

ANTI-ASIAN RACISM

Myths, Stereotypes, and Catholic Social Teaching



Joseph Cheah

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This is the most comprehensive analysis to date of anti-Asian racism, told from a Catholic perspective. Cheah includes relevant Catholic Social Teaching documents, comparing and contrasting the Asian experience with anti-Black racism. The heart of the book is structured around three major stereotypes: the perpetual foreigner, the Yellow Peril, and the myth of the model minority. These are examined from the perspectives of history, Asian American Studies, Asian American marginal theology, biblical studies, and CST.

"Joseph Cheah's *Anti-Asian Racism* could not have come at a more opportune time. Trump's racist rhetoric about Covid-19 as the 'Chinese Virus' has infected the American body politic with virulent and violent anti-Asian racism. Presenting Catholic Social Teaching in a new light, Cheah prescribes the vaccine that can prevent and heal the division and hatred that is tearing apart the American social fabric. His book is a must-read for all Americans."

—**Peter C. Phan, Georgetown University**

"What a much-needed book in this time of yet another rise in anti-Asian sentiment! Cheah is the perfect theologian-author to write it, having been in the forefront of the struggle against anti-Asian racism for many years. His succinct yet profoundly insightful theological contextualizing is a tour de force."

—**Dr. Julius-Kei Kato, SSL, associate professor of religious studies, King's University College at Western University**

"Cheah challenges the politics of exclusion of AAPI in racial discourses in churches, academia, and elsewhere by examining how Black and Asian Americans are racially positioned in American society and how their histories of oppression and liberation are interconnected. Through his discussion of toxic stereotypes he offers ways of building bridges, forming communities, and cultivating an antiracist society. It is essential reading for students, teachers, and those engaging in pastoral ministries."

—**Grace Ji-Sun Kim, professor of theology, Earlham School of Religion; author, *Spirit Life***

"This is clear analysis of Asian Americans' complicated and subordinated racial position in the US, and more importantly, an invaluable theological application of how Catholic Social Teaching relates to the racism that Asians and Pacific Islanders face, and how readers can meet Jesus amidst our communities."

—**Russell Jeung, professor, Asian American Studies, San Francisco State University; cofounder, Stop AAPI Hate**