

ASIAN AMERICANS FOR ACTION

545 West 126th Street, Apt. 3-B

New York, New York 10027

NOTE: Please make notations on margin and bring this to the next AAA meeting, March 14th, 2:30 p.m., "Chickens Come Home to Roost" storefront, 613 Amsterdam Avenue (at 90th Street), or mail this before that date to Mary Kochiyama at the address on this letterhead.

The AAA does not demand total endorsement by its members of its position on the various issues listed below. AAA feels that only with the broadest possible participation and cooperation with others of like mind -- Asian and non-Asian -- can we begin to answer the questions that are raised in the confusion of our tumultuous existence and to attain our common objectives, whether specific or general in nature.

A. U.S. Domestic Policy

We see that domestic legislation and service institutions are not directed towards those who need it most -- the ill, the indigent, the underprivileged, the aged.

We see that there is no substantive effort to deal with basic problems confronting the nation -- unemployment, poverty, disease, crime, exploitation.

We see that the government actively participates in the destruction of the natural environment and blindly promotes hazards to all life -- the ecological suicide of ill-conceived highway construction, of the sale of public lands for private gain, of the pollution of public lands and waters.

We see that the government attempts to repress those who advocate meaningful change -- by harassment of dissidents, by illicit wiretapping, by 'no-knock' laws, by maintaining secret files and dossiers on all without benefit of trial or redress, by failing to give equal treatment to all as required by law.

B. U.S. Foreign Policy

We see that this nation's foreign policy is determined by the private interests of big business and serves to protect those interests through treaties and pacts which establish bases of power on foreign soil -- military and economic.

We see that this extension of influence is imperialistic and exploits the people and resources of other countries, particularly, of the Third World.

We see that this exploitation is implemented by oppression and by racism, and that these measures are inherent to a policy dictated by the profit motive.

C. Labor

Labor was once traditionally in opposition to the selfish demands of a privileged class. But, with the growth of industrialism, large segments of labor, now organized as unions, have become absorbed into the very economic system they opposed. As a result, the labor movement is now equally guilty of abuses.

We decry, therefore, the participation of the labor movement, cooperating with big business, in the continuing exploitation of our human and material resources.

We call for a labor movement which rejects discriminatory practices, racism, oppression, and exploitation not only in this country, but also abroad.

D. Education

We believe that the present educational system and the quality of education it fosters has failed to provide adequately for the needs of our children. These inadequacies can be attributed to the following:

1. Failure to permit those who wish to learn access to resources for learning;
2. Failure to grant those who wish to teach access to resources for teaching;
3. Failure to allow curricula to adjust to the needs and challenges of a changing society and to be responsive to the search for truth, rather than to a static social order.

We, therefore, support community control of education and the establishment of free schools as a viable alternative. We strongly oppose the influence and involvement of the military-industrial complex in our colleges and universities.

E. Black, Latino, Chicano, Indian, and Asian Movements in the United States

We support the struggle of ethnic groups for recognition and for self-determination.

While giving our firmest support to the Black movement, the most critical at this time, we support equally the efforts of all groups -- Brown, Red, Yellow, and White -- who speak and act against oppression and exploitation.

F. Vietnam War and Struggles for Self-Determination Abroad

We oppose the interference of this country and others in the internal affairs of a nation.

We affirm the right of a people to self-determination and support all struggles of liberation.

We call for the immediate withdrawal of all U.S. and foreign troops from all over the world.

G. The Draft

The draft is an instrument of both foreign and domestic policy.

It discriminates against the underprivileged in this country and supplies the means for oppressing and exploiting other nations and peoples.

We support, therefore, all those who refuse to participate in the use of arms against the interests of the people, especially in the exploitation of members of the Third World.

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