Supporting Underrepresented Students Network

Reading Discussion:
Exploring Asian American Communities
October 26, 2010

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About the Reading:

The Model Minority (MM)

- Stereotype suggests Asian Americans are more academically, economically, and socially successful than any other racial minority groups.
- Some believe Asian American students are more successful than other racial minority students because of "unique Asian cultural values" that emphasize hard work, strong family values, and/or stronger belief in the American meritocracy (Wu, 2002).

Why the MM Myth Hurts AA

- Denies Asian Americans the Government Attention and Assistance
- Blinds Americans to the Persistence of Discrimination Against Asian Americans
- Reinforces the American Dream and Implicitly Blames Other Minority Groups for Their Problems
- Divides Asian Americans from Other Minority Groups
- Viewed as the New Yellow Peril
Suggested Readings


