



API Council Responds to US Supreme Court Ruling Gutting Affirmative Action

July 10, 2023, San Francisco, CA—The United States Supreme Court has recently made a series of egregious rulings that are destroying a generation of progress. Among them was the decision to gut affirmative action. We express our profound disappointment in the Supreme Court’s decision to prohibit the consideration of race in college admissions. We firmly believe that affirmative action is a crucial tool in counteracting the historical and ongoing disadvantages faced by marginalized communities in accessing higher education. Race conscious admissions has helped level the playing field and provide a fair opportunity for underrepresented students.

The prohibition of affirmative action represents a significant setback for achieving true diversity in our education system. Race conscious admissions benefits all underrepresented groups, which include many Asian American ethnic groups that have historically faced educational disparities. This reality has been obscured and distorted to instill unfounded fear within the Asian American community.

It is important to remember that affirmative action does not discriminate or place quotas against any specific racial or ethnic group. Rather, it seeks to address the structural barriers that perpetuate inequality within the college admissions system and ensure a more inclusive learning environment.

A colorblind approach to college admissions does not consider the ways in which racial and educational disparities inform each other. We are concerned that the Supreme Court’s decision will impede on the progress made to diversify college campuses.

“Today, this Court stands in the way and rolls back decades of precedent and momentous progress...In so holding, the Court cements a superficial rule of color-blindness as a constitutional principle in an endemically segregated society where race has always mattered and continues to matter” – from Justice Sotomayor dissent

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