



ASSOCIATION FOR LEARNING AND PRESERVING
THE HISTORY OF WORLD WAR II IN ASIA



Giving Voice, Passing on

2021 MARCH ISSUE NO. 1

Reflections on Anti-Asian Hate and Racism

The impact of the Atlanta shooting brought together many organizations and individuals across Canada and United States of America to stand in allyship in condemning Anti-Asian hate as well as violence against Asian women. While feeling the chilling range of emotions of sadness, vulnerability, and outrage, I ask: what does it take for Anti-Asian hate and racism to be provided urgent attention, and why?

The humiliation, discrimination, and exclusion in images, words, and actions that Asian Canadians experience were perpetuated in the 19th century, prior to confederation. Historically, inflection points, occur when the spectre of racial hate against specific groups raises its ugly head. In 2020, the shadows of racism are re-ignited against Asian Canadians. The Anti-Asian rhetoric and the implicit and explicit messages that accompanied Covid19 pandemic are allowed to be amplified. They not only normalize but re-invigorate incidents of abuse and assaults against Asian Canadians, and are not considered and counted as racial incidents. In sum, the victims are diminished and anti-Asian hate and racism are made invisible and erased.

Yet, the trending incidents form the focal points of humanity and change. We see and hear the common stories of lived experiences among us that have been made uncommon, siloed, and erased. Connections across Anti-Indigeneity, Anti-Black, Anti-Semitism, Islamophobia and Anti-Asian are recognized albeit the history and harm of systemic structural racism are specific and unique. This is the hope which unites us all to disrupt and dismantle oppression and racism and affirm our solidarity and humanity.

Gen-Ling Chang

Deputy Executive Director ALPHA Education, Former Associate Director Toronto DSB

Here are a few actions we can take:

- **Deepen understanding through knowing histories of colonization.**

Challenging Racist "British Columbia": 150 Years and Counting, delves into discriminatory policies that have impacted Indigenous, Black and Asian communities, and ties those histories to present day anti-racist movements.

<https://www.policyalternatives.ca/challengingracistbc>
<https://www.challengeracistbc.ca/>

• Learning about the importance of anti-racist education

Using personal stories, this podcast engages the listener in centering Anti-Asian racism together with all racism through education.

<https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Portals/0/docs/UnderstandingandAddressingAntiAsianRacism.mp3>

• Invest in education that practice social justice pedagogy

Addressing Anti-Asian Racism Educators Resource is written by educators for educators.

<https://www.etfo.ca/BuildingAJustSociety/EquityResources/Pages/Anti-AsianRacism.aspx>

• Promote youth understanding and voice to foster positive race relations

ALPHA Education is committed to youth empowerment. The "Voices of Hope" project engages youth efficacy in standing together against discrimination, bias, and hate to advance cross-racial solidarity, humanity, and harmony.

<https://www.alphaeducation.org/voicesofhope>

Celebrate 2021 Asian Heritage Month

Voices of Hope

Invitation to **YOUTHS**, age 12 – 22 years who would like to use your creative voice to **inspire positive race relations**.

If you are interested, submit your creative voice as a spoken word, rap, acrostics, lyrics, haiku, free verse, blank verse, or rhymed poetry in written form or as an audio file.

All submitted creative works must be original.

Theme:
Bias, discrimination, and hate cause racism and divide us. Race does not and should not. What do you want the world you live in and the future to look like?

Participation and Inquiries:

- For participation details, click here <https://www.alphaeducation.org/voicesofhope>
- For inquiries, contact info@alphaeducation.org
- Closing Date: April 30, 2021

Awards

- \$200 for the best creative work in each of the 5 age groups.
- \$50 gift card for each creative work selected for honourable mentions.
- All participants will receive a Certificate of Honoured Recognition.









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