

Being Known: Ethnic Identity Track

Anna, Jo, Kamea, Ray, Gabe-- Color Blue, Spanish, Avatar the Last Airbender, Taller than 5 ft, Play a Sport, Prefer Marvel

Sham, Jenny, Yesenia, Ashley: speak a second lang, had eyebrows done before, first gen born in the US, no shoes in the house, learned cursive, been to a diff state, drive Asian cars, Spotify, dark hair/black, iPhones

Matthew, Ryan, Christan, Ethan - Mexican Food, Marvel, Dudes, Siblings, Traveled outside CA, Boba, Hate Star Wars sequels, Musicians

Feedback Form: <https://forms.gle/9Vu5UvrnUCizRGUj8>

Resource List:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ukjPvB2jjX-xuTwV4ZVioTDj_KJWSnOmzYUI1KFD3uE/edit?usp=sharing

Name	Brokenness that you see in the world
Jo Cho	Textbooks that deny historical injustice, extrajudicial killings of police, coronavirus-related hate crimes towards Asian Americans, false apologies for racial trauma, Confederate monuments (statues, building names, etc.), heterosexism, especially within my own Korean community, apathy towards BIPOC folx in my own Korean community, NIMBYism, an inability to comprehend communal sin, stigma towards mental health issues in Asian and Latinx communities, my own school's (USC) lack of safe spaces for BIPOC folx (it took until now to rename a building named after a famous eugenicist), unjust immigration laws, low-income BIPOC kids living in the community around my school have to bust their ass and go to summer school to secure a scholarship while rich kids get to cheat and donate money to get in
Shamrina	The "not my problem" mindset/extreme individualism in America, not actively recognizing how history can still affect things today, microaggressions, Western beauty standards being praised, treatment of women of color in the healthcare system
Matthew	Racial profiling people of color, Scapegoating ethnic groups, indifference between groups of people of color for problems not their own.
Ethan Nish	Lack of empathy for people who look different than yourself & living in bubbles; separation between ethnic groups and exclusivity; white/asian moderate
Christian Salinas	Oppressive systems meant to only help those who enforce it. The ignorance and indifference seen by those who only want to observe the status quo and uphold our current systems. The racial profiling I have seen and experienced all my life. The homophobia, transphobia and colorism seen not just in the Latinx community but in most communities around the world.

Kamea	Homophobia within the Jamaican community, negative connotations surrounding therapy especially for Black men, misogynoir, racial profiling, police brutality, transphobia
Ryan	Racial profiling, the lack of funding for education in impoverished communities, denial of the current presence racism has within our nation, improper treatment of immigrant children who had no say in the matter when migrating,
Gabe	The Indifference of the asian community towards injustices that don't directly affect them. For profit prisons and Mass Incarceration robbing black men of their humanity and forcing their children to grow up without a father.
Ashley Tseng	Invalidation of mental health struggles w/in the Asian American community, denial of the history of slavery and Jim Crow, refusal to enact institutional reform when many of these institutions have foundations in racism/disenfranchisement, using the Bible to justify harmful policies that seem to be the antithesis to Jesus' message,
Anna	Exoticising of women of color, white supremacy perpetuating misogyny. Achievement gap and lack of access to opportunity.
Jenny	Police brutality, denial of trans rights (in healthcare, within the LGBTQ+ community), the treatment towards undocumented immigrants and the horrifying situations in detention centers, attempting to rewrite history, failure to touch upon acts of discrimination (past and current) within the education system and a lot of other policies (like the eugenic program in the US???), Confederate statues and flags being ALLOWED, imprisonment of SO MANY Blacks for marijuana poss.
Yesenia	Hate or preconceptions of someone based on the color of one's skin. Not willing to have an open mind to learning about one's own misconceptions and ways we personally have hurt others, directly or indirectly. More specifically, police brutality/police funding, immigration reform, education funding.
Ray	Homophobia and hypermasculinity being prevalent among black men (Especially in media). Transphobia, racial profiling, and objectification of the black person's body.
Ariana	Focusing on personal experiences with racism and using it to justify racism towards others—choosing to be part of the problem rather than part of the solution. Clinging to the model minority myth and overlooking the unique differences of each different minority. We can't all be held to the same model. Internal divisions in the Chinese community between regions. A disregard and active repression of regional dialects, culture, and traditions. "Cancel culture" that pushes dissenters to the fringes rather than trying to educate new allies

Identifying Feelings

Identifying how we think and feel about our ethnicity can help unlock areas of brokenness. Please circle 1-2 words below which describe the harder parts of your ethnic journey.

"When I think of my ethnic journey, I feel _____."

Confused

Embarrassed

Indifferent

Mistreated

Not enough

Angry

Sad

Misunderstood

Annoyed

Why do you think you are experiencing these emotions?

Mourning History

REFLECT:

Growing up, what did you hear that was bad about other ethnic groups?

What did you hear that was bad about other members of your own ethnic community?

DISCUSS: What part of our broken history bothers you the most? (Mexican American War, Colonialism, Slavery, recent history, etc.) Why?

Identifying Personal Hurt

DISCUSS: Describe a time that you really wished you were not part of your own ethnic group. Why?

Turning To Jesus

When you think of your ethnic group, what grieves you about what your people have done to others? _____

Where do you feel pain because of what has been done to you? _____

Jesus can handle our pain and shame. He invites us to bring our brokenness to the cross, where he has taken all the world's sin upon himself. Please bring a few of these areas of brokenness to Jesus. You can use the following prayer:

Jesus, our world is broken. My people and I are broken as well.
We have been hurt, and we have hurt others.

Forgive my people for contributing to the hurt by _____.

Forgive me for contributing to the hurt,
both by what I have done and what I have failed to do.
I confess these judgments I have passed on others
and I confess my indifference: _____.

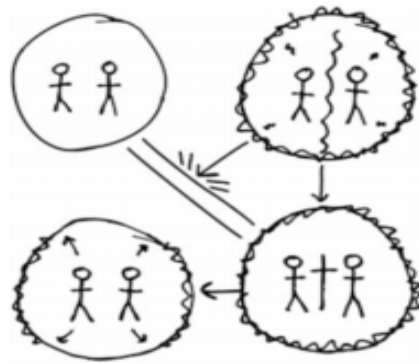
I choose to forgive those who have sinned against me personally.
I forgive _____ for _____
and release them from their debt against me.
They no longer owe me anything.
Anything I need for restoration I now ask for from you alone.
I choose to forgive those who have sinned against my people.
I forgive _____ for _____.

I pray Romans 12:19,

"Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God;
for it is written, 'Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.'" (NRSV)

Help me forgive well. Help me trust you more. Help us find healing from
your cross. Amen.

THE FOUR CIRCLES



Beauty
Brokenness
Redemption
Restoration

THINGS I HEARD GROWING UP

1. I don't care if you get good grades just try your best.
2. Let's go to the bank and open a savings account for you.
3. College is about exploration and self-discovery.
4. When you leave this house, you represent us.
5. You must work twice as hard and be twice as good to succeed.
6. Don't make waves.
7. (Pinching cheek): "I love you, little fatty!"
8. I brought you into this world and I can take you out.
9. If you get pulled over, take your wallet out and put it on the dash. Turn on all the lights and put your hands on the steering wheel in plain view.
10. We sacrificed for you our whole lives; you must be a doctor.
11. I will pick your major for you.
12. You can only date within our ethnic/racial group.
13. I know you have a test tomorrow, but you need to come home for your dad's birthday.
14. After college, we want you to move home until you get married.
15. We're having company, so give up your bed.
16. Study now. Date later.
17. Don't be another statistic.
18. The first impression you make is what counts.
19. Friends come and go, but you will always have family.
20. I am your mom/dad; you are going to respect me.
21. You learn by watching, listening, and being quiet.
22. Nothing ever works out for us.
23. Two wrongs don't make a right.
24. God helps those who help themselves.
25. Did you eat yet?

Sharing Our Stories:

What stories or key phrases resonated with you?

What is beautiful about your ethnicity?

BIBLICAL REFLECTION: Psalm 139:1–3, 13–16

Context/background: David, someone that had an intimate relationship with God, wrote this Psalm.

- ¹ You have searched me, Lord, and you know me.
² You know when I sit and when I rise;
you perceive my thoughts from afar.
³ You discern my going out and my lying down;
you are familiar with all my ways.
¹³ For you created my inmost being;
you knit me together in my mother's womb.
¹⁴ I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made;
your works are wonderful, I know that full well.
¹⁵ My frame was not hidden from you
when I was made in the secret place,
when I was woven together in the depths of the earth.
¹⁶ Your eyes saw my unformed body;
all the days ordained for me were written in your book
before one of them came to be.

Write your own ethnic background in each of the blanks.

- ¹³ For you created my inmost being;
you knit me as a _____ wo/man together in my mother's womb.
¹⁴ I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made
as a _____ wo/man;
your works are wonderful, I know that full well.
¹⁵ My _____ frame was not hidden from you
when I was made in the secret place,
when I was woven together in the depths of the earth.
¹⁶ Your eyes saw my unformed body;
all the days ordained for me were written in your book
before one of them came to be.

I Am From Poem

Use this template to draft your poem, and then write a final draft to share on blank paper.

I am from _____
(specific ordinary item)

From _____ and _____
(product name) (product name)

I am from the _____
(home description)

_____, _____, _____
(adjective) (adjective) (sensory detail)

I am from _____,
(plant, flower, natural item)

(description of above item)

I'm from _____ and _____
(family tradition) (family trait)

From _____ and _____
(name of family member) (another family name)

I'm from the _____ and _____
(description of family tendency) (another one)

From _____ and _____
(something you were told as a child) (another)

I'm from _____,
(representation of religion or lack of), (further description)

I'm from _____
(place of birth and family ancestry)

_____, _____
(a food item that represents your family) (another one)

From the _____
(specific family story about a specific person and detail)

The _____
(another detail of another family member)

(location of family pictures, mementos, archives)

(line explaining the importance of family items)

Original Poem: Where I'm From <i>By George Ella Lyon</i> I am from clothespins, from Clorox and carbon-tetrachloride. I am from the dirt under the back porch. (Black, glistening, it tasted like beets.) I am from the forsythia bush the Dutch elm whose long-gone limbs I remember as if they were my own. I'm from fudge and eyeglasses, from Imogene and Alafair. I'm from the know-it-alls and the pass-it-ons, from Perk up! and Pipe down! I'm from He restoreth my soul with a cottonball lamb and ten verses I can say myself. I'm from Artemus and Billie's Branch, fried corn and strong coffee. From the finger my grandfather lost to the auger, the eye my father shut to keep his sight. Under my bed was a dress box spilling old pictures, a sift of lost faces to drift beneath my dreams. I am from those moments— snapped before I budded — leaf-fall from the family tree.	Model Poem: Where I'm From <i>By Ms. Vaca</i> I am from bookshelves, from vinegar and green detergent. I am from the dog hair in every corner (Yellow, abundant, the vacuum could never get it all.) I am from azaleas the magnolia tree whose leaves crunched under my feet like snow every fall. I'm from puzzles and sunburns, from Dorothy Ann and Mary Christine Catherine I'm from reading and road trips From "Please watch your brother" and "Don't let your brother hit you!" I'm from Easter sunrises and Iowa churches at Christmas I'm from Alexandria and the Rileys, Sterzing's potato chips and sponge candy. From my Air Force dad's refusal to go to Vietnam, from my mom's leaving home at 17. On a low shelf in my new house is a stack of photo albums, carefully curated by my faraway father, chronicling my childhood. I am from these pages, yellowed but firm, holding on to me across the country.
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