Transformation, expanding their services to a wide audience in the USA and Worldwide.

Dr. Ngan T. Nguyen

Founder & President

About Ascend:

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Breaking Intersectionality by Activating the Word Inclusion

Introduction

Dr. Ngan T. Nguyen is a multicultural speaking coach. She holds a PhD in Human Development and Applied Behavior Analysis from the University of Southern California. Dr. Ngan is a licensed psychologist and a certified behavior analyst with over 20 years of experience in the field of multicultural and diversity training. She has also been a member of the advisory board of Prospanica Inc., the leading Asian-American and Pacific Islander professional organization in the United States.

As someone who has lived, worked, and learned in diverse cultural settings, Dr. Ngan understands the challenges that arise when people from different backgrounds come together. She has conducted numerous workshops and seminars on cultural competence and diversity, and her insights have been well-received by both individuals and organizations. Her expertise in multicultural issues has enabled her to help organizations navigate the complexities of cultural diversity and create a more inclusive environment.

About Minué Yoshida

Minué Yoshida is the Director of the Center for Social Justice at Prospanica. She holds a master's degree in Social Work from New York University and has worked as a social worker and a program developer for various non-profit organizations. Minué's research provides the basis for the development of their mission to promote greater racial equity and harmony.

About the Prospanica Center for Social Justice:

The Prospanica Center for Social Justice (PCSJ) is a community of diverse individuals who are committed to promoting greater racial equity and harmony. The PCSJ is dedicated to challenging racial injustice and promoting mutual respect among all groups. The center's mission is to provide a platform for dialogue and action on issues related to race, diversity, and inclusion. The center offers workshops, seminars, and community events that aim to educate individuals about the complexities of race and culture.

The PCSJ's mission is centered around the belief that a multicultural society requires active participation from all members. By engaging individuals from different cultural backgrounds, the center aims to promote mutual understanding and respect. The PCSJ's programs are designed to educate and empower individuals to become advocates for social justice.

The PCSJ's mission is to provide a space for individuals to come together and discuss issues related to race, diversity, and inclusion. By promoting a multicultural society, the center aims to create a more inclusive and equitable society for all.

Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, and as people of color on the other, and the complex set of stereotypes has rendered them invisible in the public eye. Wars, poverty, and a lack of action from authorities is more evident. The most recent case I watched was a woman attacked outside of an Asian Massage parlor. The harm was done by a man who said he was an Asian. We've all heard in the news and social media that our Asian communities across the country continue to be targeted by hate crimes.

The labels we typically use—background, age, gender, religion, interests, and preferences—are helpful when we understand them. This is a small sample of the intersectionality some of us live daily. Has anyone ever given you “the look,” laughed at your accent, or criticized you for the way you mix your chopsticks, if you know karate, or to lay low and wait for your turn—also known as “The Asian Ricepaper Myth.”

The “Model Minority Myth” is a term used to describe the perception that Asian Americans are more successful than other racial minorities. This myth is especially problematic and dangerous because the anti-Asian violence and hate crimes that are often directed at Asian American communities are often blamed on the success of Asian Americans.

The argument is that racial bias does not exist because if it did, how then can “Asian Americans” be considered successful? The stereotype perpetuated by this myth is that Asian Americans are successful because of a lack of strong family values, hard work, and appreciation for their cultural heritage. This assertion is misleading and oversimplifies the complexities of Asian American identity.

The controversy arises when the narrative of the “Model Minority Myth” is used as a political wedge between Asians and other racial minority groups. This narrative is often used to promote a particular political agenda and is often used to divide communities.

The Ascend Impact Fund, which will launch in April 2021, will focus on expanding our awareness-raising, leadership and development programs that are accorded to other racial minorities. The Ascend Impact Fund will work towards a culture of tolerance, acknowledge that animosity may arise among minority groups advocating for their needs, and it is critical to help institutions move away from the model minority mindset and embrace the individuality of Asian Americans to other racial minorities. For Asian Americans, the stereotypes generated from this myth have been harmful on many levels.

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