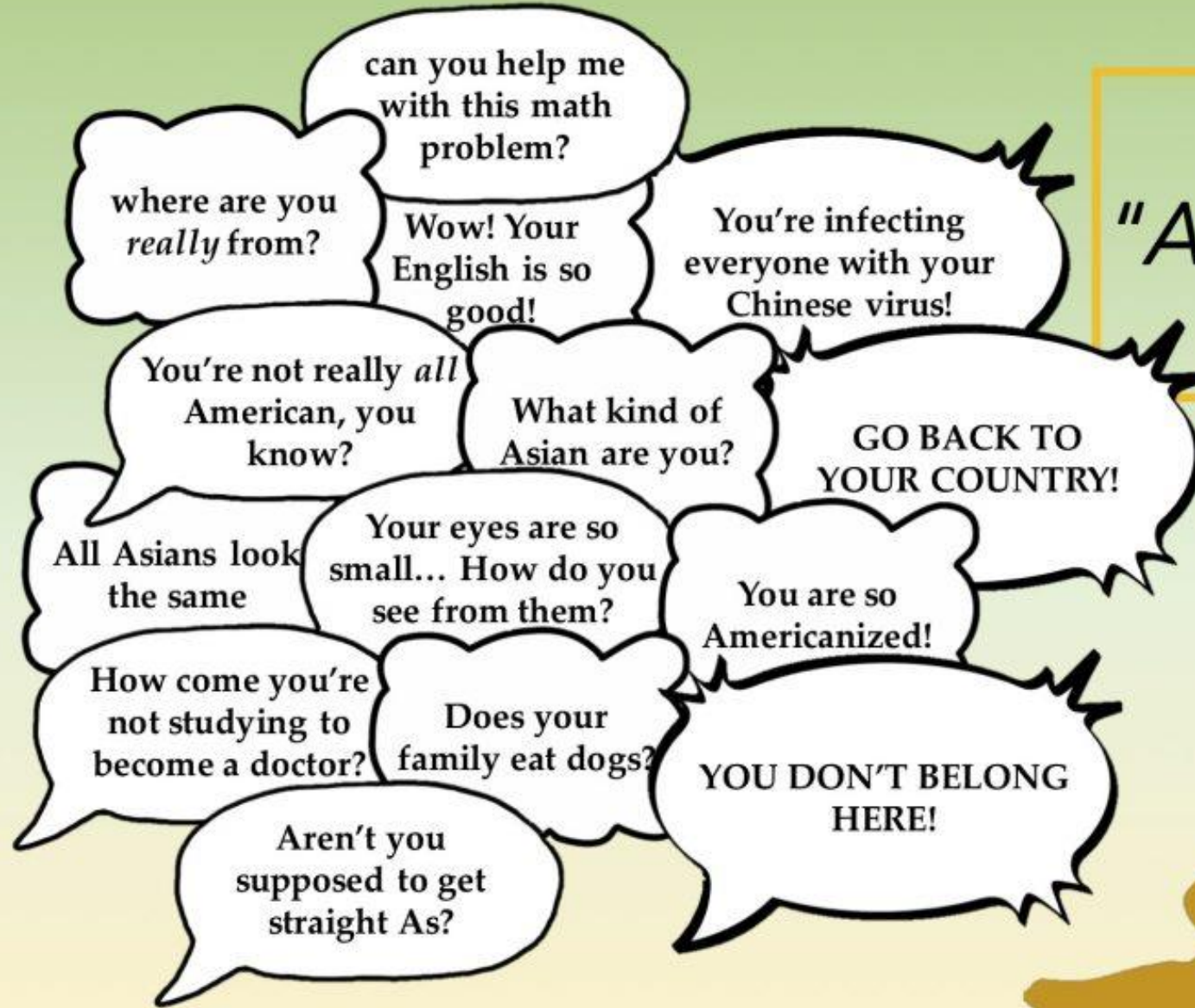


The "Asian American" Experience



Perpetual foreigner

“Where are you from?”

“I was born in Utah, but I mainly grew up in Florida---”

“Well, no, where are you really from?”

To live in the United States as a person of color likely entails experiencing a conversation similar to the one above at one point or another --- or constantly.

It may be a harmless question, often asked without ill intent, but the implications of these inquiries extend far beyond just innocuous curiosity. As Columbia professor Derald Sue explains, “the impact to the person receiving that persistent questioning is that you are not a true American, you are a perpetual foreigner in your own country.”

It may be a harmless question, but its malicious cousin “Go back to where you came from!” certainly isn’t. Further, when that statement is coupled with violent hate crimes and when that line of thinking is present everywhere from the workplace to the political sphere, it underscores the fact that the perpetual foreigner stereotype isn’t just a mild nuisance of a question. It’s part of a dangerous mindset that discriminates at several levels of society.

The Perpetual Foreigner Stereotype. Kwon, Jin. <https://www.aycevote.org/post/the-perpetual-foreigner-stereotype>



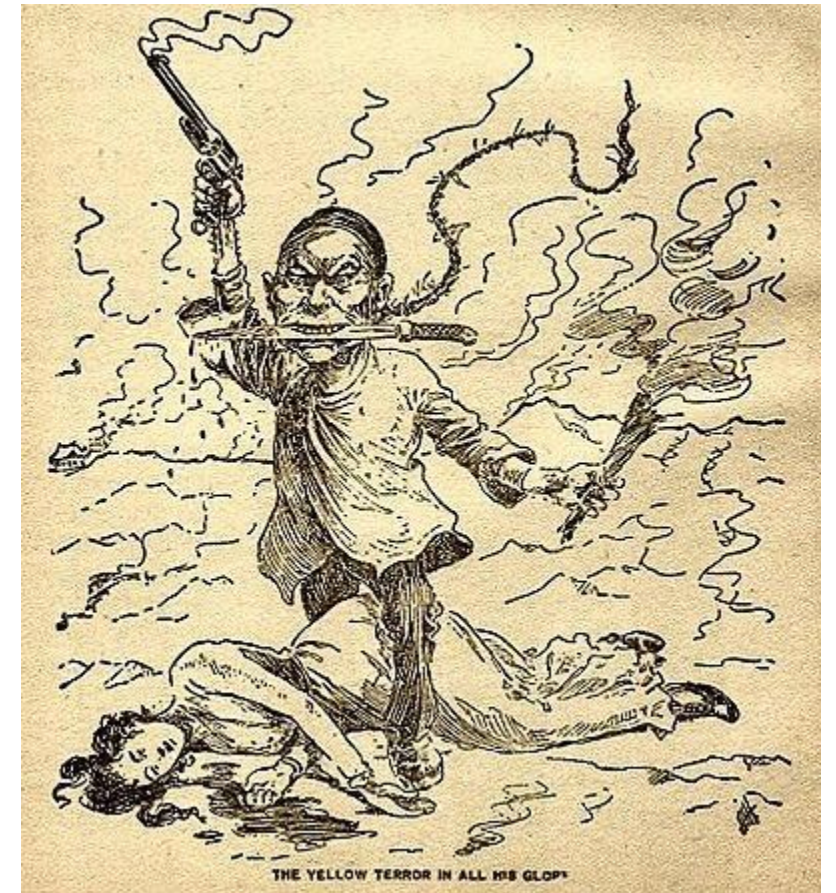
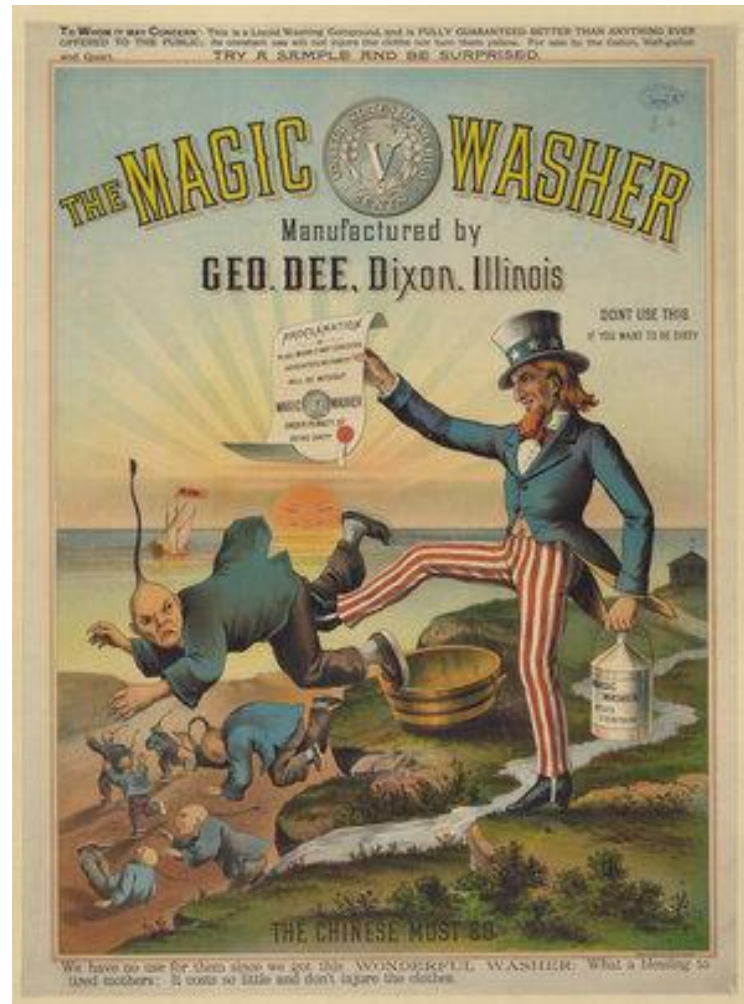
The introduction of Mickey Rooney's performance of I. Y. Yunioshi in the theatrical trailer for Breakfast at Tiffany's

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stereotypes_of_East_Asians_in_the_United_States#/media/File:Starring_Mickey_Rooney.jpg

Yellow Peril

An ad showing Uncle Sam, holding a proclamation and can of Magic Washer, kicking the Chinese out of the United States. "We have no use for them since we have this wonderful washer," the ad reads. Library of Congress

<https://www.npr.org/sections/codeswitch/2018/09/27/647989652/if-we-called-ourselves-yellow>



The racist cartoon of The Yellow Terror in all His Glory (1899) depicts an anti-colonial Qing Dynasty Chinese man standing over a fallen white woman, who represents the Western world.[1]

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yellow_Peril



<https://325473983337898660.weebly.com/1941.html>



<http://j387mediahistory.weebly.com/anti-japanese-propaganda-in-wwii.html>

Dragon Lady

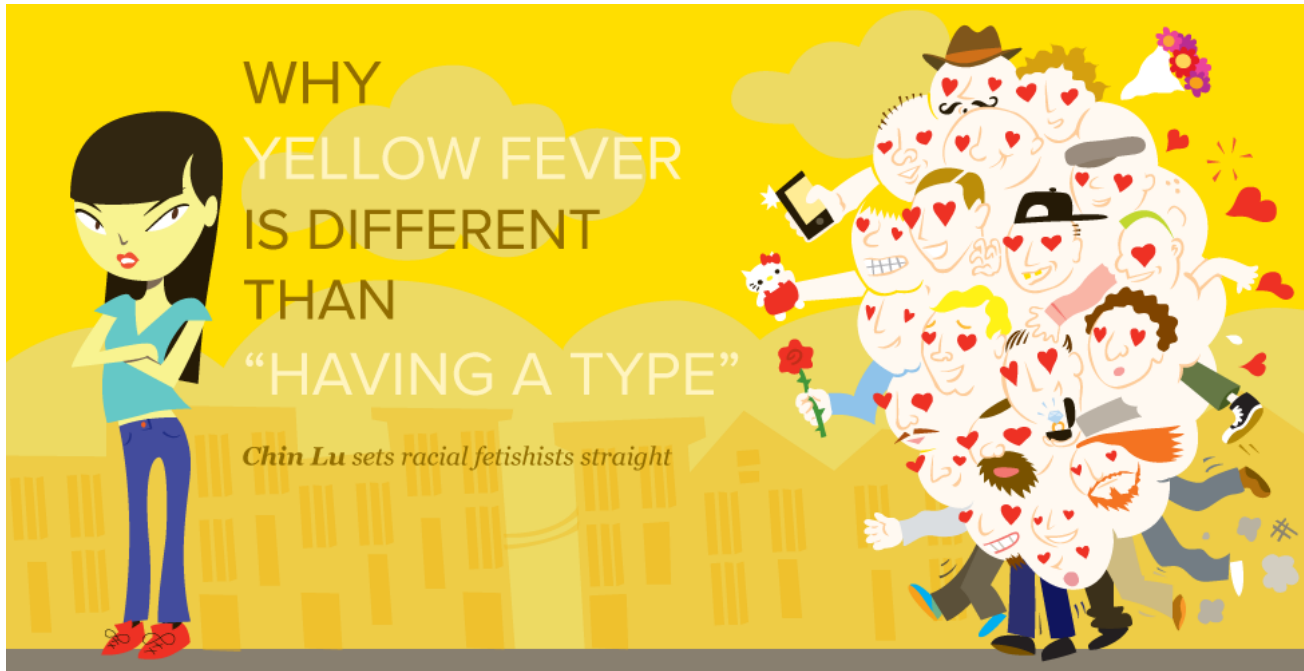


<http://www.discovernikkei.org/en/nikkeialbum/items/767/>



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dragon_Lady

Yellow Fever



<https://thebolditalic.com/why-yellow-fever-is-different-than-having-a-type-the-bold-italic-san-francisco-36ed29359dfb>



<https://dailybruin.com/2020/05/22/the-quad-exploring-the-past-present-and-future-of-yellow-fever-from-global-to-local>

Emasculated Asian / Asian American Men



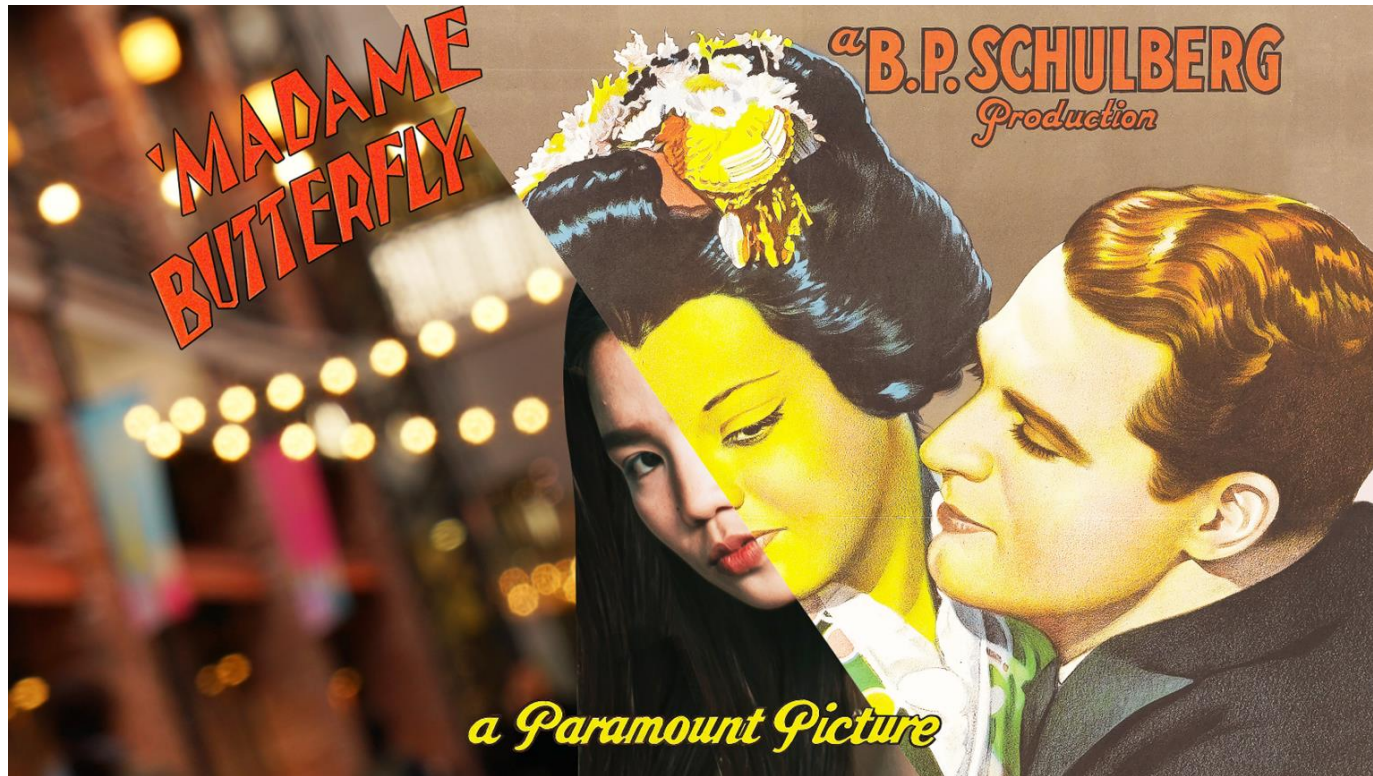
Masami Teraoka's "Christine at Hanauma Bay" (1992), from his "New Wave" series. Credit...Masami Teraoka, "New Wave Series/Christine at Hanauma Bay," 1992.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/08/26/t-magazine/asian-american-comedians.html>



<https://thebolditalic.com/asian-male-stereotypes-complicate-my-love-life-the-bold-italic-san-francisco-5ab26814ada1>

Lotus Blossom



<https://www.intertrend.com/news/asian-americans-in-hollywood-the-effects-of-20th-century-stereotypes>



Kung Fu Master (and Yellowface)



<https://www.theguardian.com/books/2014/oct/20/yellow-peril-fu-manchu-rise-chinaphobia-review-factors-fear-china>

https://www.espn.com/espn/feature/story/_/id/29092759/bruce-lee-asian-asian-american-artists-reimagine-icon



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Examples_of_yellowface

Model Minority



[Graphic illustration by Amy Liu](#)

While the model minority myth highlights the academically and financially successful side of Asian Americans, it casts a shadow on the less successful side of the spectrum that is felt by all minorities.

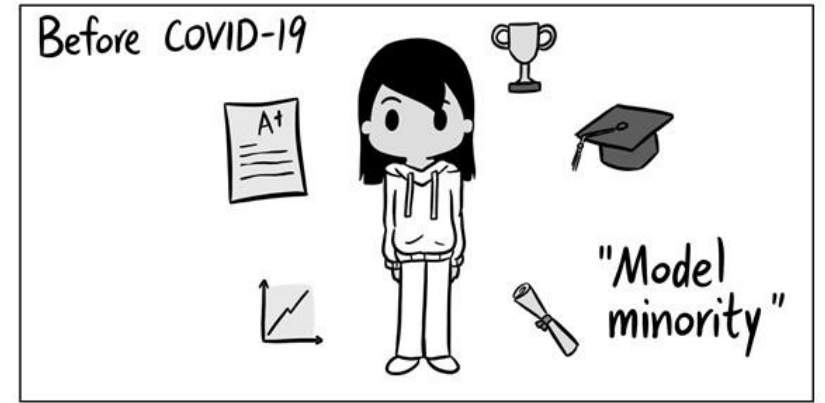
<https://www.latimes.com/opinion/op-ed/la-oe-0123-wu-chua-model-minority-chinese-20140123-story.html>

<https://lhsepic.com/9889/in-depth/model-minority-the-stigma-around-the-success/>

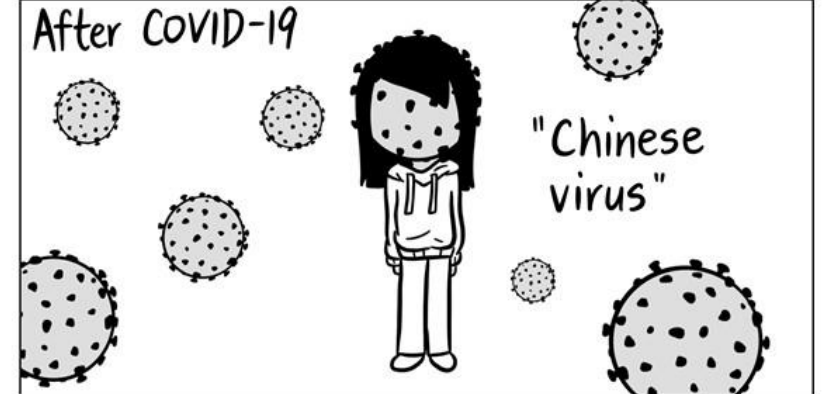
Virus



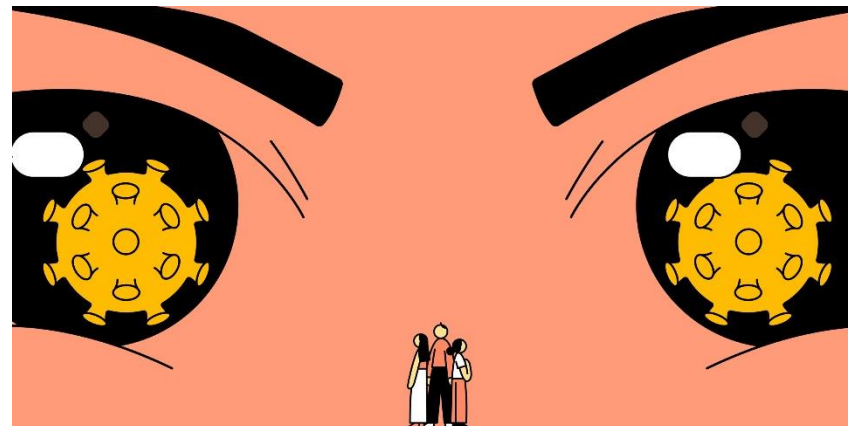
<https://www.tenement.org/blog/a-model-minority-or-a-chinese-virus-which-is-it/>



© Winnie Gu @thirdculturechinese



<https://dailyillini.com/opinions/2021/02/24/opinion-pandemic-exacerbates-anti-asian-discrimination/>



<https://www.nbcnews.com/think/opinion/coronavirus-fears-show-how-model-minority-asian-americans-become-yellow-ncna1151671>



<https://www.adl.org/education/resources/tools-and-strategies/challenging-anti-asian-bias-and-acting-as-an-ally>

Resources

- [Stop AAPI Hate](#)
- [MPRnews, In Focus: Stopping anti-Asian American hate in Minnesota](#)
- [Coalition of Asian American Leaders, Take Action Against Anti-Asian Racism](#)
- [History: Asian American and Pacific Islander History](#)
- [The Best Books About Asian American Identify, According to Experts. Ro, Lauren. The Strategist.](#)
- [Countering stereotypes about Asian Americans, American Psychological Association](#)
- [Media Bears Responsibility for Reinforcing Asian American Stereotypes \(Guest Column\), Variety](#)
- [Learning for Justice](#)
- [Asian Pacific American Heritage Month](#)
- [Asian American Organizing Project, Asian Pacific Islander Desi American Voting Rights: a brief history](#)
- [PBS, Asian American History Sites](#)