SUNNY SHAO

My research focuses on mass behavior in Asian American politics. As the associate researcher at AAPI Data and Center for Social Innovation I have designed, programmed, and managed both quantitative and qualitative research projects. I am experienced in collaboration with various stakeholders and am familiar with every aspect of research projects.

CONTACT

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🎓 EDUCATION

PhD. Candidate, Political Science

University of California 📍 Riverside, CA

September 2016 | April 2021

· Asian American Ethnic Politics & Social Media Study
· [Dissertation] From Netizen to Citizen: Rethinking Asian American Political Mobilization

M.S., Public Policy

Pepperdine University 📍 Malibu, CA

September 2013 | June 2015

· Focused on economics and local governance

B.A., International Communications

Nottingham University 📍 Ningbo, China

September 2009 | June 2013

· Focused on communication theory and public spheres on social media platforms

RESEARCH SKILLS

Qualitative/quantitative Research

Survey Experiments

Project Management

Data Visualization

Natural Language Processing

Data Mining

R/Qualtrics/Python/Stata

💼 RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Researcher & Center Associate

Center for Social Innovation (UCR) 📍 Riverside, CA

June 2018 | Current

· Effectively communicate compelling data-driven narrative and explain work, process, and decisions to cross-functional stakeholders
· Collaborate with other researchers, staff, project managers, organizations and government agencies to ensure research is coordinated into every aspect of the process
· Manage both qualitative and quantitative research projects using Jira, Slack, and Basecamp

Researcher

AAPI Data 📍 Riverside, CA

March 2017 | Current

· Experienced in both qualitative and quantitative research such as focused group studies, interviews, and survey experiments
· Build and maintain 1000+ of infographics, spatial data visualization, and data dashboard for both print and cloud-based products
· Design, plan and lead 100+ Asian American research projects from start to finish

Summer Fellow

Education Pioneer 📍 Los Angeles, CA

June 2016 | August 2016

· Interviewed key stakeholders using in-person interviews and survey questionnaires to collect key concerns and challenges from teachers, students, principals, and program coordinators
· Presented the final report to the School Board and successfully renewed the annual $500k budget to the programs
· Designed research protocols and design principles for future program evaluations

*Made with the R package **pagedown**.*

Data Analyst Intern

June 2012 | August 2012

SmartAnalyst

📍 Gurgaon, India

· Interviewed thoracic oncologists in Japan and China for pharmaceutical clients, who are on phase II trials of non-small cell lung cancer drugs
· Translated three-way phone meetings between client, SmartAnalyst and Chinese thoracic oncologists
· Crowdsourced a list of thoracic oncologists through medical journals

SURVEY PROJECTS & FOCUS GROUP STUDY

July 2020 | August 2020

Focus Group Study - California Low Propensity Voter Engagement
Center for Social Innovation

· Lead Researcher & Chinese Focus Group Moderator

October 2018 | August 2020

Quantitative Research - Asian American Voter Survey
AAPI Data, APIAVote & AAAJC

· Lead Researcher

April 2019 | July 2020

Mix Method Survey - Inland Empire Non-profit/Civic Engagement
Center for Social Innovation

· Lead Researcher

May 2018

Qualitative Research - Asian Pacific American Heritage Month Visibility Survey
AAPI Data

· Lead Researcher

March 2017 | May 2017

Quantitatie Research - 2016 National Asian American Survey
AAPI Data

· Researcher

DATA TOOLS DEVELOPMENT

July 2019 | current

Geographic Profiles, Racial Data
R, ShinyApps, AWS

March 2018 | current

Community Facts, AAPI Data
R, ShinyApps, AWS

June 2020 | November 2020

AAPI Quick Stats, AAPI Data
R, ShinyApps, AWS

December 2019 | February 2020

Mapping the Geography and Diversity of AAPI
R & ArcGIS

June 2017 | September 2017

QuickStats Data Dashboard
HTML

RESEARCH REPORTS

August 2020

Reaching Low-Propensity Voters in California's November 2020 Elections: Recommendations from focus group research and community partner engagement
California Common Cause & Center for Social Innovation

July 2020

APIA Vote: state Factsheets
APIA Vote & AAPI Data

April 2020

State of Nonprofit in the Inland Empire
Center for Social Innovation

December 2019

State of Civic Engagement in the Inland Empire
Center for Social Innovation

November 2019

Untapped Power: The Strength of Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Working People
APALA & AAPI Data

October 2019

State of Women in the Inland Empire
Center for Social Innovation

November 2018

State of Work in the Inland Empire
Center for Social Innovation

October 2018

Asian American Voter Survey Report
APALA, AAJC & AAPI Data

August 2018

Washing State Factsheet
Washington Conmission on Asian American Affairs

April 2018

State of Immigrant in the Inland Empire
Center for Social Innovation

BLOGPOST WRITTING

November 2020

Where Can AAPI Voters Have the Most Impact in November 2020?
Authored with Mai Do

November 2019

Understanding the Struggles of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders
Authored with Dr. Janelle Wong & Dr. Karthick Ramakrishnan

November 2018

The 116th Congress Will Have The Most AAPIs. Ever
Authored with Dr. Sono Shah

October 2018

Here's what you need to know about AAPIs running for Congress in 2018
Authored with Dr. Sono Shah

September 2018

Record Gains in AAPI Voting Likely to Continue Through 2020
Authored with Dr. Sono Shah & Dr. Karthick Ramakrishnan

May 2018

There are Dozens of AAPIs Running for Congress This Year
Authored with Alton Wong

August 2017

Asian Ethnicity Data Helps Students, Saves Lives
English to Chinese translation

TEACHING & WORKSHOP EXPERIENCE

August 2020 | current

ArcGIS Lab
Center for Social Innovation

📍 Riverside, CA

Analyzing ACS data with tidyverse and tidycensus R packages
Center for Social Innovation
March 2020 | July 2020   📍 Riverside, CA

Data Analysis,Visualization and Social Entrepreneurship
SEED Lab
July 2018 | February 2020   📍 Riverside, CA

Infographic Design with Adobe illustrator
AAPI Data
May 2019   📍 Riverside, CA

Data Narrative Action (DNA): Data Visualization & Cesus Factfinder Tools
Social Innovation Institute
July 2018   📍 Riverside, CA

Applied Econometrics & Microeconomics
School of Public Policy, Pepperdine University
September 2014 | June 2015   📍 Malibu, CA

👥 SELECTED PRESENTATIONS & INVITED TALKS

Census Outreach and the Continuum of Civic Engagement
Politics of Race, Immigration, and Ethnicity Consortium
December 2019   📍 Riverside, CA

Perceived Discrimination and Political Socialization of New Americans
Western Political Science Association
June 2018   📍 San Francisco, CA

Perceived Discrimination and Political Socialization of New Americans
Midwestern Political Science Association
April 2018   📍 Chicago, IL

How Perception of living experiences shape political enagement of Immigrants?
Politics of Race, Immigration, and Ethnicity Consortium
March 2017   📍 Irvine, CA

2020 Census and Beyond: New Tool for AAPI Census Efforts
Asian Americans/Pacific Islanders in Philanthropy
July 2020   📍 Virtual

2018 and Beyond: Data, Narrative, and Action
Advancing Justice Conference
March 2019   📍 Atlanta, GA

Resources for Engaging in the Debate Over Data Disaggregation
Association of Asian American Studies
June 2018   📍 San Francisco, CA

Key Patterns and Trends Among Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders: Chinese American Demographics & Political Engagement
National Conference of State Legislators
May 2018   📍 Los Angeles, CA

Should Federal Government Mandate Vaccination for Children
RAND LA Policy Symposium
January 2015   📍 Santa Monica, CA

📰 SELECTED PRESS

The challenge of combating fake news in Asian American communities
Vox
November 2020

Chinese American Trump fans raise election recount funds on WeChat: New fundraising arm preps for comeback, quietly steers some donations to debts
Nikkei Asia
November 2020

Who are the Chinese Americans voting for Trump
The Spectator UK
October 2020

October 2020	**Would Prop. 16's affirmative action ensure equality in California** Los Angeles Time
June 2020	**US Election Special III: Election results update, Chinese Americans' voters in NYC** RTHK 31 Cable Network
February 2019	**Digital, Political, Nomads: Meet the Chinese Americans For Trump** OZY

🎗 GRANTS AND AWARDS

March 2017 | current	**Coulter Foundation GSA Grant**	
May 2015 | current	**Pi Alpha Alpha Honor Society**	📍 Malibu, CA
February 2020	**2020 Rstudio conference Diversity Scholarship**	📍 San Francisco, CA
September 2016 | June 2017	**UCR Dean's Distinguished Fellowship**	📍 Riverside, CA
September 2013 | June 2015	**Pepperdine Graduate School Scholarship Award**	📍 Malibu, CA
June 2014 | September 2014	**Pepperdine Dean's Distinguished Fellowship**	📍 Malibu, CA