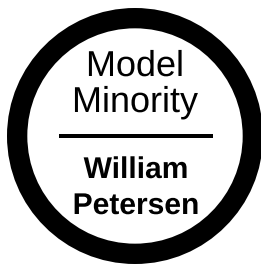


The Model Minority Myth

How a 'positive' stereotype becomes negative



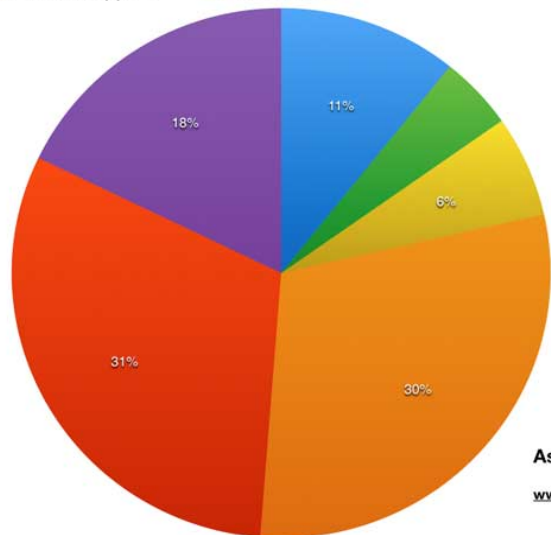
Core values of Asian Americans - family and work ethic - leads to success in work and education

Resultant Stereotypes



A More Complex Picture in the US Job Market

Senior Management Legal/Financial Medical Other
Sales & Support Blue Collar



Almost half of Asian Americans work in sales or in blue collar industries

Asian Nation website
www.asian-nation.org

Myth Ignores Structural Inequalities



A large proportion of Asian Americans work in self-owned small businesses due to structural inequalities in the market place



Lack of support in achieving places in Ivy League universities

Perception of lack of representation and opportunities for Asian American actors in Hollywood



Negative Impact on Asian American community



Individuals may feel they are directed into conforming to particular lifestyle choices and employment- rather than following individual dreams

Dangers of the Myth



The Model Minority Myth risks creating division between communities

The idea that Asian Americans are a model minority suggests other ethnic minorities have been less successful and if not, why not?

This ignores the different histories of each group, as well as the fact that all groups have suffered inequality, even if they are labelled 'model'

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Research Credits

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