

Spring 4-8-2022

AAPI Voices of SMU

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Recommended Citation

Khoja, Sarah, "AAPI Voices of SMU" (2022). *Research*. 4.
https://scholar.smu.edu/dcii_smuappi_research/4

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AAPI Voices of SMU

Sarah Khoja

Introduction

- Oral History Project to diversify SMU's archives by interviewing minority alumni about their SMU experience
- Read over 20 AAPI transcripts and chose seven interviews based on their background and graduation date
- Goal: presenting findings and observations from these interviews



Themes



REPRESENTATION AND SPACE

Peer-to-Peer



REPRESENTATION AND SPACE

Institutional



LACK OF RESOURCES

Representation and Space

Peer-to-Peer

- **CONFLICTING IDENTITIES AND THE SPACE FOR REPRESENTATION CREATED**
- **CONVERSATIONS WITHIN THE STUDENT BODY AND SHARED EXPERIENCES**

Representation and Space

Institutional

- **LACK OF DISAGGREGATION IN DATA AND IN PRACTICE**

- **TYPE OF DIALOGUE FACILITATED**

Where does this lack of representation stem from?

Video

Lack of Resources

- **OVERALL INDIFFERENCE FROM THE ADMINISTRATION ABOUT THE SUCCESS OF THEIR AAPI STUDENTS**

Some participants felt supported by these resources because of the community it created

- **LACK OF AN INFORMAL SPACE FOR AAPI STUDENTS**

- **PARTICIPANTS FELT AS IF THESE RESOURCES WERE NOT MADE FOR THEM**

Who is the university asking when they gather data?

Video

Conclusion and Recommendations

Overall, participants expressed the idea that SMU has been proactive in diversifying their class but the institutions and the types of services they are providing are not changing.

They felt as if the university, as well as other Predominately White Institutions, must be more responsive in terms of learning how to provide the space and resources for AAPI Students.

How can the university know how to provide accurate support and create spaces for these students? Who is accountable?