



PAST & PRESENT: Asian American Activism to Advance Civil Rights

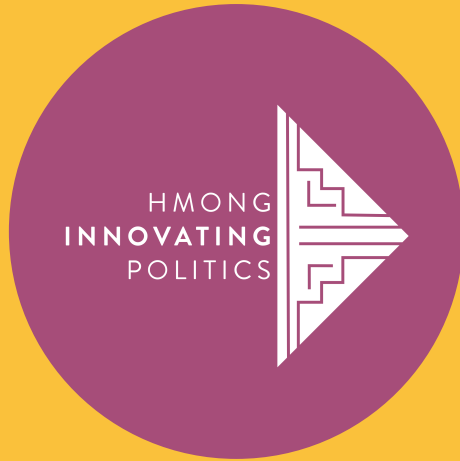
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華人權益
促進會

CAA

SPEAKERS



Nancy Xiong

Executive Director

Hmong Innovating
Politics



Annie Lee

**Managing Director of
Policy**

Chinese for Affirmative
Action

HISTORY of CROSS-RACIAL SOLIDARITY

1. Equal Protection: 14th Amendment & *Yick Wo v. Hopkins* (1886)

2. Education

- Desegregation: *Tape v. Hurley* (1885), *Mendez v. Westminster* (1947), *Brown v. Board* (1954)
- Language access: *Lau v. Nichols* (1974)
- Access regardless of citizenship: *Plyler v. Doe* (1982)

HISTORY of CROSS-RACIAL SOLIDARITY

3. Immigration

- Birthright citizenship: 14th Amendment & Wong Kim Ark (1898)
- Immigration reform: Civil Rights Movement & Immigration and Naturalization Act of 1965
- National security scapegoating:
 - Japanese incarceration in WW2 & post-9/11 registries
 - Chinese Exclusion Act (1882) & Muslim Ban (2017)

MODERN ASIAN AMERICA

1950s	Model minority stereotype born (term coined in 1966)
1960s	Civil rights movements & student activism
1970s	Cont. student activism, refugees arrive from SE Asia
1980s	Carter signs Refugee Act of 1980 into law
1990s	Final waves of SEA refugees 1990 - 2005
2000s	
2010s	
2020s	

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

JFK & LBJ issue EOs for affirmative action

Nixon expands affirmative action; *Bakke*

Grutter v. Bollinger

Fisher v. UT Austin

SFFA v. Harvard & UNC

Hmong Innovating Politics



Presented by **Nancy Xiong**





Our Mission and Vision

MISSION

We seek to advance social justice and build power with Hmong youth and families through leadership development and multi-generational community organizing.

VISION

We envision a California of empowered communities that thrive in a socially and economically just democracy.

BASE BUILDING

- Year-round voter engagement

YOUTH LEADERSHIP

- Young people are our future but also our present

NARRATIVE CHANGE

- Nothing about us without us



Hmong Histories

SECRET WAR

- CIA recruited the Hmong people to fight in the Vietnam War in 1964
- Colonization and war led the Hmong people to flee south to Thailand, Malaysia, and Indonesia

REFUGEES

- Forcible displacement in refugee camps in Thailand and neighboring SEA countries
- Resettlement in western countries in the 1980s

CALIFORNIA

- Early resettlement throughout the USA and California specifically the Central Valley
- **Fun Fact:** Sacramento and Fresno are home to the largest Hmong American communities in the nation



Median Age of
Other POCs in
the SJV

30

Median Age in
California

37

23

**Median Age of
SEAAAs in the SJV**

HMONG
INNOVATING
POLITICS



Belong

- Connect with their intersectional identities
- Learn and heal from their interconnected history
- Feel a part of their community

Believe

- Build their confidence and agency to lead
- A sense that they matter and have potential
- A sense that they can accomplish things in their community

Become

- Organizing
- Change through doing / action
- They feel like they belong and have a deeper connection to their community. They understand why it's important to give back.
- Build and apply essential and transformative life skills
- Create intentional space to lead



Transforming our Systems, Empowering Our Village (TSEV)

PURPOSE

- Empowering students, teachers, and parents
- Championing equitable policies
- Fostering a deep sense of belonging and healing
- Integrates art, culture, and language (including joy and play!)

WHO?

- Fresno-based youth
- Edison High School
Hmong students



Civic Engagement Program (CEP)

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

- Skills building
- Gain organizing experiences
- Learn about diverse perspectives

COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT

- Creates a platform for voices to be heard
- Fosters a stronger sense of belonging and trust
- Builds a strong culture of civic engagement

DID YOU KNOW?

We contacted over
10,200 voters
this year!

