

APALSA & Pitt OEIE Community Dialogue: Anti-Asian Bias, Harassment, & Violence

Discussion Take-Aways

The broad categorization of persons of Asian heritage comprising a single racial group

There is an invisible burden for Asian Americans associated with carrying racial identity

Identifying and recognizing violent acts as hate crimes can create feelings of self-doubt. Am I being too sensitive? Am I being naive?

There is a tendency to conflate interconnected marginalization with other social and economic issues

Asian Americans can be seen as a "suitable target" for discrimination

Questioning whether violence is truly anti-Asian (caused by mental health issues) is dismissive

When people hear about an Asian American person's experience and then immediately equate it to something they've been through, can end up feeling really dismissive. We can fall into this trap when trying to empathize with the pain of people who experience the world differently than we do —sometimes 'over-identifying' can lead to minimizing what someone else is going through, and it can get in the way of listening.

Solidarity can be just showing up

Where does the hesitancy to assign "racial motive" come from? What is uncovered when we unpack the layers behind what acts that are or are not motivated by race?

Learning how to respond in equity to the differences in how racism plays out for Asian Americans

Disrespect for language of origin

The disrespect of being subject to an ethnic identity guessing game