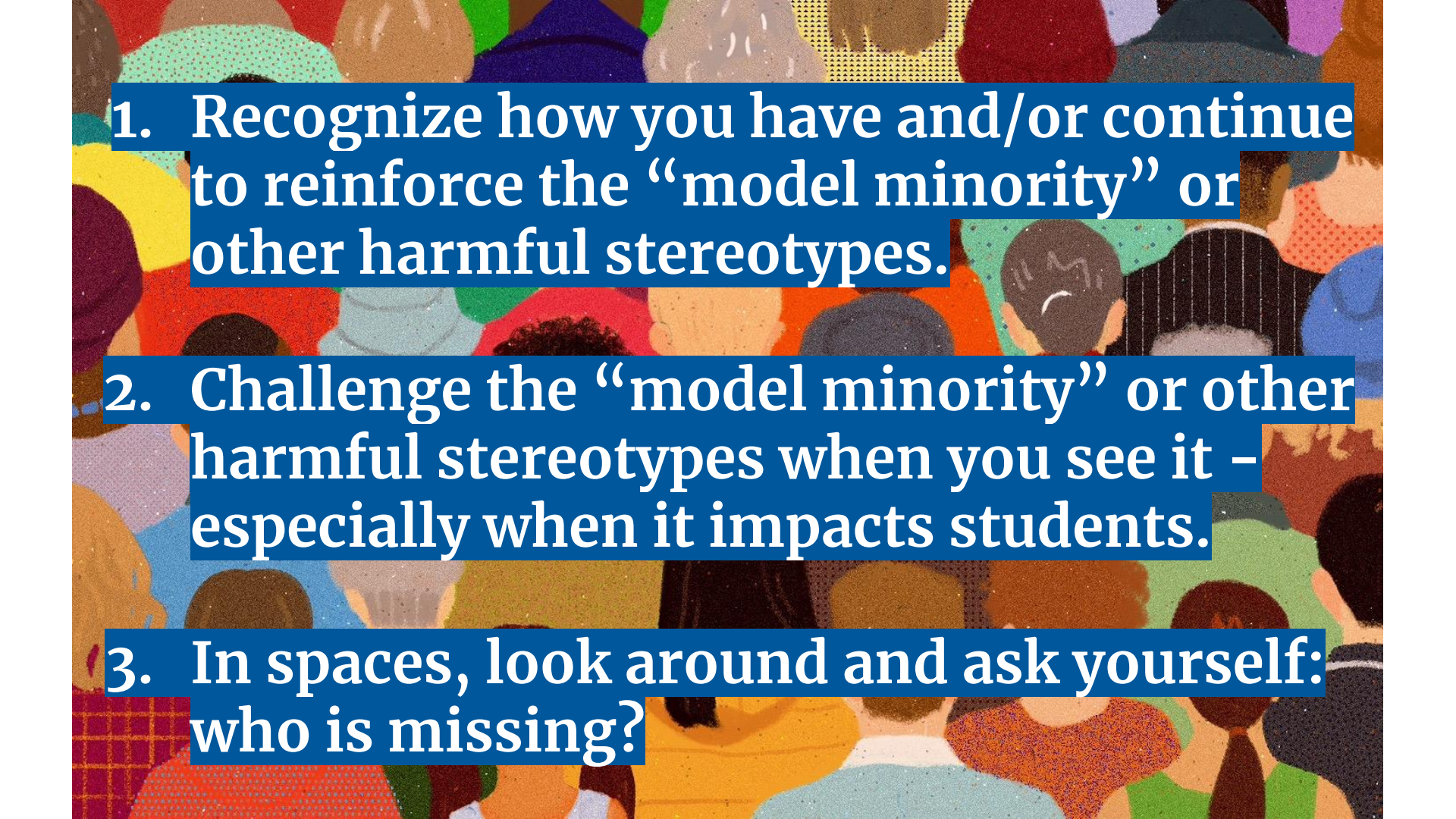
- ❑ Include **Asian American ethnic studies and history**:
 - ❑ <https://www.advancingjustice-la.org/what-we-do/curriculum-lesson-plans>
- ❑ Be **proactive about anti-Asian bullying and harassment** by talking to students about what is happening and addressing any misinformation or myths students might be engaging in
- ❑ Support **restorative justice programs**:
 - ❑ Centers repairing the harm caused to victims and our communities and reduces recidivism.



GROUP CONVERSATION

WHAT CAN I/WE DO TO SUPPORT SOLIDARITY & SAFE
COMMUNITIES?

WHAT OPPORTUNITIES DO I/WE SEE IN OUR CITIES?



1. Recognize how you have and/or continue to reinforce the “model minority” or other harmful stereotypes.

2. Challenge the “model minority” or other harmful stereotypes when you see it – especially when it impacts students.

3. In spaces, look around and ask yourself: who is missing?

QUESTIONS?
