

Huang Zhengyu, President of Committee of 100: A Three-Pronged Approach to Truly Combat Hate Crimes

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More than one year since the Covid-19 pandemic, hate crimes and atrocities committed against Asians have been increasing, and both the federal and local governments need to do more to fight against discrimination and violence, said Zhengyu Huang, President of the Committee of 100. He mentioned, first, that there is a need to accurately track these anti-Asian incidents, whether they are verbal abuses or other form of discriminations; second, there is a need to provide victims with adequate resources such as language assistance and community mobilization to speed up the reporting process, rather than sending victims back and forth to the police station multiple times to file a report; and third, the Department of Justice should provide dedicated resources to track and monitor anti-Asian hate incidents and trends. “With these resources, focus and leadership, and working with community organizations, we can truly combat this discrimination.”

An early study published by the Committee of 100, “From Foundations to Frontiers: Chinese American Contributions to the Fabric of America”, documents the contributions of Chinese Americans in the United States over the past 175 years.

“Asians must have a voice and tell our stories,” said Zhengyu Huang, that Asian Americans have made many contributions over the past 200 years and America’s success vastly depends on its diversity. “Whenever discrimination occurs, we must speak out.”

He pointed out that one of the aims of the Committee of 100 is to ensure that more than 5 million Chinese Americans and Asian Americans to be fully integrated into American life. In dealing with anti-Asian hate, the Committee of 100 also recognizes that this is not just a problem for Asians Americans or Chinese Americans, but a problem for the United States of America. That's why an early town hall meeting organized by the Committee of 100 and broadcast on ABC News, invited African Americans, Hispanics, Jewish, and Asian communities, and joined with other organizations to develop actionable plans to explicitly ask the federal and local governments to respond and to combat the hate incidents; and to support bills that would help increase the state and local police capacity to track hate crimes and help victims. During that time, the COVID-19 Hate Crimes Act was recently signed into law by President Biden.

He claimed that the Committee of 100 will continue to seek solutions and has now launched the AAPI tracker to track how various Asian Pacific organizations respond to anti-Asian incidents at the local level, in order to work together to curb hate and violence.

Born in Shanghai, Zhengyu Huang immigrated to the United States with his parents when he was ten years old. Graduated from Stanford University and earned his MBA degree from Harvard University, Huang has extensively professional experienced in technology,

business, education and public service and worked for Intel for many years. He became a White House fellow in Obama Administration and served as a special assistant to the Administrator at the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). Huang also founded two companies specializing in financial technology services and multinational investments.