

ASIANS AGAINST ANTI-BLACKNESS READING GROUP

A reading group convened by Kelly Nguyen, Vina Vo, and Stephanie Wong

Objective: a reading and discussion group focusing on anti-racism for Asian people to stand in solidarity with Black and Brown lives

Format: 3-month reading and discussion series on selected works. Meets virtually over Zoom every other Sunday at 11AM PT/ 12PM MT/ 1PM CT / 2PM ET. Each session will last 60 minutes.

Timeline: 3 months with possible extension

Who is this for?

This group is for AAPI and Asians living in the U.S. who want to deepen their education and understanding of the history of racism in this country, specifically targeted towards the Black community. This is for those of us who feel like we have not done enough reading or learning to stand in solidarity with Black communities and want to do so by educating ourselves with other folks who are ready to begin learning.

While we recognize that there is anti-Asian racism in this country, we are choosing to focus our efforts on discussing anti-Blackness in these three short months (which we know barely scratches the surface).

What does participation look like?

Participants are asked to read/watch the resources before attending the discussion sessions. You are welcome to attend the conversations even if you have not read/watched the resources -- however, the conversations will be centered around the readings and you're invited to listen in and learn. The facilitators will have some questions to start conversations. Participants are welcome to propose any questions/topics they would like to discuss. Feel free to email: emailvina@gmail.com with any questions you want to be included. Depending on the size of the group, we may break out into smaller groups.

We will not become an anti-racist and/or equipped for intentional and deep solidarity immediately after reading all these resources and having all these discussions. As AAPI and Asians, there are a lot of things we need to unlearn and that is okay. That is why we are starting this together so we can unlearn together in order to show up better for the Black community. True solidarity begins with education.

Who are the organizers?

We are three Asian American women who know we have a lot to learn and want to help others learn too. We don't promise to have all the answers and are not experts, but are hopeful that we can all learn together.

How were the readings compiled?

We chose readings that have been helpful to us during our learning journey, that we've taught/read in classes, and that we've looked for to continue building out our understanding. We know there are more readings out there, but we have focused on shorter online resources to allow for more participation. At the bottom of the reading schedule, you will find additional resources that will help you dive deeper into this work. These additional resources are a compilation of resources that other individuals and groups have pulled together. We have also gathered some of the readings from those sources.

How do I sign up?

By clicking the: [REGISTRATION LINK](#). To ensure the intimacy of the group, we will be capping the numbers at 60. If you are unable to join this group, but would like to offer this to your own network and need help setting it up, we are happy to support you. If you facilitate and need access to resources, please [visit this folder](#).

Reading Schedule

Date	Topic	Resources	Action Items (Pick as many as you would like to complete)
6/14	The Urgency of Action Now	Michael Harriot, <i>The Root</i> : A Timeline of Events That Led to the 2020 'Fed Up'-rising Wesley Lowery, The Atlantic: Why Minneapolis Was the Breaking Point Katelyn Burns, Vox: Police targeted journalists covering the George Floyd protests Michelle Kim, <i>Awaken</i> : 20+ Allyship Actions for Asians to Show Up for the Black Community Right Now	TEXT: 'Defend' to 90975 COMMIT: To completing five items from Michelle Kim's list DONATE : To the families of the victims and communities affected CONTACT: Your mayor to demand they review their use-of-force policies with members of your community and

		Bianca Mabute-Louie, <i>Inheritance</i> : Minor Feelings and Racial Melancholia	commit to report on planned reform. While 8cantwait has a useful tool you can easily use, we support abolition and defunding the police. Learn more here: 8toAbolition
6/28	Anti-Blackness in Asian Communities, part 1: Historical Roots	Claire Jean Kim, <i>Politics and Society</i>: The Racial Triangulation of Asian Americans Ibram X. Kendi, <i>New York Times</i>: A History of Race and Racism in America, in 24 Chapters Tiffany Diane Tso, <i>Refinery 29</i>: Nail Salon Brawls & Boycotts: Unpacking The Black-Asian Conflict In America Taylor Weik, <i>NBC News Asian America</i>: The history behind 'Yellow Peril Supports Black Power' and why some find it problematic	DONATE: To organizations fighting racism and police brutality SUPPORT: Black-owned businesses (Official Black Wallstreet) (Shoppe Black) PARTICIPATE: In actions during Juneteenth and the weekend following. REFLECT: On where anti-Blackness has played a role in your life and where you can begin dismantling it. FOLLOW: Black Trans Leaders (scroll to page 11)
7/12	Anti-Blackness in Asian Communities, part 2: Contemporary Conflicts	LA 92, documentary (~ 2 hours runtime) "Black Trans* Lives Matter," D-L Stewart, TEDxCSU Alice Walker: Womanist definition (first page) Kim Tran: Talking to my non-Black Asian Mom About Property Destruction	DONATE: with your time and/or your money to Black Lives Matter DISCUSS: Have that tough conversation with your friends and family around anti-Blackness. SUPPORT: Black bookstores. Read books about anti-Blackness and anti-racism but also read about Black joy.

			REFLECT: Where is most of your energy spent in regards to fighting anti-Blackness and systemic racism? Is that the right balance for you?
7/26	Unlearning Whiteness	Nikole Hannah-Jones, <i>New York Times Magazine</i>, 1619 Project: Black History: American Democracy Angela Davis: speech calling for transnational solidarity Jezzika Chung, <i>Huff Post</i>: How Asian Immigrants Learn Anti-Blackness From White Culture, And How To Stop It Hyejin Shim: questions on (the limits & effects of) (asian american) allyship	WATCH: The documentary 13th by director Ava DuVernay. "The film explores the "intersection of race, justice, and mass incarceration in the United States." Free on YouTube! REFLECT: Think about the last eight weeks since you joined this group. What have you learned? Where do you need to continue learning? DONATE: To the Movement for Black Lives (M4BL) which is made up of over 150 organizations that coordinate actions, messages and campaigns.
8/9	Legacies of BIPOC Activism	Combahee River Collective: A Black Feminist Statement (pp. 1-11) Audre Lorde: The Uses of Anger Kat Chow, NPR's <i>Code Switch</i>: 'Model Minority' Myth Again Used As A Racial Wedge Between Asians And Blacks <i>Time to Say Goodbye</i> podcast: Tou Thao and the Myths of Asian American Solidarity	RESEARCH: An example of BIPOC activism that you previously did not know about in your own community REGISTER: To vote! Vote locally and nationally. DONATE: To organizations that support Black Trans Lives. REFLECT: What did you know of BIPOC activism? How does that inform

			or affect your own journey?
8/23	Black and Asian Solidarity	Tracy Nguyen: Journey to the Nail Salon (Viet and Black Solidarity) ~ 16 minutes Audre Lorde: The Master's Tools Will Never Dismantle the Master's House Letters for Black Lives Asal Ehsanipour, KQED: Ethnic Studies: Born in the Bay Area from History's Biggest Student Strike	REFLECT: How are you currently showing up/not showing up for Black lives in your network and community? DONATE: Support young Black women activists by donating to the Oluwatoyin Salua Freedom Fighters Fund CONTINUE FIGHTING: Breonna Taylor's murderer is still free. Invest in Until Freedom that is working to bring justice to Breonna. Attend the Black National Convention: Put on by the Movement for Black Lives, this convention seeks to "build power & policy in defense of Black Lives" 8/27
9/6	Future Conversations	Kathy Huynh and Toby Vu: Tools for Compassionate & Sustained Conversations with Family REFLECTION from the Building Movement Project: Mapping Our Roles in Social Change Ecosystems (2020) Amee Tan: On Motivation and Habits: Cultivating Sustained Anti-Racist Allyship P.R. Lockhart: How Black women have continued the fight to vote 100 years after suffrage	DONATE: To Fair Fight, or other organizations that are fighting voter suppression. Join us in our next iteration of this group!

Additional resources

These are resources that have been compiled by individuals and organizations. We will continue to add the resources as we see them. Please feel free to add any that you have come across.

[#BlackTransLivesMatter](#): resource document was a collaborative effort between people who stand in solidarity with Black trans women and wanted to make a difference, and some of the foremost Black trans leaders in community and culture.

[Anti-Racism for White People](#): contains books, podcasts, readings, television shows, movies, people and organizations to follow

[Anti-Racism Resources for Asian Americans](#): contains readings, action items, history, people to follow, and other resources

[Anti-Racist Starter Pack](#): contains articles, compilations, books, petitions, television shows, film video, social media posts worth sharing

[#AsiansforBlackLives Accountability Network](#): an action-oriented network that explores anti-Blackness. Lots of great links for readings, books, podcasts, etc. There are also discussion frameworks.

[API Resistance](#): DC, Maryland, and Virginia (DMV)-centered action items but also create and concise resources.

[Rise Up Resource Guide](#): contains action items and some educational materials

[Black and Asian American Feminist Solidarity Reading List](#): contains articles, books, statements made at conferences, journals centered around Black and Asian American feminist solidarity

[Southeast Asian Anti-racism Tool-Kit](#): An ever growing and user-contributed resource list especially catered for the Southeast Asian community.

[30 Day Allyship Actions](#): This has a list of actions to take in 30 days to be a better ally to the Black community.

[Care Package](#): Poems, meditations, films, and other cultural nutrients for times like this.

[Critical Resistance, On the Road to Abolition](#): webinar, images, presentation, and resources about what it means to abolish the police and how to get there.

[Addressing Anti-Blackness Within the Vietnamese/Chinese & Asian Community](#)