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Racism Towards Asian-American Community During Covid-19

In 2021, people has witnessed numerous significant events that changed the world, from political clashes between Former President Donald Trump and his rival, Joe Biden; to the outbreak of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. However, among those events, presumably, the most hazardous that left fatal consequences to all nations on most aspects, is the pandemic Covid-19. Due to Covid-19, an unimaginable scenario had taken place: patients mourning for care beds in hospitals, lack of medical treatments, insufficient public health services opened due to an overwhelming of Coronavirus cases; and lastly, the collapse of economy that led to an enormous increase in the rate of unemployment and homelessness. Not only does our regular lives change by Covid-19, but also our beliefs in society had been changed. There are various opinions about the virus; demonstration had covered the public more than ever before. “My Body, My Choice”, or “Say No to Vaccination” are some profound examples that best reflected how people had different view on the virus. However, above all, there existed a strong wave of racism towards Asian-American community, which blamed them for the cause of Covid-19, is being neglected by the majority. From March to May 2020 alone, over 800 Covid-19 related hate incidents were reported from 34 counties in the state of California, United States, according to BBC News, and overall more than 1,800 reports of pandemic-fueled harassment or violence across U.S, a research done by the Asian Pacific Policy and Planning Council. In this critical research paper, I’ll provide my analysis on the racism happened during the pandemic, by first reflecting on Asian-Americans’ experience who were suffering from severe harassment, then discuss what could be the main reasons that led to hatred behaviors of aggressors, what could be the consequences if the Asian-American community did not gain back the justice, and finally, encourage people to have an empathic view on others to defeat racism in this vulnerable time.