

March 2021  
Issue #1

# solucky

*Racism Against  
the AAPI Community*

Read to become aware  
& see how you can help

*Spring Fashion*

Check out our  
interview with  
Francesca Delacruz

*A Brown Girl's  
Guide*

All about our struggles  
as a brown girl  
growing up



Captured by Sanjana Dadi

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A photograph of a woman with long dark hair, seen from behind, sitting on a patterned blanket on a grassy lawn. She is wearing a brown t-shirt and blue jeans. In front of her is a large, spreading weeping willow tree with drooping branches. The background shows a residential area with houses, a truck, and a sidewalk.

# overview

# Brand Overview

by Sanjana Solanki



Instagram: @hayeony

Over the month of March, *solucky* has accomplished so much. This month has impacted the brand in new ways that have inspired growth & change within the brand. The course of March included a collaboration, new additions to the team, & lastly as you can see: an online magazine.

Our collaboration of the month was with the amazing & environmentally aware Hayeon Yun. Hayeon runs a Depop shop dedicated to selling thrifted t-shirts with unique patchwork

designs—which was also bought from small businesses owners on Etsy. Her goal as a shop owner is to provide an ethical shopping option for customers as well support small business owners *solucky x hayeon*; curated & sold an inventory of thrifted t-shirts & donated 10% of each purchase directly to the Clean Air Task Incorporation, which is working to reduce air pollution emissions from fossil fuels. More information about Hayeon Yun & her spectacular small business can be found in the *past collabs* subsection of the *collab* section on our website!

The brand was also able to recruit a variety of talented individuals onto our team. Contributors are a huge part of what keeps *solucky* running as they dedicate their time & energy towards pushing our brand to



Instagram: @hayeony

to its highest potential. Due to the creation of our magazine, we brought on ten new contributors covering areas like writing, social media, & more. More information about our current contributor team members can be found in the *contributors* subsection of the *about* section on our website!

Last but certainly not least, we were able to bring you the creation of our magazine. Our previous content & collaborations have served as a culmination to the decision of releasing an online magazine. This Bay-Area based publication is intended to keep our audience up to date on what we do as a brand each month, give individuals a platform to broadcast their passions, & bring our community together. Our next section will delve a little more into our creation process & discuss our theme.





Captured by Sanjana Dadi

# Magazine Overview

## written by Sanjana Solanki

An online magazine has been on our brand's bucket list for a while. This month, we are incredibly excited to bring you a collection of unique pieces curated by the *solucky* team. This magazine features content on the topics of fashion, mental health, south asian culture, social awareness, & more.

This month we decided to go with a theme that can be considered an homage to spring: springing forward. As a result, this issue is focused on the central theme of growth. Almost all of our pieces are related to the idea of growth (or a lack thereof) & spring. Throughout the magazine, we discuss a variety of interesting & important topics.

This magazine was created for you, the *solucky* reader, & we hope it will continue to grow & serve as a platform for your passions, interests, curiosities, & more. More information on the magazine can be found on the *solucky* website under the *magazine* section!



Captured by Sanjana Dadi



Captured by Sanjana Solanki



# trending

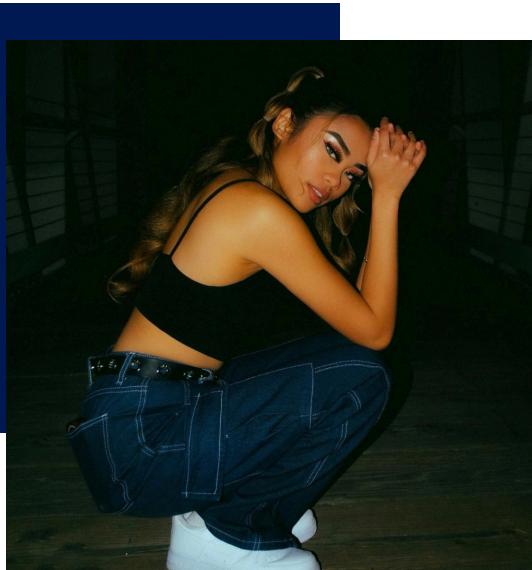
Submitted by Natalie Getz

# Spring Fashion

written by Ananya Dutta

As this month's trend writer for *solucky*, I was tasked with writing about fashion & upcoming trends in an articulate way. Unfortunately, I know next to nothing about fashion. As in, my idea of a nice outfit is a crop top & jeans. So I decided I would write about fashion from a learner's point of view. After all, we all have to start somewhere.

To lend my writing some credibility I chose to interview Francesca Delacruz, a 19 year old blogger from the Bay Area. Her Instagram features a series of creative outfits & photoshoots. I had the opportunity to hop on a Zoom call with her &



Instagram: @franzzdc



discuss fashion essentials, the best brands to shop at, & spring fashion . Although I don't know much about fashion, I was still able to recognize that in any new venture you have to start with the basics. I asked Francesca what some of her fashion essentials were & she

immediately pointed to jewelry.

“Jewelry can make anything pop,” she said, “whether it be hoop earrings, or other staple pieces.”

As for other basics, Francesca noted that white tees & shoes (think: Air Force 1s) were the foundation for a lot of her outfits.

Now that I knew some of the basics, my next question was: where do I shop? Francesca said that she gets her affordable pieces from Shein & Zara & her more high end ones from Pac Sun. It’s important to note that we should all try to shop sustainable when we can, but also recognize that not everyone has the means to buy expensive pieces! A good way to balance this out is to invest in basics (which will likely be reused many times) from more sustainable places & trending outfits from places like Zara.

In terms of spring trends, we came up with a couple forecasts. During our discussion, Francesca predicted that a mix of bright colors & neutrals would be on the rise this spring season. To put together a spring look she suggested making something “flowy & elegant with a snatched waist” the center of your look. Think: trench coat with a belt. Like we discussed earlier, make sure to accessorize & don’t be afraid to layer your jewelry. For colors,

we suggest yellow or sage green. Pull it all together with a low slick back bun & a pair of heels!

Speaking with Francesca was incredibly refreshing & reminded me that fashion is really what you make of it. There’s no “right” or “wrong” way to dress, but it’s definitely a plus to be aware of what’s trending. If you put together a look using one of our tips, make sure to tag us @solucky.life on Instagram for a chance to be featured!



Instagram: @franzzdc



Instagram: @franzzdc



Submitted by Sara Hamidi

# **Friday Fashion Favorites**

**selected by Berfin Suzer**

**Instagram handles are attached & to find more favorites check out our  
Instagram Highlights!**

**@pallabees**



**@heyhooncho**



**@melxmoore**



**@juliajoy.c**



**@nishthamistry**



**@ashsng**



**@juhroosha**



**@oshini.vk**



**@mananchh**



Captured by Sanjana Solanki

A photograph showing a person's hands raised towards the sky. The person is wearing a grey long-sleeved shirt. The background is a bright blue sky with scattered white clouds and some visible power lines.

**self  
improvement**

# **Let's Talk Personal Growth**

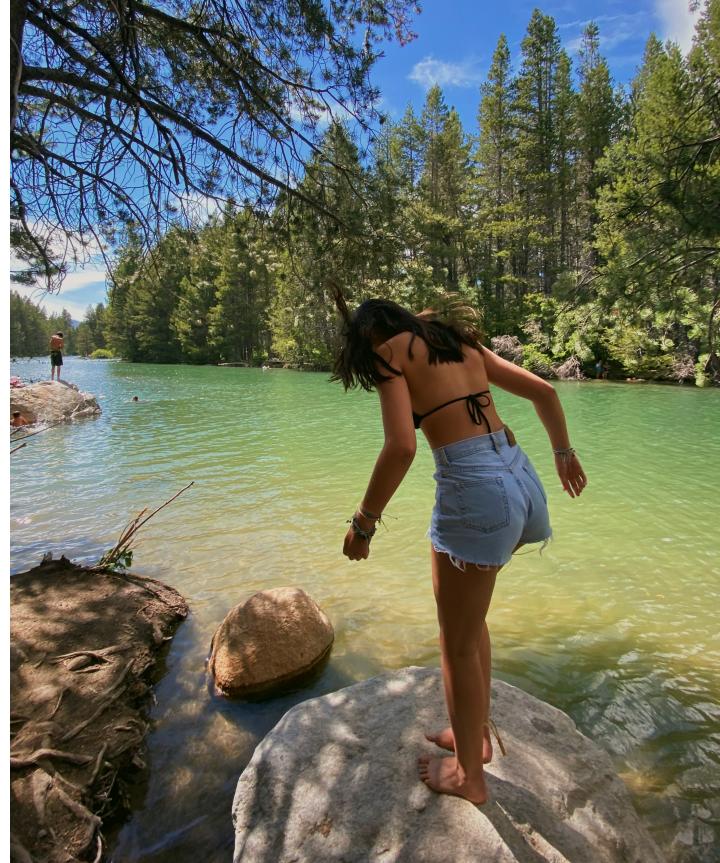
**written by Anula Narasimhan**

## **1. What have you done to be kind to yourself this past year?**

It goes without saying that this past year has taken a toll on a lot of us. How can we all try our best to maintain our sanity? One habit I have cultivated recently which I believe everyone deserves is a self care day. Take some time to step out of your world & enjoy your alone time. Pamper yourself!

## **2. How have you controlled the direction your life has taken as of recently?**

Life throws all kinds of unanticipated curveballs at us; it is important to focus on what you can control rather than stressing about things that are not in our hands. One example of an aspect of your life you can control is who you choose to surround yourself with. This brought to mind a famous quote by Jim Rohn - “ You are the average of the five people you spend the most time with.” Try not to hold on to relationships that no longer serve you & be mindful of what or who influences you.



**Submitted by Natalie Getz**



Submitted by Sara Hamidi

**3. What habits, memories, or relationships are you holding on to that are keeping you from growing?**

Being aware of habits or relationships you would like to let go of is already a big step in the right direction. I, personally, admit I am a huge procrastinator. I let social media & Netflix get the best of me, & often times prioritize mindless scrolling through TikTok over getting my work done. I am aware this habit does not serve me, & I am working everyday to better allow myself to grow! When I feel like procrastinating or have less motivation than usual, I try to call my friends & do homework over FaceTime with them. Having a buddy to help keep myself accountable has helped me get a lot of work done on days when I haven't felt my best.

**4. What do you feel like you need most right now & how can you achieve that?**

Although it is important to be comfortable & content with where you are, there is most likely always room for improvement. I, for one, tend to get lost in work & deadlines & I forget to pause & take in what I have already achieved for the day. I think it's easy to

sometimes be too hard on yourself when you feel like you're falling behind, but remember that stressing too much can affect your ability to finish your work. Some ways I can accomplish this is to give my brain a break & remind myself of how far I have already come amidst all the work I am in. I find that when I take small breaks when I'm stressed to consciously remind myself that I'm working hard & will be okay, I feel a lot less stressed & have a clearer mind when I go back to work. This has helped me through days when I've had so much work to do that I felt like I'd never get it all done (and guess what, I ended up getting it done once I was kinder to myself & acknowledged how hard I was working). You got this!

## 5. What is your best habit? Why?

My best habit is something that I only started doing recently. I'm not a morning person & I've always had trouble waking up on time or earlier in the morning, so recently I decided to start getting out of bed after my first alarm rings. No hitting snooze & no setting another alarm! The first couple days I tried this, it didn't work because I was so tired in the morning that I hit snooze anyway. I found that what actually helped me keep this habit was putting my phone at the other side of my room. When I hear my alarm in the morning, I have to get out of bed to turn it off because I can't just reach over & hit snooze. By the time I get out of bed & turn off the alarm, I'm awake enough to the point where I can just get ready for my day. I'm not going to lie, the first couple days I did this, I was not in the best mood because I was tired & felt like it would never get easier. But after a couple weeks it's become quite easy to wake up early & get out of bed, & my body's even started waking up around the same time every morning even without my alarm! I think that getting out of bed right after waking up is my best habit because it's given me a lot more energy throughout the day, which has also helped with my motivation levels. What's your best habit?!



Captured by Sanjana Solanki

# **The Process of Organization**

**Edited by Ash Kumar**

My home is my environment. I spend most of my time there; if it is disorderly, it can be a distraction & cause unnecessary tension. If my environment is more organized, I find myself spending less time thinking about my surroundings & concentrating more of my time on my other priorities.

The main goal of organization is to reduce any worry & pressure that could stem from a lack of cleanliness. I try to transform my environment by making sure everything has a use & a place. By prioritizing organization, my family & I became more efficient & our lifestyles became more systematic. Additionally, I have noticed that decluttering tends to improve one's mental health & allows us to reduce stress. I truly hope that my tips & tricks can bring calmer surroundings within your environment; you deserve to come home & relax! More tips can be found in the *organization* section of our website!

**Captured by Sanjana Solanki**



**STEP 1** It is important to start with a blank slate. The first step is to remove everything from its current place. Take everything off the shelves, out of drawers, & from jars. I personally like to clean out all my organization tools during this time, as well. This includes wiping down surfaces & throwing out damaged bins. Starting over allows you to see the space you are dealing with & all the items you have to organize.

**STEP 2** After taking everything out of its space, start the sorting process. I prefer separating the items into piles: “what needs to stay,” “what needs to be donated/thrown out,” & “what does not belong here.” I take this opportunity to wipe down everything I am keeping or moving to a different location. Put your objects that belong elsewhere or that need to be donated/thrown out into separate bins & move them aside.

**STEP 3** Now, focus on the “what needs to stay” pile. Start ranking your items from most used to least used. I choose to organize by use instead of color or other methods because I like to keep what I use most often in the front so I do not have to take everything out whenever I need one object. By ranking your items, you should be able to recognize what needs to be the most accessible when you organize.

**STEP 4** Find all your organization tools. Gather bins, boxes, jars, or anything else you could use as dividers to help separate your items from one another. I like to keep some of the boxes I get from deliveries or jars I get from grocery stores in order to organize things in the future. Something to keep in mind is to try to make sure that the organization tools that are on display should match; it will look cleaner this way.

**STEP 5** You’re all set! Put everything away using your new ranking system.



Captured by Sanjana Solanki



# culture

# **A Brown Girl's Guide: Body Image & Self Love**

**by Disha Desai**

From a young age, I was often made to feel that the hair on my body was not natural. As women from ethnic backgrounds, many of us tend to struggle with prominent dark hairs on our arms, legs, stomach, face, & let's face it, everywhere. Growing up surrounded by other kids who had no problem speaking out about how I had "gorilla legs", or even some aunties who commented on how I looked too dark because of my facial hair, I was always self-conscious about my body hair. To this day I still feel the need to go through the painful processes of waxing, shaving, threading, & even bleaching to cover up a very natural part of my body I should not have to be ashamed of. Why are we shamed for having hair on our bodies, & how can we learn to accept & love our bodies for what they naturally are?

As I grow older, I have begun to feel more confident in my body & mentally convince myself that my body hair is completely natural & that I am fine just the way I am before I go out. It is an unfortunate



Instagram: @dishaax.x



Instagram: @dishaax.x

truth that many brown girls have to repeat things like this to ourselves before going out in public, but it is one of the ways that I remain confident despite the fact that there is always going to be someone who will give me the side-eye for my body hair. The first time I went to get my eyebrows & mustache threaded, it was exhilarating to know that I could finally appear “normal” & that people wouldn’t always stare at the wisps of hair above my lip every time I spoke. Now that I think about it, why

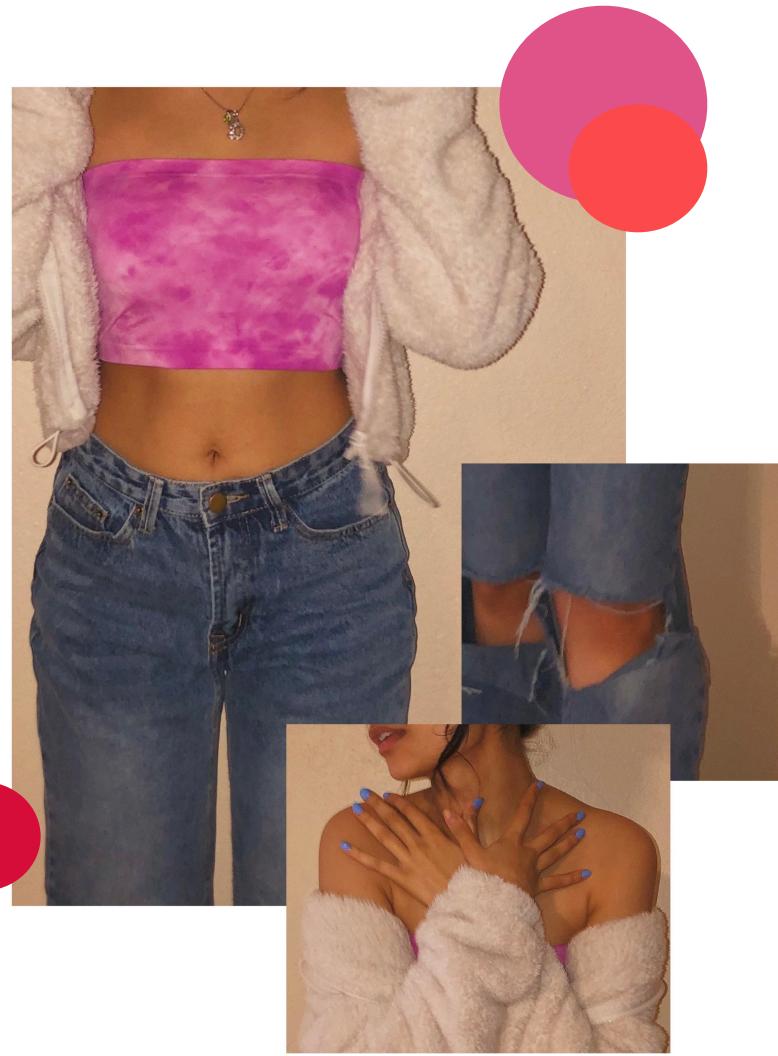
couldn’t I feel normal before? Society has convinced us that body hair is “ugly & wrong” although all humans have it. We need to have conversations about why body hair receives such outrage, & how others can become more aware & supportive of the girls who struggle with self-love & growth because of it.

We are beautiful just the way we are, & prominent body hair does not change that. Why should something that exists to protect our body be turned into a feature that is unwanted & ugly? Social media plays a huge role in building insecurities for brown girls like me with picture-perfect “fair & lovely” bodies & faces, it is also capable of changing views on beauty standards. In January of 2020, a trend called “Januhairy” prompted women to post pictures of themselves embracing their body hair. With posts like these, instead of fake beauty standards, it becomes easier to accept ourselves & our natural features. Though I still struggle with going places without shaving or waxing, it feels amazing to have acceptance from my family & peers. Learning to love & grow into what you were once ashamed of is a

journey, but as society progresses there are more & more women who take a leap & fight against a preposterous beauty standard.

As I think about the little brown girl who was too ashamed of her body hair to even change in PE classes, dress how she liked & hated herself constantly, I feel heartbroken that no one was there to tell her that her body is beautiful regardless. So here I am, telling you that it is okay to grow out your hair when you are too lazy to shave, it is okay to embrace your facial hair, & it does not matter what people might say behind your back. There will always be someone who will have something to say about your appearance, so keep your head held high & walk with confidence.

Instead of being ashamed, embrace your body. You may not know it, but another young brown girl might be watching you & learn to love herself because of your growth. It may seem like it never gets better but trust me, if you surround yourself with people who love you for who you are, remain confident in yourself, & motivate yourself to be the most positive & beautiful version of yourself, people will admire you for your growth with self-love.



Instagram: @dishaaax.x

# **South Asian Highlights**

**Curated by Sophia Singh**

## **Creator Spotlight - Shakthi Elangovan**



Instagram: @sh4kthii

Shakthi Elangovan is an artist & designer who is determined to stay true to himself. Shakthi started his business as a way to make some extra profit before college, but found himself exploring his craft & falling in love with it again. With strong ideals instilled in him, Shakthi strives to, “make art that connects with people emotionally... Being able to inspire others & create something for them that they can connect to is something that is very important to [him].” When asked about his favorite part of being, Shakthi expressed his interest in learning about the diverse range of South Asian religions &

cultures. In the future, the designer plans to continue creating meaningful art that people are able to form connections to. “Art isn’t just something you look at, it’s something you feel & something that can make an insane impact,” said the artist, “which is what I plan on doing with my craft.” More information can be found in the *entrepreneurs* topic of the *inspiration board* subsection within the *culture* section!



Instagram: @sh4kthii



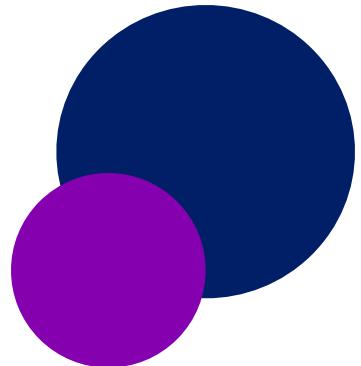
Captured by Sanjana Dadi

# **Tamarind Chutney Recipe - Hemaxi Solanki**

serving size: varies/general, preparing time: 15-20 minutes

## **INGREDIENTS:**

$\frac{1}{4}$  Tamarind  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  Jaggery  
 $\frac{1}{4}$  Teaspoon Salt  
 $\frac{1}{4}$  Teaspoon Cumin Powder  
 $\frac{1}{4}$  Teaspoon Chili Powder  
2 Cups Water



## **EQUIPMENT:**

- Small Sized Pot  
- Stirring Spoon



## **INSTRUCTIONS:**

1. In a pot on the stove, add ALL ingredients together on a low-medium setting. Mix this into one mixture.
2. Let this boil for 10-15 minutes.
3. Once boiled, pour the mixture into a bowl & serve!

**More recipes can be found in the *recipes* subsection of the *culture* section!**

Taken by Sanjana Solanki





Captured by Prisha Jain

A photograph taken from inside a building, looking out through a large window. The window frame is dark wood. The view outside is of a hillside covered in green vegetation and shrubs. In the background, a clear blue sky is visible. The word "review" is overlaid in large, bold, black letters across the center of the image.

**review**



PLAYLIST

# feel good

Created by **sanju** · 25 songs, 1 hr 19 min

PLAY



...

Filter

Download



*Feel Good* exemplifies March's issue theme, Springing Forward, so it is a great playlist to listen to when entering the spring season. This playlist was made by me, Sanjana Solanki, & will be updated every now & then. If you like upbeat indie music with a hint of "coming of age" essence, then this playlist is perfect for you. Although I am still new to the genre of indie, I am learning more about it everyday & this playlist is an example of my venture into this genre. I listen to this playlist whenever I am feeling down or simply want to enjoy a beautiful day & it never fails to make me *feel good!*

Access the playlist here: <https://open.spotify.com/playlist/3Ratuza5xuHrfVcyszSdH0?si=e08500bcccfb44f8>

I am fully aware that not everybody has the same taste in music as I do! If this playlist isn't your style, come back to this column next month & we'll have something new for you.



Captured by Sanjana Solanki

# **Growth In Movies**

**by Roshni Sudharsan**

In uncertain times, movies offer a place of solace for those struggling to disconnect from the real world. With the impact of COVID 19 spreading across nations, the movie theaters have been eliminated as a source of comfort for introverts & adventurers alike. However, today's cinema has exceeded expectations of the extraordinary, attracting viewers, & providing an enchanting sense of familiarity through a laptop or TV screen that closely resembles the homeliness of the theater. Movies like *Minari* & *Soul* strayed away from the typical discomforting ending & offered a delightful perspective that one could only attribute to the word: growth.

Social issues have always been spotlighted through subtle yet symbolic visuals & dialogue in movies. Last year, *Parasite* highlighted class struggle & discrimination through the chilling visuals of a dark basement & dim lighting for the actors living in poverty while portraying bright lights & elevation for the actors living in luxury.

This year, the talented Lee Isaac Chung directed *Minari* & began this dreamy tale with calming & hypnotic scenery of nature & coupled it with vibrant & dark colored imagery of a fire, highlighting the two dichotomous sides of the American Dream. Jacob & his wife, Monica, traveled to America with hopes of building a successful home for their children. Unfortunately, this journey is stunted as their goals are not always aligned with one another as Jacob aspires to be a self-sufficient farmer while Monica simply wants a stable community & a living around her. Fortunately, their path to achieving their dreams is significantly aided with a gift from Korea: Monica's mother. She arrives from Korea in hopes of providing a familiar sense of home to Monica & creating a connection with her grandchildren. She brings along the youngest child, David, to a small hidden section of grass near their new home & begins gardening these mysterious plants that

she soon states to be minari. In fact, these are the only plants that survive throughout the movie, with Jacob's plants dying from a misfortunate fire. The minari plants highlight the theme of growth both literally & metaphorically. These plants, brought from Korea, appear to thrive even in foreign soil, representing Monica & Jacob's transition to rural Arkansas. Although Jacob & Monica began with different paths, the fire, caused by Monica's mother, actually brought them closer as Jacob looked to save his wife in the sea of flames that surrounded his farm.

In the midst of a new environment that is built on striving for wealth & self-sufficiency, the stories of immigrants struggling to adjust to America's diluted version of success is nothing new. My parents, first generation immigrants themselves, had to succumb to this diluted success & compete to ensure they received a decent living when they moved to America. American capitalism & the idea of a self-sufficient man has hurt our understanding of what we should value the most. Immigration tends to be beneficial as one carries their familial values they learned from their native countries bringing it to America; however, these values often dissipate amongst the deranged competitive behavior that American values might teach within their corrupted infrastructure that is built on monetary success. However, to succeed can mean more than simply making enough money.

Succeeding can mean developing connections with family & finding a stable community of friends around you. Growth, in *Minari*, is realizing this version of success, overcoming that isolating behavior enforced by American structures, & striving to form connections with people & not materials.

In addition to the wondrous yet real depiction of the American Dream, animated movies have also taken a center stage in the realm of social issues. Pixar & Disney's new movie, *Soul*, perfectly exemplifies the necessity for growth both inside the movie as well as on the outside. Joe Gardner is a willful pianist that strives to perform on a real stage with other celebrated musicians; however, his journey is cut short by a tragic fall that places him into the afterlife. His

inability to grapple his death causes him to unexpectedly enter a place within the afterlife that teaches newborn souls to be ready for the real world. One soul in particular appears to be especially difficult for Joe Gardner, a former teacher, to help as he is resistant & does not see the appeals of reality. In his journey of finding the young soul a reason to come to the real world as well as desperately trying to find a way back to reality, he discovers his real passion. In fact, his aspirations to become a performer were not all that fulfilling as he dreamed it to be. It was teaching & helping the young soul find her passion that brought him fulfillment. Despite the age group that Pixar movies tend to cater to, *Soul* is a complex outlook on the idea of achieving a far reaching singular goal for sole fulfillment in life.

Fulfillment can come through the smiles of others & helping young ones achieve their dreams. The audience watches Joe Gardner grow into someone that he truly feels he wants to be, rather than someone he feels he is supposed to be. This imaginative depiction of growth offers both children & adults a heartwarming hope for their future as it embeds this idea that goals can be changed & growing is a process that can take you in directions that you may not expect. As a freshman in college watching this movie that is meant for a younger audience, I felt comforted at the thought of someone finding their true fulfillment in a job they did not intend to have or keep.

The movie, *Soul*, also portrayed a growth in animation & storytelling. Although it is long overdue, Pixar finally placed a Black lead for its animated movie. With its motif surrounding jazz —that originated from & was dominated by African Americans as well as its cast & characters being predominantly African American — *Soul* shows how far movies have come to become more inclusive & diverse. Black characters & actors in animated movies are pivotal in terms of representation for African Americans as they are now being portrayed in children's movies as well. The celebration of soul music & jazz is essential for children to understand where most of their favorite tunes have originated from: Black culture. These production

companies becoming more inclusive highlight our society's growth towards equality in the media & entertainment.

Considering the isolating state of the pandemic, these movies have provided comfort to their audience in a time that really needs that feeling of hope & fulfillment. Movies like *Minari* & *Soul* have given me a sense of pride for our entertainment industry. Not only do the characters in the movie exemplify growth, but also those within the production company that are maturing in their content that they provide to their viewers.



***support***

# ***Racism Against the AAPI Community***

**by Aditya Kulashekhar**

Last Sunday, on March 16th, Robert Aaron Long brutally murdered eight people at three spas in the Atlanta metropolitan area. Out of the eight victims (Xiaojie Tan, Delaina Yaun, Paul Andre Michels, Daoyou Feng, Yong Ae Yue, Hyun Jung Grant, Soon Chung Park, & Suncha Kim), six were Asian women. While the media set out to paint the tragedy as a rare incident, the shootings were rather a culmination of a spike racist incidents inflicted on the AAPI community in the last year.

The relatively recent spike of hateful incidents against the AAPI community began in tandem with the spread of COVID-19. While the Chinese government should be rightfully blamed for their unsuccessful attempts to suppress information regarding COVID in the infant stages of the pandemic, Chinese-Americans, & Chinese immigrants around the world have unfortunately felt the wrath of people affected by the pandemic. Not only that, but most Asians around the world have seen an increase of racist incidents & statements against them, as people often confuse the different Asian ethnic groups as the same thing. & the consequences have been horrific. The NYPD reported over a 1900% increase in hate crimes against the AAPI community compared to years previous. In the United Kingdom, there was a 300% jump in attacks & acts of discrimination against Asians, & many frontline workers in Britain's NHS reported attacks from their own patients. But while these incidents can be directly attributed to the global pandemic, there's always been a history of racist incidents against the AAPI community, incidents that have largely been ignored by our

society. For example, the 1882 Chinese Exclusion Act was the first immigration law in American history, & it's sole aim was to prevent immigration from China to America. Furthermore, many Asian Americans were barred entry into the country during the 1920s, as American officials used the Influenza pandemic & the Spanish flu as an excuse to deny people of the AAPI community entry into the country. & finally, in 2018, a federal law was passed to restrict the flow of Asian students into the states. All of these questionable policies can be attributed to an overall lack of trust in the AAPI community & their intentions when coming to America. Many of our leaders, & citizens, are incredibly fixated on this idea of American dominance, & the biggest threat to that goal has always been the Asian community. This has led to a long lasting history of racist policies against the AAPI community, who've suffered as our government has only added fuel to the fire.

Furthermore, over time, society has stereotyped the AAPI community as a “model minority,” & we often perceive them as generally successful people who’ve achieved the American Dream through hard work. This argument surfaced originally during the Civil Rights movement, as many pro segregation/discrimination leaders argued that other races & ethnicities were not as successful as the AAPI community. Obviously, the “model minority” is deeply rooted in racism against African Americans & other minority groups, & has no place in our modern day society. However, another consequence of the “model minority” theory is that it has unconsciously led us to believe that Asian Americans & Pacific Islanders are somehow immune to discrimination & racism. In reality, the AAPI community experiences hate in similar ways as every other community; for example, a study by the Pew Research Center in 2018 portrayed a community that is deeply divided economically. Asian Americans have the largest income inequality gap out of every ethnic group in the US, & have the highest rates of poverty in New York City. Clearly, the “model minority” fallacy has given us a different perception of the

A API community than what is actually true, & it's now time to look past our preconceived notions & see the truth.

Ultimately, racist incidents against the AAPI community have flown under the media radar for decades, as we've slowly been conditioned to recognize Asian Americans as a successful "model minority." However, it's time to look through this flawed, racist argument; Asians Americans have been victims of vicious hate crimes for decades, & the rise of COVID-19 has coincided with a rise of hate crimes against the AAPI community. It's possible to both recognize the success of Asian Americans & Pacific Islanders in the world, & also acknowledge that they experience racism & hate in the same way anyone else can. & not only do we have to change how we perceive the AAPI community, but we must challenge our leaders to be careful with their words. When our leaders publicly ridicule the Asian community, such as when President Trump called COVID-19 the "China Virus" & the "Kung Flu," it only emboldens racist psychopaths like Robert Aaron Long to act on their thoughts.

## ***How to Help***

**If you're interested, here are some resources explaining how to help/donate to the AAPI community.**

**A group of 17 Instagram Posts explaining how you can advocate for the AAPI community:**

<https://www.instagram.com/bambooandglass/guide/ways-to-learn-advocate-for-the-asian-community/18202625938015199/?igshid=wbii8z0pwky4>

**A link to donate to foster civic participation in the AAPI community:**

<https://aapifund.org/donate/>

**A GoFundMe that has raised 3.7 million dollars in the last three weeks, that donates to a variety of organizations dedicated to ending AAPI hate:** <https://www.gofundme.com/f/support-aapi-community-fund>



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more

# **Contributor**

# **Applications**

If you are someone passionate about something whether that is graphic design, marketing, clothing, etc. & would like to receive voluntary experience from *solucky* as a brand/magazine or want to showcase your work submission, make sure to take a look at the *contributors* Application Google Form! This form will allow you to choose what kind of position or submission you want in *solucky*. We welcome any kind of passionate work or workers, so feel free to send us a submission at any time! The link to this Google Form can be found in the *application* subsection within the *magazine* section on our website!

# *Acknowledgements*

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# Thank you for reading this month's issue!

Find more information about *solucky* & our  
magazine by typing *solucky.life* into your  
browser

*See you next month!*

- *solucky* team ❤

*text "@solucky" to 81010 for updates*

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