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Reading Response to Kong's Paper
Concerning the Racial Treatment of Asian Americans at UCSD

Kong's paper uses the case study of the Compton Cookout and the racial tensions revealed as a result to show the injustices dealt toward a complex racial, cultural group: Asian American. She argues that the UC admin fail to recognize the cultural and class diversity of this demographic which prevents the UCSD admin from assisting certain groups in need and the negative results of the model minority myth.

I felt that Kong's paper, while accurately characterizing many of the challenges that the Asian American demographic experiences at UCSD, casts a very negative light on many of the successes of the Asian American community and oversimplifies many complex emotional responses. As a Chinese American, I do feel a lot of stress to succeed and get good grades. I'm not always happy how hard I have to work to achieve things nor the effort of competing with top ranked international students from India, Taiwan, China, and Korea, but ultimately, I feel very proud of the successes and social mobility that my family and culture have experienced.

However, the byproducts of the model minority myth can be very dehumanizing. Asian Americans don't have a resource center on campus. Hearing people talk about the uselessness of the black resource center or Raza when I don't get a resource center, or only referring to blacks and Latinos as minorities even though Asian are ,population wise, a minority in the US is extremely irritating. It's like I cease to exist in a narrative, like my experience isn't as valid as the experiences of a black person: basically another form of racism. But do I truly require such

help? I'm not sure. There should be more African Americans and Latinxs here. It's a shame that the lack of Affirmative Action programs in the UC system limits this because diversity is important. But I worked hard to get here and isn't that valid as well? There's this feeling I have that minority groups that haven't experienced the same type of success as the typical Asian American deserve more, but by helping them, I am losing something as a result.

Work Cited

Kong, Angela. "Introduction." Re-Examining Diversity Policy at UCSD. 2014.

Kong, Angela. "Ch 4." Re-Examining Diversity Policy at UCSD. 2014.