

Background

Issues:

- Lack of APIA youth engagement on campus and in community
- Very low voter turnout in comparison with other ethnicities
- Unfamiliarity with AANHPI political movements and the importance of civic engagement

Importance:

- Watershed moments that advanced the political and social power of the AANHPI community are not well-known, even among members of that community
- By benchmarking our movement as a community, we are able to see where we come from, where we are now, and where we are going in the future

Methodology

- Design a deliverable workshop presentation highlighting landmark AANHPI political movements to generate appreciation for AANHPI civic engagement
- Perform background research on historical and contemporary AANHPI Identity

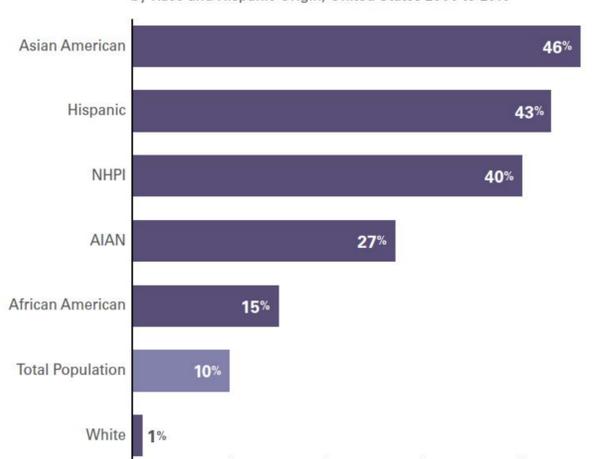
Historical:

- Where have we come from to be given these rights?
- When did we first gain our Asian-American identity?
- What are some landmark movements in our history that have created our community?

Contemporary:

- How are youth coming together to make a difference?
- How are AANHPI showing up for other communities?
- How do we use/define that power?

Percent Population Growth
by Race and Hispanic Origin, United States 2000 to 2010



Deliverables

Curbing Immigration⁷

- May 6, 1882: Chinese Exclusion Act
 - Prohibited immigration of Chinese laborers for ten years
 - Chinese naturalization restricted
 - First US immigration law along racial lines
- May 5, 1892: Geary Act
 - Extended the Chinese Exclusion Act an additional ten years
- The Chinese Exclusion Act was repealed in 1943.

The Development of our Terminology⁹

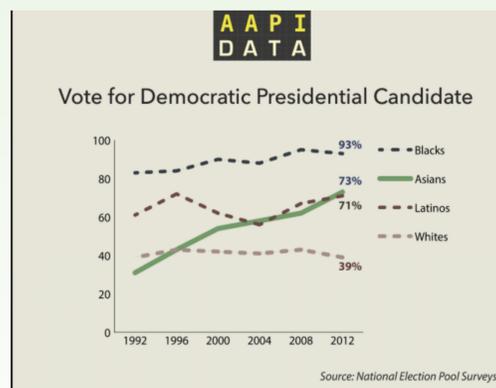
- When did Asian American become Asian American Pacific Islander?
 - 1990 US Census recognizes and creates a field for Asian or Pacific Islander
 - 1980 US Census
- Asian vs. Asian American vs. APA vs API vs APIA vs AAPI vs AANHPI

The Asian American Political Alliance (AAPA)²

- Founded in 1968 at University of California, Berkeley by Yuji Ichioka and Emma Gee
- Advocated for self-determination and anti-imperialism
- Third World Liberation Front (TWLF):
 - Coalition of Asian American Political Alliance (AAPA), Afro-American Student Union (AASU), Mexican American Student Confederation (MASC), and Native American Student Union (NASU)
- January 22, 1969 Strike: Demanded recruitment of Third World people into faculty positions, departments for ethnic studies, and access to financial aid.
- Met with violence and police repression

The Murder of Vincent Chin⁸

- The recession of 1981-1982⁵: 11% unemployment
- June 19, 1982: Two white autoworkers (Ebens and Nitz) approach Chin and spark a fight over lost jobs to Japanese automotive manufacturers
- Vincent Chin is murdered by Ebens and Nitz, who received no jail time
- Anti-Asian sentiments and racial intolerance spur multiethnic alliances for civil rights



US Citizens >18 years old	%Reported Registered	%Reported Not Registered	%Reported Voted	%Reported Did Not Vote
All Races	70.3%	14.6%	61.4%	24.0%
Asian Alone or in Combination	57.3%	23.4%	49.9%	31.9%

<https://www.census.gov/data/tables/time-series/demo/voting-and-registration/p20-580.html>

Reported Voting and Registration, by Race, Hispanic Origin, Sex, and Age, for the United States: November 2016

Findings

AANHPIs had a difficult start towards realizing citizenship. AANHPIs first organized together during the 60's, forming the Asian American Political Alliance²

AANHPIs vote at a rate lower than any other racial group, but that rate is growing.

AANHPI community is engaged more than ever, both inside and outside of the community:

- We are now more intersectional in our movements
- We are standing in solidarity with other marginalized groups - Asians for Black Lives, Japanese-American Solidarity with the Muslim Community

AANHPIs are at a record high representation in office.

Conclusions

Solutions:

- Push for universal vote by mail³
 - This can potentially save taxes. In 2000, Oregon taxpayers started saving \$3 million per cycle.
- Proportional Representation⁴
 - Avoids winner-take-all plurality systems and spoiler effect
 - Increases political relevance towards minority groups

Grassroots/Campus Solutions:

- Host a panel about advantages to registering to vote in one's home state or in the state of their university⁵
- Host a panel about specific policy issues affecting AANHPI. Give students an opportunities to participate. Evidence shows that young people are more likely to vote if they've discussed current events previously
- Have student groups mass email voting information (absentee ballots, registration, etc.)
- Student groups can partner with TurboVote, Young Democrats, Young Republicans
- Consider pushing for a holiday on election days
- Host events like "Walk 2 Vote," an event with singers/performers, etc. inspirational speakers, and then people walked to the polls together to vote⁶

References

¹<https://www.census.gov/data/tables/time-series/demo/voting-and-registration/p20-580.html>
²<http://americanhistory.oxfordre.com/view/10.1093/acrefore/9780199329175.001.0001/acrefore-9780199329175-e-21?print=pdf>
³<http://washingtonmonthly.com/magazine/janfeb-2016/vote-from-home-save-your-country/>
⁴http://www.fairvote.org/how_proportional_representation_elections_work
⁵<https://www.usnews.com/news/articles/2016-07-01/how-can-universities-encourage-young-people-to-vote>
⁶<https://www.uhd.edu/community-engagement/Pages/walk-2-vote.aspx>
⁷<http://www.migrationpolicy.org/research/timeline-1790>
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⁹<https://usa.ipums.org/usa/voliii/items1990.shtml>