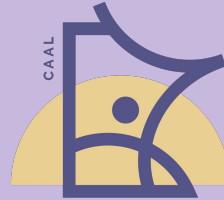


State of Asian Minnesotans

Rising Up Together



THE STATE OF
Asian Minnesotans

Thursday, December 10, 2020

Welcome! We will begin shortly.



Zoom Etiquette

- Feel free to use the chat to introduce yourselves to everyone in the webinar!
- If you have any questions, please use the chat function to ask them. We will try to answer the questions either during this webinar or after the event via email.
- For any technical assistance, please private message Ma Tao for help.





Michelle Chang

Economics and Education Lead
Organizer

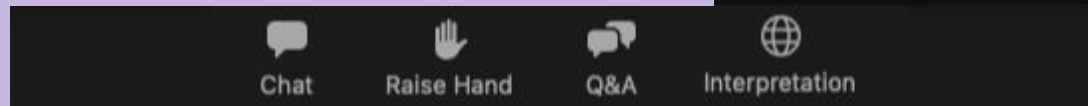
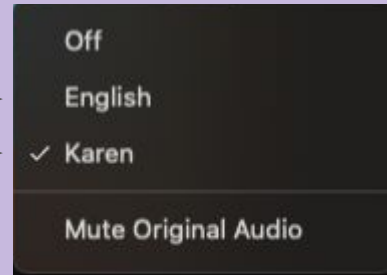


CAAL

Access Karen Interpreter

- Click the globe on the bottom bar to access Karen interpretation

Choose between
English and Karen



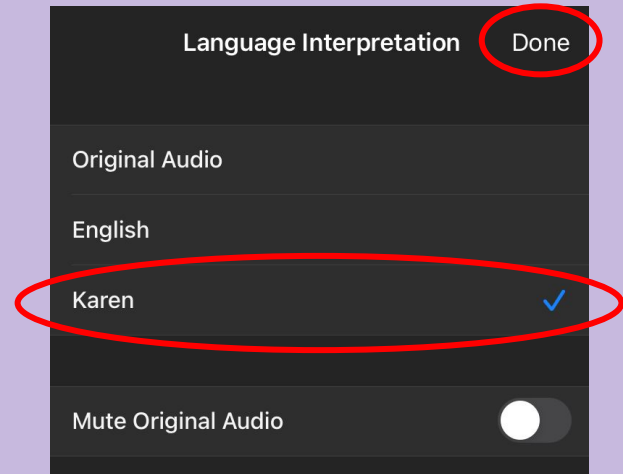
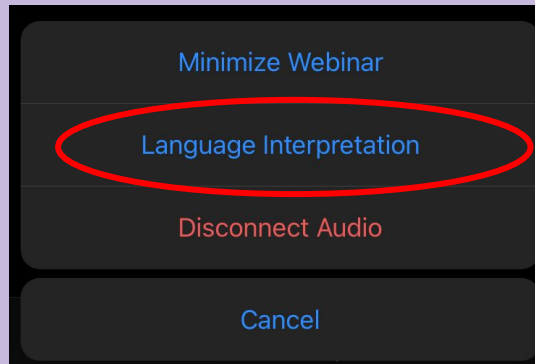
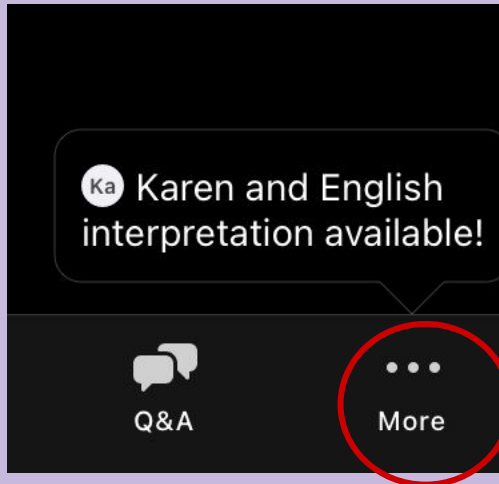
Access Karen Interpreter (for handheld device)

1. On the bottom right of your phone, click on the three vertical dots.

2. A menu will pop up, click on Language Interpretation,

3. Next you will see the option to select Karen for language interpretation. Select the Karen option, and then click

4. Click "Done" at the top right.



Agenda

- Welcoming and Opening
- Summary of State of Asian Minnesotan Series
- Panel Discussion
- Closing with CAAL Director Bo Thao-Urabe



Poll

- Where are you joining us from today?
- In what capacity are you joining us today? (Please check all that apply).
- How many State of Asian Minnesotan webinars have you been to?
- How much do you know about the Karen Community?
- How often do you work with other Asian Minnesotans?





Donna Maeda

Dean, Institute for Global Citizenship and
Professor of American Studies at
Macalester College



CAAL

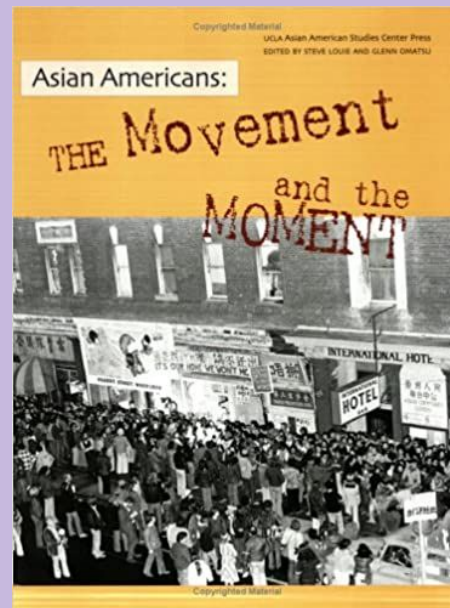
Donna Maeda

Introduction: Japanese American in Minnesota

Family legacy of WWII incarceration

Shifting narratives of “good” and “bad”

Rise of Asian American movement, Asian
American political identity



State of Asian Minnesotans

- “Asian American”: what ties us together?
- Constructed in relationship to other BIPOC communities
 - Model minority
 - “Threat”
- Claiming, telling our stories
- Space for learning, solidarity.





SOAM & Radically Reimagining Our Future

November 13, 2020



Nausheena Hussain
Executive Director, Reviving
the Islamic Sisterhood of
Empowerment (RISE)

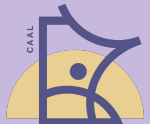


Ananya Chatterjea
Artistic Director, Ananya Dance
Theatre



Scot Nakagawa
Senior Partner,
ChangeLab

- What does it mean to *radically* reimagine? How do we do this?
- Youth video: Normal is anti-Asian violence, anti-Blackness, unequal access to resources, etc.
- Panelists: Community organizer who draws from political theory, a choreographer/dancer/scholar, a community organizer and story-teller, gatherer of stories
- From current crises to deepened understandings. Learn from successes. Cultivate energy.





Radically Reimagining Our Future

November 13, 2020

Building from practice, building "muscles"

- Hope is a meditation and a muscle
- Practice softness (be like grass)
- Practice solidarity
- Practice democracy
- Practice liberation



Radically Reimagining Our Future

November 13, 2020

- Dismantle what's damaging. Learn from histories.
- Make the road by walking
- Outside critique, inside work



Radically Reimagining Our Future

November 13, 2020



- Those who control narrative control power.
- SOAM series: Complex community histories, personal stories.
- Resistances, tools, community assets, strengths, resilience



House File 3975

Post-conviction relief time limit modified for when a court may hear a petition

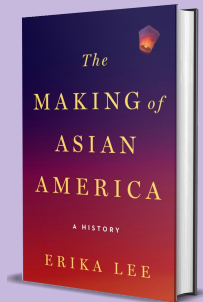
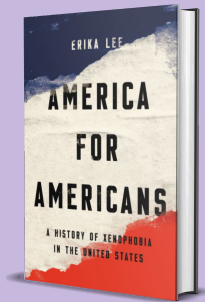
April 10, 2020



Dr. Erika Lee

Professor of History and Asian American Studies, Director of the Immigration History Research Center, University of MN

- Consistent History: Immigrants as threats to white America, Chinese people particularly targeted
- Public health scapegoating
- Built into laws and policies
- Other consequences: anti-immigrant, anti-Asian hate crimes



April 10, 2020



Rebecca Lucero
Minnesota
Human Rights
Commissioner

- Things are getting uncovered. Systemic racism
- Discrimination Hotline: 1-833-454-0148. also online form
- Building practice: Partner with communities to respond, build a more welcoming MN



SOAM 2: Immigration & Resistance

July 13, 2020

Speakers



Juliana Pegues
Assistant Professor,
American Indian
Studies and Asian
American Studies,
UMN



Veena Iyer
Executive
Director,
Immigrant Law
Center of MN



June Kuoch
Release
MN8/SEAFN

Community Panelist



Sally Sudo
JACL Twin Cities



Geetanjali Mittal
SEWA-Asian Indian
Family Wellness
(AIFW)



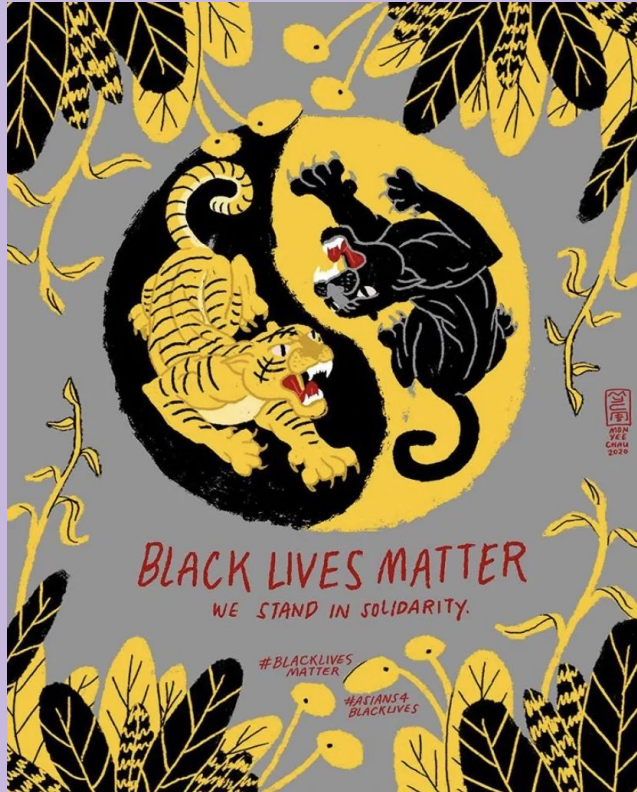
Jon Vang Thao
ManForward/
SEAFN



THE STATE OF
Asian Minnesotans

Immigration and Resistance

July 13, 2020



- US colonialism, militarized policing
- Asian Minnesotans have continually built systems to support communities
- Histories of resistance, building community power through organizing, advocacy
- Asian immigration/racial justice is tied to Black liberation



CAAL

Community speakers: Individual stories

- Immigration/Refugee policies reinforce both “model minority” and “danger to US”
- Resettlement in under-resourced communities
- Caught up in criminalization cycles, prison industrial complex

External pressures: Expectations for assimilation vs focus on actual needs

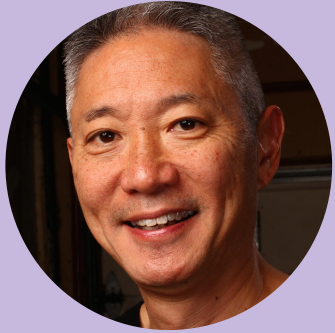




SOAM 3: Visibility & Survival in the Age of COVID-19

August 27, 2020

Speakers



Ignatius Bau
Health Policy
Consultant



Chao Yang
Ramsey County
Public Health



Dr. Ia Xiong
Licensed
Psychologist



Heddy Trip
NAPAWF - Saint
Cloud, MN

NEJM
Catalyst

By Thomas H. Lee, MD, MSc

March 17, 2020

Creating the New Normal: The Clinician Response to Covid-19

Editor's commentary on how Covid-19 has changed health care, and why some aspects of care delivery should not go back to the way they were.

Effects of histories and current COVID-19 crisis on Asian Minnesota communities

Ignatius Bau

- Coronavirus and racism: cascading impacts. Dual public health emergencies
- Need for data
- Honor and work with communities that fought for rights that we have
- Focus on health equity



Practices for particular community needs

Chao Yang: Outreach to Hmong, Karen communities

- Materials, outreach, community input on public health strategies

Hedy Tripp: Particular needs of Asian immigrant women

- Lack of access to health insurance. Collective power. HEAL act campaign

Dr. Ia Xiong: Hmong Mental Health: Community Stories

- Trauma-informed. Historical trauma is collective, transmitted intergenerationally. Triggers: racism, xenophobia
- Opportunities: creativity and innovation
- Strength- and resilience-based





SOAM 4: Fired up and Ready to Take Action

September 24, 2020

Asian Americans and participation in political processes



Jae Hyun Shim
Policy Organizer,
Reclaim the
Block, MPD150



Irene Fernando
Commissioner
Hennepin County



EunSook Lee
Director, AAPI Civic
Engagement Fund



Fired up and Ready to Take Action

September 24, 2020

- Taking community voices/stories into processes of building power
- Political influence, voting power
- Develop voting bloc. Immigration, racial justice, jobs, education
- Beyond voting
- Analysis, organizing with other BIPOC communities



Soua Christensen

First Time Voter



SOAM: Tools for Building Practices and Muscles

- Claim power by telling our stories
- Build practices of solidarity
 - Learn about each other
 - Issues to support
- Build practices of democracy
 - What's missing? Who can we bring in?
 - Connect critique to advocacy
- Build practices of liberation
 - Connect solidarity to vision and practice of building new worlds
 - Build as we walk together



 **CAAL IN
SOLIDARITY**



KaYing Yang
Director of Programs and
Partnerships



Karen Demographics

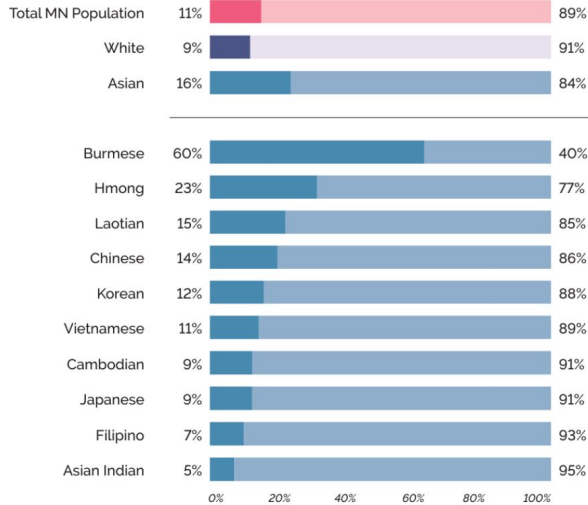
- 65,000 Karen refugees resettled in the United States, with an additional 11,619 of the Karenni ethnicity.
- Minnesota is home to the largest Karen population both in the United States and outside of Southeast Asia with an estimated population of 17,000
- The majority of the Karen population practices Buddhism, which includes Animism. However, around 90-95% of Karen people immigrating into the U.S. are Christian
- The Burmese are the youngest Asian population group in Minnesota (20.7 years), with nearly half of their population being children (under the age of 18)
- 88% of the Burmese population in Minnesota are born outside of the United States

Karen Demographics



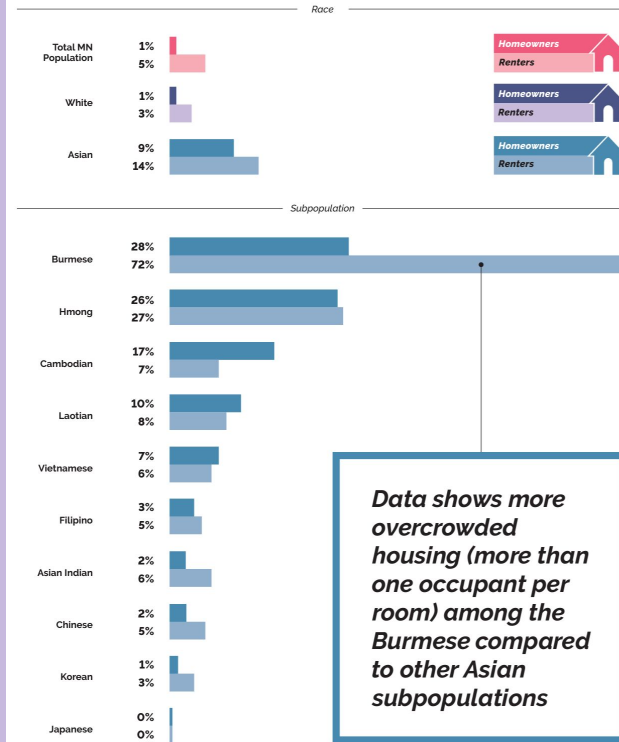
Even though data show that Asians have a higher median household income compared to their white counterparts and the overall state, there is a higher percentage of Asian Minnesotans living in poverty.

Figure 12: Minnesota Poverty by Asian Subpopulation and Race (Van Dort, 2018)



OVERVIEW OF OUR FINDINGS

Figure 19: Minnesota Units with More than One Occupant per Room by Asian Subpopulation and Race (Van Dort, 2018)





Bo Thao - Urabe
Executive and Network Director





What can you do?

Civic Leadership with CAAL Karen Organization of Minnesota #PaperCraneWish



#PaperCraneWish

State of Asian Minnesotan Video

#DEFUNDPOL(ICE)



Photo Credit: Melody Vaaj. Source: BBC

zoom

*Thank you
for attending our final*

**State of Asian Minnesotans:
Rising Up Together session**



CAAL