



匹茲堡燭光晚會悼念亞特蘭大遇難者

UCA-Pittsburgh 北美新視界

今年3月16號在亞特蘭大地區三家美容按摩店發生的槍殺案,導致8人死亡,其中6人是亞裔女性,4位韓裔,2位華裔,2位白人。槍手是21歲的Robert Aaron Long。這是近年來美國又一針對亞裔的嚴重仇恨暴力事件。發生之後,在全美產生強烈反響。亞特蘭大市警方的早期言論更引發了各界人士的不滿和譴責。美國華人聯合會(UCA,United Chinese Americans)于3/18號星期四發佈公告,號召全美各大中城市華人于3/20星期六同步舉行悼念抗議活動。

UCA-Pittsburgh 分部決定響應總部號召,立即成立了UCA-Pittsburgh 燭光悼念活動籌備小組,成員包括 Nancy Xiao, Sunny Yang, Hong Zhang, Mary Liu, Jian Yu 和 Siyu Zhang。周四晚上召集了第一次籌備會議,討論了可能的集會地點、時間,申請政府許可等具體事項。並決定聯繫匹茲堡市長下屬的 Welcoming Pittsburgh 辦公室協商

合作。團隊每個人都分派了具體任務,為保證活動的成功起到至關重要的作用。UCA 提議的燭光悼念晚會得到了匹茲堡市政府和賓州州長亞太裔事務委員會(PA-GACAPAA)的大力支持。第二天3/19號周五,UCA 籌備小組、匹市市長辦公室的 Alaa Mohamed、Feyisola Alabi、Mairead McCarthy 和賓州 GACAPAA 的 Stephanie Sun 于上午和晚上連開兩次會議,定下了集會地點,就在市郡大樓(City-County Building)宏大的前廊,時間定于3/21號晚6:30pm。籌備會上初步定下了晚會程序,邀請的各界演講者名單,包括亞裔代表,少數族裔盟友代表,以及市長,郡長,和州政府代表,並分工聯繫演講者。當晚UCA 籌備小組製作了活動的廣告傳單,被廣為轉發傳播。

3/20周六UCA 籌備小組按計劃準備活動。將中文廣告轉發到了匹市的幾個華裔團體當中,得到大家的積極響應,UCA 也將匹茲堡華人文化中心(PCCC)和旅美科技協會匹茲堡分會(CAST-P)的代

表加入了演講者名單。匹市 Welcoming Pittsburgh 辦公室則聯繫了當地韓、日、非、猶太、西、穆斯林社區代表,並在臉書等社交媒體上為悼念活動廣為宣傳。

UCA 還通知了匹市各電視台媒體。市長辦公室也發佈了 Press Release,並把UCA 代表列為活動的聯繫人。3/21周日晚上6點鐘,匹市警察已在市郡大樓附近待命。市長辦公室 Welcoming Pittsburgh 負責人 Alaa Mohamed 很早就到場在前廊指導數位市府工作人員安置會場,演講臺,麥克風,錄像三角架等設施。當天下午 Nancy Xiao 就接到好幾家報紙和電視台媒體電話,要求採訪UCA。這些記者很早就來到了會場。Siyu Zhang, Mary Liu, Sunny Yang 一到會場就馬上被電視台記者截住,三人代表UCA 共接受了五場採訪,包括當地電視台 KDKA (CBS),WTAE (ABC),WPXI (NBC) 和 Post-Gazette。



一個華裔高中生在“停止亞裔仇恨”游行集會上的演講

Original Kevin Chen 俄州亞太聯盟

在辛辛那提最近的“停止亞裔仇恨”活動中,我聽到了許多強大的聲音。許多亞裔(API)社區成員和領導人分享了他們遭遇種族主義的個人經歷。來自其他社區的領導人也參加了這次活動,表明他們堅定地支持和分擔亞裔社區抗爭的負擔。因此,我感到有能力像其他勇敢的社區成員一樣分享自己的聲音。從小到大,我上學的頭幾年並不總是那麼愉快。例如,我的很多同齡人會在嘲笑我時做傾斜的眼部手勢。我的一些同學也會假裝中國口音,試圖用這種方式和我說話,因為他們相信我的英語不流利。雖然我小時候對這些刻板觀念一無所知,但這些事件在我進入中學和高中時開始影響我個人。在很多方面,亞裔的模範少數民族神話的影響了其他人多年來對我的看法。因此,我的很多同學期望我在每次作業和測試中總是能獲得A+。鑒於人的本性,我們不完美,容易犯錯。因此,儘管我相信自己是一名優等生,但我還是不可避免地會犯一些錯。當我的成績低於期望時,我的同學們會覺得不可思議。他們說我不是真正的亞裔。他們說我侮辱了我的姓。最令人痛苦的是,他們說,一個缺乏智慧的亞裔是一種反常現象:一個不屬於任何地方的人。當我成功的時候,人們忽視了我的成就,認為學術成功是亞裔美國人自然而然的保證。

因此,當我看到在這次新冠(COVID-19)大流行期間,對亞裔的誤解不僅影響我,也影響到我心愛的整個社區,這令人非常沮喪。針對亞裔的仇恨犯罪在全世界呈上升趨勢,最普遍的是在亞裔聚居地區。75歲的亞裔長者樸浩在加州奧克蘭被三名襲擊者毆打致死。在紐約,CNN 新聞報道說,1月1日到3月14日之間,至少有10起亞洲仇恨罪案發生,跨度約為3個月。在舊金山,一段視頻曝光了亞裔祖母謝小珍,她的臉被兇手抓傷並流血。同時,她回憶起自己在恐怖時刻的自衛行為。令人憤慨的是,外界看到醫護人員照顧的是行兇者,而不是上了年紀的受害者。最近,佐治亞州亞特蘭大的悲劇引起了最大關注。8人在三家亞洲水療館被屠殺,其中6人是亞裔。目前,犯罪者羅伯特·朗拒絕承認襲擊是出于種族動機。相反,他聲稱,性癮和消除性誘惑的慾望使他犯下了罪行。與此同時,美國各地的許多社區都在爭論,這是否實際上是出于種族動機的攻擊。我相信這次襲擊無疑源于種族仇恨。在大眾媒體中,亞洲女性常常被定型為沉默和順從的個體。這些刻板觀念對亞裔社區來說是危險的,因為當某些人發現這些刻板觀念站不住腳時,這種觀念會在他們中間製造一種厭女症和種族主義的感覺。毫無疑問,羅伯特·朗把亞裔女性視為性對象,當她們拒絕他的性要求時,他變得沮喪。結果,這種憤怒和沮喪使他犯下了令人發指的罪行。

在我對這些悲慘的仇恨犯罪故事的衆多感受,孤獨是最強烈的感受之一。通常,我們作為人類很難理解我們從未體驗過的感受;因此,同情和分擔他人的負擔是一個挑戰。由於一些危險的刻板印象,比如模範少數民族神話和亞裔女性在媒體上的形象,我們作為亞裔美國人感到被社會所左右,因為我們感覺自己無聲無息。我們感到,我們面臨的問題沒有得到大眾媒體的深入考慮或適當處理,因為人們覺得我們應該受到這種虐待。總的來說,我們要求我們的

聲音被聽到,我們的抗爭得到承認。新聞報道不應掩飾殺手的動機和意圖,如“糟糕的一天”和遭受未具名的“問題”的折磨,而應該揭示受害者以及事件的真實性和悲劇性。不幸的是,這種全國性的觀念變化進展往往很緩慢。這可能需要數年、數十年甚至幾百年。作為亞太聯盟(APAPA)的青年成員,我認為,對於下一代API來說,植根變革至關重要。我們必須從地方層面開始,主動出擊,有所作為。因此,種族間對話在改善辛辛那提人和美國各地任職人數偏低的人方面發揮了重要作用。儘管許多亞裔面臨的仇恨犯罪是我們種族和膚色所獨有的,但這些問題的性質可能與種族主義和誤解有關。我相信,還有許多像我們一樣的社區面臨着種族主義問題,我們必須團結起來,互相支持。因此,我們通過慷慨的食物捐獻活動為辛辛那提的窮困社區提供幫助,努力彌補我們與同樣弱勢的社區之間的差異,並為之深感自豪。通過我們的關心與他們建立聯繫,我們可以培養一種新的理解文化。這使我們能夠為API社區中最脆弱的群體建立更強大的援助網絡。總的來說,我們作為一個整體不要因為社會對API社區的不屑態度而絕望。相反,我們必須對這些情況表現出耐心和毅力。我們必須努力為爭取更高的代表性,為我們的社區建立更強大的保護網絡。最終,痛苦能加強人與人之間的關係,因為愛和仇恨是相輔相成的;如果仇恨不腐敗,愛就不會出現。

Speaker: Kevin Chen

During the recent “Stop Asian Hate” event in Cincinnati, I heard many powerful voices. Many API community members and leaders shared their personal experiences with racism and their grievances towards the United States. Leaders from other communities also participated in the event, showing their unwavering support and sharing the burden of the API community’s struggles. Thus, I feel empowered to share my own voice just like the other brave community members who spoke at the event. Growing up, my first few years of school was not always pleasant. For example, many of my peers made fun of my appearance by making slanted eye gestures while laughing at me. Some of my classmates would also fake a Chinese accent and attempt to talk to me in that way because they believed I was not fluent in English. Although I was ignorant of these stereotypes as a young child, these incidents began to affect me personally as I progressed to middle and high school. In many ways, the model minority myth has affected others’ perception of my character



throughout those years. Accordingly, many of my classmates expected me to always achieve A-plus-es on every single assignment and test. Given the nature of human beings, we are imperfect and susceptible to mistakes. Thus, I inevitably experienced some academic failures despite the belief that I was a straight-A student. When I would achieve below such expectations, my classmates reacted with extreme disbelief. They said that I was an ingenuine Asian. They said that I had disgraced my family name. Most painfully of all, they said that an unintelligent Asian is an anomaly: an individual who does not belong anywhere. When I did manage to succeed, people overlooked my achievements, believing that academic success was an automatic guarantee for Asian Americans.

Thus, it is quite disheartening to see that during this COVID-19 Pandemic, Asian misconceptions have affected not only me, but also my entire beloved community. Accordingly, there has been a rise in Asian hate crimes worldwide, most commonly in predominantly Asian areas. To name some instances of such crimes, Pak Ho, a 75-year-old Asian elder, was beaten to death in Oakland, California, by three attackers. In New York, CNN News reports that at least ten Asian hate crimes were committed between January 1st to March 14th, a span of roughly three months. In San Francisco, a video surfaced of Xiao Zhen Xie, an Asian grandmother, with her face bruised and bloodied by her assailant. At the same time, she recalls her self-defense during the terrifying moment. Outrageously, paramedics were seen tending to the needs of the assailant rather than those of the elderly victim. Most recently, The tragedy in Atlanta, Georgia has garnered the most attention. Eight people, six of which were of Asian descent, were slaughtered in three Asian spa parlors. Currently, the perpetrator, Robert Long, refuses to admit that the attack is racially motivated. He instead states that sexual adiction and a desire to eliminate his sexual temptations led him to commit his crime. Simultaneously, many communities across the United States debate whether or not this was in fact a racially motivated attack. I believe that this attack undoubtedly stems from the race. In popular media, Asian women are often objectified and stereotyped as quiet and submissive individuals. These stereotypes are dangerous towards the Asian communities because it cre-

ates a sense of misogyny and racism among certain people when they discover that these stereotypes do not hold. Undoubtedly, Robert Long viewed Asian women as sexual objects and became frustrated at them when they refused his advances. As a result, this anger and frustration led him to commit his heinous crime.

Among the many feelings I have about all these tragic hate crime stories, loneliness is one of the strongest feelings. Often, we as human beings struggle to understand what we have not experienced; thus, empathizing and sharing another's burden presents a challenge. Due to dangerous stereotypes such as model minority myths and Asian womens' portrayal in media, we as Asian Americans feel othered by society because we feel voiceless. We feel that the issues we face are not deeply considered or properly addressed by the mass media because people feel we deserve such mistreatment. As a whole, we demand that our voices are heard and our struggles recognized. Rather than euphemizing a killer's motives and intentions, such as having "a bad day" and suffering from unnamed "issues," news stories should shed light on the victims and the real and tragic nature of the event. Unfortunately, such change on the national scale is often slow. It may take years, decades, and even centuries. As a member of Asian Pacific Islander American Public Affairs (APAPA), I believe that it is critical for the next generation of APIs to plant the roots of change. We must take the initiative and make a difference starting on the local level. Accordingly, Interracial Dialogue plays an important role in the betterment of Cincinnati and underrepresented people all over the United States. Although the Asian hate crimes that many APIs face are unique to our ethnicity and skin color, the nature of these issues can be related to racism and misconceptions. I believe that there are many other communities just like ours who face issues of racism, and we must come together and support one another. Therefore, I am deeply proud of the Cincinnati API community's efforts to reconcile our differences with similarly underrepresented communities through generous food drives and resource donations. By demonstrating that we care about and relate to them, we can foster a new culture of understanding. This allows us to create a stronger network of assistance for the API community's most vulnerable. Overall we as a whole need not despair society's dismissive attitude towards the APIs community. Instead, we must display patience and perseverance against these circumstances. We must all strive for higher representation and create a stronger network of protection for our community peacefully. In the end, only pain strengthens relationships, for love and hate are nexuses; love cannot arise if hate does not corrupt.

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