

HISTORICAL TIMELINE

KEY SCAPEGOATING EVENTS OF ASIAN AMERICAN COMMUNITIES

■ PUBLIC HEALTH
SCAPEGOATING

■ NATIONAL SECURITY
SCAPEGOATING

■ ECONOMIC
SCAPEGOATING



1882 President Chester A. Arthur signs the Chinese Exclusion Act, which bans Chinese immigration to the United States in most cases for 10 years. The law results from scapegoating of Chinese laborers, who are painted as responsible for declining wages. In 1892, the Geary Act extends the ban indefinitely, until it was repealed in 1943.⁷⁴

1910s Officials use the threat of hookworm to prevent Chinese and Indian immigrants from entering the U.S. at Angel Island.⁶⁹



1981 Fearful of competition from Vietnamese fishermen, white fishermen invite the Ku Klux Klan to destroy Vietnamese American fishing businesses and threaten their lives.⁷⁵

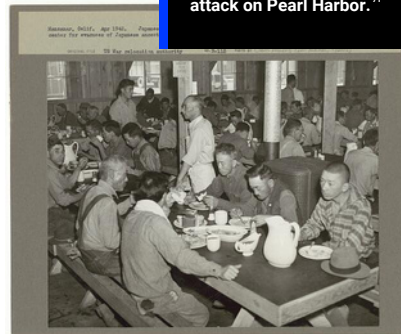
1999-2000 Wen Ho Lee serves 278 days in solitary confinement for "perceived allegiance" to China.⁷²

2003 SARS emerges. Asians and Asian Americans report disproportionate fear, stigmatization, and discrimination compared to the general public.⁷⁰

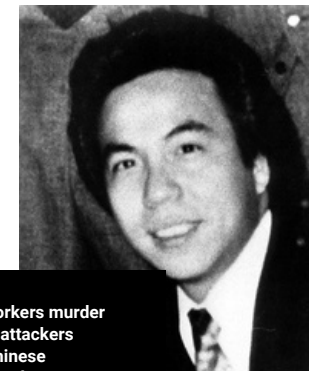


1900 Chuck Gin, a Chinese American, dies of bubonic plague. San Francisco authorities quarantine 25,000 Chinese people and closed non-white owned businesses.⁶⁸

1942 The federal government detained at least 120,000 Japanese Americans after the attack on Pearl Harbor.⁷¹



1982 Two autoworkers murder Vincent Chin. The attackers mistook Chin, a Chinese American, for being Japanese, and blamed Japan for "stealing" American jobs.⁷⁶



2001-2003 Thousands of Muslim, South Asian, Hindu, Middle Eastern, Arab, and Sikh Americans are targeted with false accusations of being terrorists in the months and years following 9/11.⁷³