



Community Service Learning Program 2012 "Should I Invite These Asians To My Party?"

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15, 2012, 5:30 - 7:00 PM
MUSEUM OF CHINESE IN AMERICA, 215 CENTRE ST, NEW YORK, NY 10013

**Event
Agenda**

- Refreshments
- Interns Presentation
- Photo Exhibit
- Panel Discussion
- Q&A

(Photo: Carlos Molina)

What is the Community Service Learning Program?

The Community Service Learning Program (CSLP) is a paid six month internship training program that provides high school age teens with skills to serve the Asian American community through personal and professional development. CSLP is funded by the New York State Department of Health, Bureau of Maternal and Child Health.

What is the Teen Resource Center?

The Teen Resource Center (TRC) is a program of the Pediatric Unit in the Charles B. Wang Community Health Center. Founded in 2003, TRC's mission is to provide information and support to the Asian American youth population through health education, programs, activities, and referrals.

What is the Charles B. Wang Community Health Center?

The Charles B. Wang Community Health Center (CBWCHC) is a non-profit, federally qualified health center. Founded in 1971, CBWCHC's mission is to be a leader in providing quality, culturally relevant, and affordable health care and education,

and to advocate on behalf of the health and social needs of underserved Asian Americans.

Interns Statement

On Yahoo! Answers, we saw a user question that asked: "Should I invite these asians to my party?" The user included the following reasons for not inviting "these asians":

1. *I'm not comfortable with them because I think they won't enjoy my party....since I think they're not use to the culture of parties and the majority of people are white*
2. *I'm not really friends with them, but we talk sometimes*
3. *[They are] Awkward sometimes*

In response, we asked:

- What are the realities of Asian American teen party culture?
- How much is teen party culture labeled by the media and how can it be more accurately portrayed?
- What does the Model Minority Myth (CSLP 2011 project topic) have to do with Asian American teen party culture (CSLP 2012 project topic)?

These questions led us to connect the following three myths:

1. Myth of Teen Party Culture ("Everyone's Doing It") As Represented in Media

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2. Model Minority Myth As Applied to Asian American Teens

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3. Birth of A New Myth That Asian American Teens Do Not Party Because of the Model Minority Myth

Through independent research and through other resources, we then busted each myth:

1. According to research from AlcoholEdu, less teens are entering college with this type of wild partying experience
2. Like teens of other ethnic groups, Asian American teens also face peer pressure and insecurities of fitting in
3. Asian American teens are not so different from other teens and are just as likely to party

Research Methods

Online and paper survey (316)
Interviews (16+)
Focus group (10+)

Research Findings

Total Surveyed: 316

- Male: 135
- Female: 180
- Other: 1

Grade Level (2012-2013)

- College Freshman: 20.9%
- High School Seniors: 37.3%
- High School Juniors: 25.6%
- High School Sophomores: 11.1%
- High School Freshman: 4.7%

Do You Party?

- I Do Party: 41.1%
- I Do Not Party*: 58.9%

How Often Do You Party?

- Never Party*: 34.6%
- Party Every Few Months: 48.4%
- Party Once A Month: 13.1%
- Party Once A Week: 2.6%
- Party More Than Once A Week: 1.9%

(*However, most people answered later questions as though they do party)

Recommendations

- Increase funding and continue support for youth development programs (e.g. CSLP) that break myths and stereotypes
- Continue development of institutions that provide health education services to teenagers, such as the Charles B. Wang Community Health Center, which allow teens to make responsible decisions about their mental and physical health
- Continue funding and development of Asian media interest groups, such as Asian CineVision and the Asian American Arts Alliance, to help promote a more diverse image of Asian Americans in the media
- Use social media to engage teens and encourage peer to peer dialogue about relevant community issues

Meet the Interns

- Alice Li is a rising junior at Stuyvesant High School! :) She also thinks that exclamation marks make everything more exciting!!!!!!!!!!!!

- Alexander J. Valera is a rising freshman at Swarthmore College and loves writing third person biographies about himself
- Christine Quach is a rising senior at Brooklyn Latin School
- Kevin Trieu is a rising sophomore at Eleanor Roosevelt High School
- Lauren Michelle Huang is a rising freshman at New York University. She also goes by "laurenzo/lo/ellie/taco", runs a blog, and eats a lot of tacos
- Lisa Kwong is a rising a senior at Brooklyn Technical High School
- Victoria Hom is a rising pharmacy student at St. John's University and considers herself to be a strong, independent, Asian American woman

Thank You

- New York State Department of Health Bureau of Maternal and Child Health
- Charles B. Wang Community Health Center (CBWCHC) staff, including: Marilla Li, Vanessa Li, Kimberly Yu, Susan Yee, and Shao-Chee Sim
- Asian Americans For Equality (AAFE) staff, including: Douglas Le, Peter Gee, Tiffany Kan, and Diana Yi
- Asian American Legal Defense Education Fund (AALDEF) staff, including: Chi-Ser Tran
- Asian Professional Exchange (APEX) staff, including: Michael Lee, Kristine Chin, Derek Nguyen, and Ji-Yeon Yi
- Museum of Chinese in America (MOCA) staff, including: Karen Lew, Emily Chovanec *Schappeler*, Ryan Wong
- Asian American Arts Alliance (a4) staff, including: Andrea Louie, Soriya Chum, Jinjin Sun
- Carlos Molina, CSLP Photographer and Multimedia Consultant
- Elizabeth Young, CSLP Public Speaking Consultant
- Edgar Pereira, Director of Youth Services at Chinese-American Planning Council (CPC)
- Ian Kwok, Project Manager at Rip Road
- Project AHEAD staff and interns, including: Hieu Pham, Angela Chan, and Zaina Naeem
- Everyone who participated in the CSLP research survey, interviews, and/or focus group
- Everyone who attended the CSLP final project presentation

Resources

- "Asian Americans in New York City: A Decade of Dynamic Change 2000-2010." Asian American Federation. April 2012.
- "Parent-Child Communication about Sexuality for Asian/Pacific Islander, Latino, and Native American Families." Advocates For Youth. 2002.
- "The Rise of Asian Americans." Pew Research Center. 19 June 2012.
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