

Asian American Leaders Criticize *AsianWeek* for Printing Kenneth Eng's Column 'Why I Hate Blacks'

Note: This statement is based upon the one issued by the Asian American Justice Center. The online version of the Eng article was subsequently removed from the AsianWeek website, but is included in this PDF.

FEB. 23, 2007 – Asian American leaders joined together to criticize *AsianWeek* for printing Kenneth Eng's column "Why I Hate Blacks" in its February 23rd edition. The leaders condemn the piece as irresponsible journalism, blatantly racist, replete with stereotypes, and deeply hurtful to African Americans. They called on *AsianWeek* to take immediate action and issue an unequivocal apology, terminate their relationship with Kenneth Eng, print an editorial refuting the column, review their editorial policy and process, and hold those responsible accountable.

"Eng's article is unacceptable and offensive not only to African Americans, but to all Americans," said Karen K. Narasaki, President and Executive Director of the Asian American Justice Center. "*AsianWeek* has a responsibility to its readers and to the community to take immediate and appropriate action to repair the serious damage it has caused by publishing this piece."

"Most Asian Americans would not be here in America today, but for the civil rights movement led by African Americans that resulted in the change to racist immigration quotas," said Stewart Kwoh, Executive Director of the Asian Pacific American Legal Center of Southern California.

"It's irresponsible for a publication like *AsianWeek* to publish an article that advocates hate and bigotry," said Vincent Pan, Executive Director of Chinese for Affirmative Action.

"The publication of these racist statements is completely irresponsible and damaging to all our communities. Not only should there be a retraction but a serious effort to repair the harm caused," said Gen Fujioka, Program Director of the Asian Law Caucus.

"Asian Americans should recognize the debt we all owe African Americans who blazed the civil rights path we have walked on in our journey to equality," said Dale Minami, President of the Coalition of Asian Pacific Americans.

"Eng's column harkens back to a era of Jim Crow and bigotry that should not be tolerated in our society," said Eric K. Yamamoto, Professor of Law

"Eng's vile racism is a setback to the efforts of people of color working together against discrimination, oppression and injustice," said Keith Kamisugi, Associate Director for Communications at the Equal Justice Society. "His words alone are disgusting; that it was printed in a prominent English-language Asian Pacific American newspaper is shameful."

"Asian Americans do not share Eng's extremely racist views. Asian Americans need to take this opportunity to reach out and build a constructive dialog," said Yvonne Lee, Former Member of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights.

"It is critical that our Asian American community stands up and tells America -- and particularly our African American brothers and sisters -- that our community has no tolerance for the racism expressed by Mr. Eng," said David Chiu, President of the Asian American Bar Association of the Greater Bay Area.

An online petition is available at: <http://www.capaweb.org/awpetition>. The leaders call on all individuals to contact *AsianWeek* on this matter at (415) 397-0220 or at asianweek@asianweek.com.



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Why I Hate Blacks

Kenneth Eng, Feb 23, 2007

Here is a list of reasons why we should discriminate against blacks, starting from the most obvious down to the least obvious:

- Blacks hate us. Every Asian who has ever come across them knows that they take almost every opportunity to hurl racist remarks at us.

In my experience, I would say about 90 percent of blacks I have met, regardless of age or environment, poke fun at the very sight of an Asian. Furthermore, their activity in the media proves their hatred: *Rush Hour*, *Exit Wounds*, *Hot 97*, etc.

- Contrary to media depictions, I would argue that blacks are weak-willed. They are the only race that has been enslaved for 300 years. It's unbelievable that it took them that long to fight back.

On the other hand, we slaughtered the Russians in the Japanese-Russo War.

- Blacks are easy to coerce. This is proven by the fact that so many of them, including Reverend Al Sharpton, tend to be Christians.

Yet, at the same time, they spend much of their time whining about how much they hate "the whites that oppressed them."

Correct me if I'm wrong, but wasn't Christianity the religion that the whites forced upon them?

- Blacks don't get it. I know it's a blunt and crass comment, but it's true. When I was in high school, I recall a class debate in which one half of the class was chosen to defend black slavery and the other half was chosen to defend liberation.

Disturbingly, blacks on the prior side viciously defended slavery as well as Christianity. They say if you don't study history, you're condemned to repeat it.

In high school, I only remember one black student ever attending any of my honors and AP courses. And that student was caught cheating.

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It is rather troubling that they are treated as heroes, but then again, whites will do anything to defend them.

Kenneth Eng is the author of [Dragons: Lexicon](#), [Triumvirate](#) and [Reincarnation](#).

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Ava Lee	Feb 23, 2007 14:14:11
<p>I'm extremely shocked that Mr. Kenneth Eng's "Why I hate Blacks" article went to print in Asianweek. I've read other articles written in the past by Kenneth Eng and found his commentary section irrelevant to the goal and purpose of Asianweek. Everyone is entitled to their own personal opinion. But it reflects poorly on Asianweek to have allowed this article to be printed on a personal opinion that was based on ignorance and blindsided generalization of another cultural group. We as the Asian Pacific Islander community would not tolerate that same generalization to be cast upon us, so why should we allow that same type of disregard within our community? I hope to see an apology from Mr. Kenneth Eng.</p>	

Natahu	Feb 23, 2007 13:59:31
<p>Is this a publicity stunt? If not, well I'm not mad at you for "Why You Hate Blacks", Black people have been hated for equal or less triteness. What I have a problem with is why you feel the need to get others on your ridiculous band wagon and then list some very weak reasons supported by nothing but your cry-baby feelings. I don't think it's going to work. Really I find this article a waste of webspace. But nonetheless, thanks for the entertainment, Clown.</p>	

Patrick A.	Feb 23, 2007 13:58:06
<p>This article shows there are some "normal" people out there who are ready as people living together as member of the humankind not to act and think like this man who is at the level of a dog hating another one. So Mister God ... Dog excuse me, are you at the level of a dog or are you a member of the humankind ? to say at your level I would tell you stop eating dogs and you may have a chance not be one. But you have a chance to have books around you the chance to learn from other people. Take your chance and hope you children will not be as stupid as you are. Nevertheless I think Asian Week has in own responsibility and has to prove they did not saw this article before printing it and I hope they will attack you. I personally will show your article to the African people who received your Chinese President last week because of his so big oil's need out there and then we will see.</p>	

Shoshi	Feb 23, 2007 12:51:41
<p>Dear God:</p> <p>From my understanding Asians do not believe in a God. Why do you call yourself God? Has the White man manipulated YOU into believing in Christianity? Do you know that there are 40 - 65 million Chinese Christians? How about Gay Asians that believe in God? Gasp! Check out www.gayasianchristians.org.</p> <p>You wonder why Blacks let the American government enslave them for 300 years:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Asian Communist Party wants to oppress Asians and kill your people. Have you heard of the Tiananmen Square protests where the government tried to run over the Asian students with tanks? Asian-on-Asian Crime!!• The Chinese government says that China's population is growing too fast and that couples can only have one child. Sounds like Chinese people are not FREE to have as many children as they want. I have seen many photos of China and there is a lot of open land where developers can build many houses. Are Asians stupid for letting the government restrict their freedom? <p>Why do Asians take pictures of everything? Asians are not smart enough to come up with their own ideas? America builds a car; Asians steal that idea. Americans build skyscrapers; Asians steal that idea. America builds Las Vegas; Asians steal that idea (Macau).</p> <p>Why do Asians hate their name? Asians will name their girls a White first name hoping that she will marry a white man to have an American last name.</p>	

Why do Asians try to rap and be Black? Is that love or what?

Why do Asians get eye surgery to make them look less Asian?

Concentrate on fixing your people's hate for themselves, lack of creativity, oppression, self image and don't tell them to hate another race. Boy, your self-esteem is low.

L. Marie Feb 23, 2007 12:21:32

Mr. Eng does not have to like African Americans, and he may feel that the help that African Americans get from the American Government is more than Asians (American or otherwise) receive. But to hate based on that is a ridiculous waste. If he hates that some people benefit more from government assistance than others, fine. Do what you have to do to balance your scale. That's what others have done. The balance of that scale still leaves much to be desired but at least an actual attempt was made to correct a perceived wrong.

Malaina Hatcher Feb 23, 2007 12:18:49

Mr. Kenneth Eng,
It is unfortunate that you have been faced with trying experiences among the black race that led you to speak of such malevolence. My race, the black race, is a dominant, powerful and the most imitated race of mankind. So, it's okay for you to try and make a few dollars off your opinion, but the reality is this, you are from your race and I am from mine. There is nothing you can do or say or to change that. If you think you power is greater than my GOD then go ahead poof, make us disappear. Okay, I'm still here!!! I didn't think so. History is power and knowledge, without it your your opinion is just that. Unless you were born in B.C. then Mr. Eng you are the man with the powers to be. The black race is apart of the history, therefore, you will always speak about my race. Until then, move to another place where you could be without my race, oh by the way, I don't think there is another place!!!

Metal Chris Feb 23, 2007 12:02:24

Wow, and I thought Asians were supposed to be smart. I guess this article just goes to show that stereotypes are not true.

Fikisha A. Feb 23, 2007 12:00:57

my previous statement had a few typos. I appologize I was typing too fast :o)

I am actually quite disturbed to read such ignorance being published in Asian Week. For a publication to support such hateful views is simply wrong. I come from an extremely diverse background of Black, White, Spanish & and Asian to name a few ethnicities and have NEVER felt more insulted by an article in my life. I am well educated and have never resorted to cheating to obtain anything EVER. Stereotypes such as these MUST STOP. There are hundreds of thousands of people from African decent INCLUDING Asians...as an educated woman I urge you to READ and RESEARCH your history. Because with every slandering statement you make about another race you knock yourself down a few notches as well! Simply put Education allows one not to hate but rather appreciate the diversity that our history has allowed us to have today.

Butt-Rash Feb 23, 2007 12:00:02

Wow, and I thought Asians were smart. Guess this article just proves that stereotypes are not true.

Keith Kamisugi Feb 23, 2007 11:56:13

AsianWeek needs to explain how this racist article ended up in print. The paper should immediately issue a retraction and apology -- and publish this author never again.

Butt-Rash Feb 23, 2007 11:45:09

Wow, and I thought Asians were smart. Guess this article just proves that stereotypes are not true.

B. Frazier	Feb 23, 2007 11:19:00
<p>I'm torn as how to respond, not because my opinion is skewed, but more so that I don't want to provide the cheap, controversial attention the author obviously seeks. The content of this drivel begs the question: WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU? In none of these instances has a specific instance been noted that would turn one person against an entire race; one only needs to look at Tim Hardaway to see the immediate impact of ignorance, as well as what the word "Hate" entails. If this shallow rationale is the basis of one's hatred, I know several people who would be more than happy to "take it to the grass" and give the author a REAL reason to hate; but I digress. . .</p>	

Jana McKenna	Feb 23, 2007 11:08:10
<p>I have friends of all races.... not to mention i have some that are Asians. We get along extremely well. Don't let your ignorance deny you of actually getting to know African american people. As a matter of fact, the last guy i had an intimate relationship was ASIAN!!!!</p>	

Fikisha A.	Feb 23, 2007 10:59:52
<p>I am actually quite disturbed to read such ignorance being published in Asian Week. For a publication to support such hateful views is simply wrong. I come from an extremely diverse background of Black, White, Spanish & and Asian to name a few ethnicities and have NEVER felt more insulted by an article in my life. I am a well educated and have never resorted to cheating to obtain anything EVER. Stereotypes such as these MUST STOP. There are hundreds of thousands of people from African decent INCLUDING Asians...as an educated woman I urge you to READ and RESEARCH your history. Because with every slandering statement you make about another race you knock yourself down a few notches as well! Simply put Education allow one not to hate but rather appreciate the diversity that our history has allowed us to have today.</p>	

erickson foster	Feb 23, 2007 10:44:01
<p>This only puts us all further away from getting along. What a short sighted way of trying to encapsulate an entire race of people. It seems to me that this person's hatred is automatically enveloping any and every interaction with African Americans. Would it be safe to say that all African American hate Asians? Not at all. My best friend in the whole wide world is Malaysian. It's unfortunate that this thought process still exists these days from ANY ethnicity. Not all black people are bad, nor are all black people good, but that goes for any ethnicity on the planet. NO ONE deserves to be singled out with such a ridiculous accusation...</p>	

Tom Foster	Feb 23, 2007 09:45:10
<p>Why exactly does Asian Week allow for the publication of such racist trash?</p>	

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