

(translated article)

Huang Zhengyu, President of Committee of 100: Fighting the Challenge of Discrimination, All Ethnic Groups Need to Hold Hands for Cooperation

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Chinanews, Beijing, May 14 (Jin Xu) – “The Covid-19 pandemic has changed the way everyone previously worked and lived, and the impact on the Asian community is even more self-evident, posing multiple challenges. We need to respond to the violent behaviors and cases with solid actions.” Huang Zhengyu, president of the Committee of 100, interviewed online with Chinanews.

Born in Shanghai, Huang immigrated to the United States with his parents. He graduated from Stanford University and received his MBA from Harvard University. In 2009, he became the first White House scholar from mainland China and served as a special assistant to the Administrator at the U.S. Agency for International Development.

Speaking about the frequent attacks on Asians, Zhengyu Huang said that the racial problems in the United States are long-standing, and many ethnic minorities have experienced the pain of discrimination and prejudice. The Covid-19 pandemic has even pushed the "anti-Asian hate issue" to the forefront, which is not only a plight faced by Asians, but also reveals the persistent problems of American society.

"The crimes against Asians and Chinese Americans are increasing, and many of the attackers are African Americans. Such phenomena show that there are still misunderstandings and frictions between ethnic minority groups." Huang Zhengyu mentioned that the goal to eliminate the gaps and discriminations cannot be achieved overnight, it needs accumulated time; more importantly, it needs to enhance exchanges between ethnic groups and to strengthen racial communication.

He claimed, “the Committee of 100 is also actively calling for a joint effort with various ethnic groups and organizations to explore various practical ways to work together and to create a safer and better living environment united.

Zhengyu Huang believed that the forces in fighting the discrimination virus is not enough for minorities alone, it also requires the participation and support from the U.S. government. “The passage of the COVID-19 Hate Crimes Act” is vitally important in controlling violent crimes and discrimination against Asian Americans during the pandemic.

In May, the United States celebrated “Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month” amid a wave of protests against Asian phobia. Huang Zhengyu proclaimed that the U.S. society needs to recognize that the Chinese Americans have a long history of presence in the United States, and they have made significant contributions to all walks of life for nearly 200 years.

Recently, the Committee of 100 held its first online conference titled “Possibilities: US-China Relations in the New Era.” It explored the possibilities and opportunities for the future development of the Chinese American community in the United States. (The End)