

CHS ADVISORY

**ANTI-ASIAN RACISM
+ DISCRIMINATION**



Asian American Community Video

**Content Warning -
Offensive
Language &
Behaviors - White
Supremacist
Ideals**

**Asian American
community battles
surge in hate crimes
stirred from COVID-19**

Cupertino Community Statement

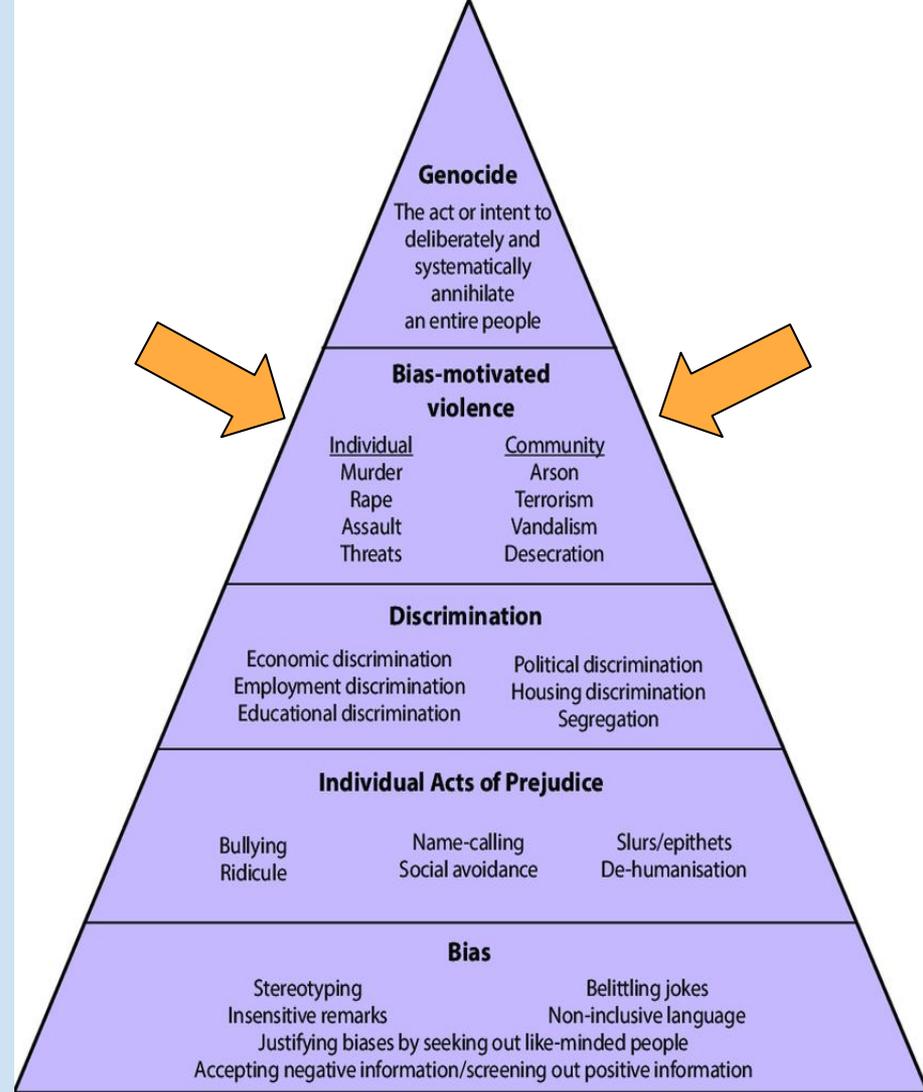
Cupertino High School is a community where all students should feel safe, welcome, and included. We are here to learn and support each other, seeing our differences as sources of strength and empowerment. We denounce racism and racial discrimination as well as all other forms of bias. We commit to speaking up.

WHAT HAPPENED ON MARCH 16

8 dead in Atlanta-area spa shootings, suspect arrested

At least six of the victims appeared to be Asian women, officials said. The shootings happened within an hour of one another at three sites.

Since March 2020 there have been
nearly 3,800 incidents targeting
Asian Americans



Anti-Asian Racism and Discrimination did not start with Covid-19



Let's take some time today to explore some major historical examples (in the next slides) of anti-Asian racism and discrimination so we have a better shared understanding the foundations of these issues within our society.

Anti-Asian American Hate is NOT NEW

- **Rock Springs Massacre 1885:** 28 Chinese miners were slaughtered and 78 homes were burned
- **Chinese Massacre of 1871:** One of the largest mass lynchings in American History
- **Watsonville Riots 1930:** Where white farm workers beat Filipino field workers and left them for dead
- **Chinese Exclusion Act 1882:** Addressing immigration and who gets to have access to America and being an American
- **Japanese Mass Incarceration:** WWII fueled discrimination post Pearl Harbor - Japanese Americans were rounded up (mostly on the West Coast) and sent to internment camps

1854

The People v. Hall

This Supreme Court Case, ruled that the testimony of a Chinese man who witnessed a murder by a white man was thrown out due to the opinion that the **Chinese were "a race of people whom nature has marked as inferior, and who are incapable of progress or intellectual development beyond a certain point, as their history has shown; differing in language, opinions, color, and physical conformation; between whom and ourselves nature has placed an impassable difference" and as such had no right "to swear away the life of a citizen" or participate" with us in administering the affairs of our Government."**

Chinese people, like Black people and Indigenous folk, were not allowed to testify in court, making it impossible for Chinese immigrants to seek justice through legal pathways.



1854

1896

1896

Plessy v. Ferguson

Justice Harlan's dissent in Plessy v. Ferguson where he contrasts Chinese people with Black people, stating that "the Chinese race [is] a race so different from our own that we do not permit those belonging to it to become citizens of the United States."

United States v. Wong Kim Ark

1898



Wong Kim Ark was born in the United States and traveled regularly to China to visit family. On returning from one trip, immigration officers barred his entry as an excludable Chinese person. Wong asserted his right to enter as a U.S. citizen but was challenged by the Immigration Bureau, which assumed that no Chinese person could hold U.S. citizenship.

The Supreme Court ruled that the Fourteenth Amendment granted birthright citizenship to any person born in the United States, regardless of race or the status of their parents. This decision and birthright citizenship has served as a key means for immigrants of all backgrounds to establish permanent legal standing in the United States.

1898

1922

Ozawa v. United States

1922



In 1922, the United States Supreme Court found Takao Ozawa, a Japanese-American who was born in Japan but had lived in the United States for 20 years, ineligible for naturalization.

In 1915, Takao Ozawa filed for United States citizenship under the Naturalization Act of 1906 which allowed only "free white persons" and "persons of African nativity or persons of African descent" to naturalize.

Justice Sutherland clarified that the Japanese were not "free white persons" within the meaning of the law.



United States v. Bhagat Singh Thind

1923



The US Supreme Court decided that Bhagat Singh Thind, a high-caste Indian Sikh man who identified himself as an Aryan (being from northern India “the original home of the Aryan conquerors”) was ineligible for naturalized citizenship in the United States.

On February 19, 1923, the Court unanimously decided against Thind, ruling that people of Indian descent were not white and hence ineligible for naturalization.



1923

1927

Lum v. Rice



U.S. Supreme Court on November 21, 1927, ruled (9-0) that a Mississippi school board had not violated the Fourteenth Amendment's equal protection clause when it classified a student of Chinese descent as "colored" and barred her from attending a white high school.

1927

Korematsu v. United States

1942



On February 19, 1942, two months after the Pearl Harbor attack by Japan's military against the United States, President Roosevelt issued Executive Order 9066, which forced the imprisonment of all Japanese American citizens.

Korematsu failed to submit to relocation and was arrested. He appealed the district court's decision to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, which upheld both the conviction and the exclusion order. The Supreme Court agreed to hear his appeal, but upheld Korematsu's conviction.

1942

1974

Lau v. Nichols



A United States Supreme Court case in which the Court unanimously decided that the lack of supplemental language instruction in public school for students with limited English proficiency was a civil rights violation.

The court held that since non-English speakers were denied a meaningful education, the disparate impact caused by the school policy violated Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the school district was demanded to provide students with "appropriate relief".

1974



Modern Ways Anti-Asian Racism Shows Up

- “Perpetual Foreigner” stereotype - many Asian-Americans will be asked “but where are you REALLY from”
- Model Minority Myth - the idea that Asian-Americans have achieved higher level of success relative to other immigrant groups. This myth often excludes other AAPI ethnicities and groups, and often creates divisions and harmful stereotypes for everyone involved. (Often this model minority myth stereotypes East Asians as more quiet, submissive, compliant, hard-working, and shy)
 - “There is an intersectional dynamic going on that others may perceive both Asians and women and Asian women as easier targets” - Professor Jeung at SFSU

Reflection: Open a Google Doc

- In what ways has the media been a bystander to anti-Asian American sentiment (historically and currently)?
- Why does understanding Anti-Asian racism link to understanding (better understand) racism as a whole?
- What should our school and community be doing in order to address this anti-Asian racism? Hate crimes?



Speak Up at School

- **Interrupt-** “Ouch” “We don’t do that here” “Yikes” “That phrase is hurtful”
- **Question-** “What makes you say that?” “What do you mean?”
- **Educate-** “Do you know the history of that word?”
- **Echo-** “Thanks for speaking up, Allie. We shouldn’t say those words.”



Other Ways to Speak Up...

- Offer support in a different forum, perhaps by sending a DM or text
- Talk to other friends and work together to interrupt the distressing language or behavior
- Respond “after the fact” if you didn’t in the moment.... “I want to talk about something I heard you say yesterday...”
- Step away from a friend group where this kind of language is common and people don’t respond to attempts to stop it
- Seek support from a trusted adult
- Report repeated or particularly hurtful behavior; could use the Student Safety Report

Further Learning on Anti-Asian Racism

- This Thursday on NBC Bay Area @ 6:30pm, the ongoing series “Racism in America” will focus on Asian-American violence, discrimination, and racism with 3 different Asian American panelists speaking about the issue
- <https://www.pbs.org/newshour/show/asian-american-community-battles-surge-in-hate-crimes-stirred-from-covid-19>
- Manzanar Internment Camp website: <https://www.nps.gov/manz/index.htm>
- Japanese American National Museum: <https://www.janm.org/education/resources>
- US Archives: <https://www.archives.gov/education/lessons/japanese-relocation>
- A Different Asian American timeline: <https://aatimeline.com/>

Sources / Acknowledgements

All historical content about past anti-Asian racism comes from **Liz Kleinrock** of “Teach and Transform”, an Asian-American, anti-racism educator.

