



# **Anti-Asian racism**

**Educational resources  
March 2025**



**Canadian Centre for Diversity and Inclusion  
Centre canadien pour la diversité et l'inclusion**

[ccdi.ca](https://ccdi.ca)

## Educational resources on anti-Asian racism

Anti-Asian racism is deeply rooted in history and continues to impact communities today. From exclusionary laws like [the Chinese Head Tax](#) and the [internment of Japanese Canadians during World War II](#) to the rise in anti-Asian hate crimes during the COVID-19 pandemic, these systemic and interpersonal forms of discrimination highlight the need for awareness and action. The harmful stereotypes and biases that have [historically marginalized Asian communities](#) persist in contemporary society, affecting everything from workplace dynamics to [media representation](#) and public policies. The “perpetual foreigner” stereotype, the “model minority” myth, and other forms of racial profiling continue to contribute to the erasure of Asian voices and the justification of discriminatory practices. These stereotypes not only divide communities but also obscure the diverse and nuanced experiences of Asian individuals across different ethnicities, socio-economic backgrounds, and migration histories.

### Understanding anti-Asian racism and Asian identities

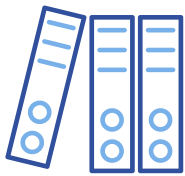
Anti-Asian racism refers to the discrimination, violence, and systemic exclusion experienced by individuals of Asian descent. However, understanding anti-Asian racism requires recognizing the vast diversity within Asian identities, which include East Asia, Southeast Asia, South Asia, Central Asia, and the Middle East, each with its own histories, cultures, and diasporic experiences. These experiences of anti-Asian racism are not monolithic – discrimination can take many forms depending on factors such as ethnicity, skin, color, immigration status, and religion.

To visualize the expansive nature of Asian identities, this [map](#) provides a geographic representation of Asia’s diverse regions and populations. Recognizing this diversity is crucial in understanding how different Asian communities experience racism uniquely and how anti-Asian racism intersects with other systems of oppression. Understanding anti-Asian racism requires an intersectional approach – one that recognizes how racism intersects with gender, class, immigration status, colonialism, language, accent, and/or religion. Anti-Asian racism is not just a standalone issue but is deeply intertwined with broader systems of oppression that impact multiple marginalized communities, and recognizing these intersections is essential for fostering meaningful solidarity and dismantling structural inequalities.

This guide aims to provide historical and contextual context, foster critical thinking, and encourage meaningful conversations about anti-Asian racism.

Learn more about anti-Asian racism:

- [Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada’s \(APF Canada\)](#) resources for combatting anti-Asian Racism and learning about Canadians of Asian descent.
- The [RepresentASIAN Project](#) is a Canadian platform dedicated to celebrating, advocating and elevating Asian representation and voices in media and beyond.



## ARTICLES, REPORTS, AND TOOLS

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### Bilingual only

- [Addressing anti-Asian racism](#) / [Lutter contre le racisme envers les personnes asiatiques](#), Government of Canada
- [Anti-Asian Racism in Canada](#) / [Racisme anti-asiatique au Canada](#), The Canadian Encyclopedia
- [Anti-Asian Racism in Canada: Where Do We Go from Here?](#) / [Le racisme anti-asiatique au Canada : Qu'allons-nous faire, maintenant?](#), Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada
- [A Brief Chronology of Chinese Canadian History: From Segregation to Integration](#) / [Un résumé chronologique de l'histoire des Chinois canadiens](#), Simon Fraser University
- [Combating anti-Asian Racism in the Workplace](#) / [Combattre le racisme anti-asiatique sur le lieu de travail](#), Canadian Museum for Human Rights
- [Significant Events in the history of Asian Communities in Canada](#) / [Événements marquants de l'histoire des communautés asiatiques au Canada](#), Government of Canada

### English only

- [Bringing Caste into the DEI Conversation](#), Harvard Business Review
- [Faces of Racism](#), Options Community Services
- [A Social History of South Asians in British Columbia](#), South Asian Canadian Legacy Project
- [Anti-Asian Racism is Surging in Canada. Here's How to Help Fight It](#), Complex
- [Defining 'Asian American' is complicated. Who gets left behind?](#) Washington Post
- [HISTORY COLUMN: Reflecting on the 32<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of Canada's Apology to Japanese Canadians](#), Tofino-Ucluelet Westerly News

### French only

- [Des Asiatiques nous disent pourquoi ils en ont assez du racisme #StopAsianHate | Témoignage | Rad](#)

### Organizations and campaigns fighting against anti-Asian hate

### Bilingual

- [Canadian Race Relations Foundation](#) / [Fondation canadienne des relations raciales](#)

## English only

- [ACT2EndRacism](#)
- [National Coalition of Canadians Against Anti-Asian Racism](#)
- [Chinese Canadian National Council](#)
- [Faces of Racism](#)
- [Growth and Solidarity – A Mental Health Hub for Asian Communities in Canada](#)
- [#Elimin8Hate](#)
- [Project 1907](#)



## BOOKS

*CCDI encourages you to check with your local bookstore or municipal library for availability of these publications.*

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## Bilingual

- em (Kim Thúy)
- How to Pronounce Knife / Le K ne se prononce pas (Souvankham Thammavongsa)
- Interior Chinatown / Chinatown, intérieur (Charles Yu)
- Jun (Keum Suk Gendry-Kim)
- They Called Us Enemy / Nous étions les ennemis (George Takei, Justin Eisinger, Steven Scott, artist Harmony Becker)
- Two Trees Make a Forest / Deux arbres, une forêt (Jessica J. Lee)

## English only

- Crying in H Mart (Michelle Zauner)
- Midnight's Children (Salman Rushdie)
- On Earth, We Are Briefly Gorgeous (Ocean Vuong)
- The Joy Luck Club (Amy Tan)
- The Kitchen God's Wife (Amy Tan)
- All You Can Ever Know (Nicole Chung)
- Chop Suey Nation (Ann Hui)
- The Color of Success: Asian Americans and the Origins of the Model Minority (Ellen D. Wu)
- The Racial Healing Handbook: Practical Activities to Help You Challenge Privilege, Confront Systemic Racism, and Engage in Collective Healing (Anneliese A. Singh)
- We Gon' Be Alright: Notes on Race and Resegregation (Jeff Chang)
- Pachinko (Min Jin Lee)
- The Making of Asian America: A History (Erika Lee)

## French only

- Khiêm (Phan Morissette, Yasmine Trinh)

- Une minorité modèle ? Chinois de France et racisme anti-Asiatiques (Ya-Han Chuang)



## FILM AND TELEVISION

*Please note: There may be a cost related to watching this content and CCDI is not responsible for those costs.*

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### Bilingual

- [Minari](#) / [Minari](#) (FR) (Amazon Prime Video)
- [Turning Red](#) / [Alerte Rouge](#) (Disney Plus)
- [Everything Everywhere All At Once](#) / [Tout, partout, tout à la fois](#) (Amazon Prime Video)

### English only

- [Kim's Convenience](#) (CBC Gems, [Netflix](#))
- [Yellowface: Asian Whitewashing and Racism in Hollywood](#) (TUBI)
- [The Farewell](#) (Netflix)
- [Rising Against Asian Hate: One Day in March](#) (PBS)
- [The Joy Luck Club](#) (Disney Plus)
- [The Problem with APU](#) (IMDB)
- [The Fallout of a Callout](#) (NPR)



TED TALKS

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### Bilingual

- [I am not your Asian stereotype](#) / [Je ne suis pas votre Asiatique typique](#) (Canwen Xu; 2016)

### English only

- [Asian Doesn't Start with A+](#) (Olivia Lai; 2017)
- [Asian Misrepresentation in Media](#) (Peter Westacott, 2018)
- [Abolishing Racism from the Inside Out](#) (Martina Chen, 2017)
- [UN-Normalize Racism Towards Asian Americans](#) (Sophia Nguyen, 2021)



## PODCASTS

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### English only

- [Anti-Hate Conversation Series](#)
- [Modern Minorities](#)
- [Dear Asian Americans](#)
- [The Nameless Collective](#)

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