

Xinchi Tang

Reading response 5

Kong's fourth chapter, "Voices of Asian American Students and the Politics of Diversity Policy" analyzes "Compton Cookout" party and some other racial politics of Asian Americans in the university (Kong). In the article, Asian American students are not a community of minority students in UCSD- they take up of forty-nine percent population in the university. However, Asian American racist problems are still overlooked by most of us. Most people put more emphasis on racist issue of black and African American, Latino and Chicano people due to the fact that it is a historic topic. Kong figures out that people should also focus on Asian American diversity.

As a first generation Chinese student here, however, I disagree with Kong's opinions. It is true that "Asian Americans were not considered an important part of community of minority students who had relevant concerns in regards to diversity at the university" (91, Kong), but why couldn't it become a profitable fact? Racialism results from recognizing of differences, but if people had ignored the differences, the racial discrimination would no longer exist. In my dormitory, for instance, no one considers me as a strange. We are definitely brought in different cultures and have distinct habits, but even people from the same family has his or her own characteristics and habits. Every time encountering with the cultural differences, we only patiently explain them to each other. At least for me, the campus climate is ordinary and harmonious. Perhaps there is no need to emphasize diversities of Asian American students. The best way to eliminate racialism is to ignore the differences.