Asian American Health Initiative
2009 Health Conference:
A Call for Leadership

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Questions

Who is in our audience?
Goals

• Expand traditional sources of information and analysis on current events
• Expand your personal involvement in policy influence and civic engagement
• Expand your role in promoting the practice of democracy
Assumptions: Life Lessons

• Our policy makers are weakened/corrupted by campaign financing and lobbying policies heavily weighted towards supporting the interests of the wealthy.

• Accountability system of “public will” and oversight is underutilized at all levels
Are We Feeling Secure?

- Food
- Clothing
- Housing
- Employment
- Health Coverage
- Discrimination
- Community Health Equity
- Democracy
Brilliant Economists Can't Figure It Out

START OUTSOURCING THOSE ECONOMISTS' JOBS.
Interest Payments on the National Debt

One Hundred and Four More Years
DOUBLE, DOUBLE, TOIL AND TROUBLE
LET'S NOT BLOW ANOTHER BUBBLE

"WHEN SHALL WE THREE MEET AGAIN?"
I'M REALLY SORRY I ABUSED MY POSITION OF PUBLIC TRUST.

WHEEL OF 'SORRY'

- Fired
- More TV Time
- Resign
- Face More TV Time
- Take a Better Job
- Become a Golden Parachute
- Get Your Own Show
- Dance With the Stars
- Win $20 Million
- Spin

NOW HOW GOOD ARE YOU AT SPIN? — J.L.
Unprecedented Point in US/World History

- Global Financial Institutions At Risk
- Massive Unemployment
Before you start measuring the drapes, you might want to start cleaning up this mess I've left you.
It's in my contract that you have to tip me $145,000,000 for my services.

I'm really good at what I do.
Wages Are Not Chasing Headline Inflation Higher

*Average wage per hour worked for production of non-supervisory workers in private sector.
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Figure 3
Growing Disparities

New research has found that differences in life expectancy for richer and poorer Americans have grown in the last two decades.

Life expectancy at birth, by socioeconomic groups

- **BOTH SEXES**
  - Most deprived
  - Least deprived
- **MEN**
  - Most deprived
  - Least deprived
- **WOMEN**
  - Most deprived
  - Least deprived

Source: Gopal K. Singh and Mohammad Siahpush, using data from Department of Health and Human Services

THE NEW YORK TIMES
APRIL 2009 UNEMPLOYMENT DATA
(U.S. BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS)
Officially unemployed: 13.7 million (8.9%)
Hidden unemployment: 14.8 million
Total: 28.5 million (17.7% of the labor force)
[There are now more than 10 job-wanters* for each available job.]
*changed:BLS has revised methodology
### Satisfaction With Personal Health Among OECD Nations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>% Satisfied</th>
<th>% Dissatisfied</th>
<th>Gallup Personal Health Index score</th>
<th>GDP per capita (2008 est.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ireland</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>$47,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>$40,900</td>
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<tr>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>$38,300</td>
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<tr>
<td>Luxembourg</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>$85,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>$31,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>$14,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Zealand</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>$28,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>$34,100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>$41,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>$37,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>$39,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>$40,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>$32,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greece</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>79</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finland</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>$38,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denmark</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>$38,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iceland</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>$42,600</td>
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<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>$48,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Norway</td>
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<td>15</td>
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<td>$57,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
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<td>18</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>$34,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>$39,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portugal</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>$22,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Czech Republic</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>$26,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turkey</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>$12,900</td>
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<tr>
<td>Poland</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>$17,800</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hungary</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>$29,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Slovakia</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>$22,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>$35,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Korea</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>$27,100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Personal Health Index scores range from 0 to 100.

GALLUP POLL
The percentage of heart attack patients who have received recommended hospital care has increased; however, racial and ethnic disparities persist.

Percentage of acute myocardial infarction (AMI) patients who received recommended hospital care, Medicare beneficiaries, 2002 and 2004

Note: Recommended hospital care for AMI includes administrations of aspirin and beta-blocker within 24 hours of hospital arrival and at discharge, receiving a prescription of angiotensin-converting enzyme (ACE) inhibitor at discharge for patients with left ventricular systolic dysfunction, and giving smoking cessation counseling for smoking patients.

### General Health Status among US Adults*, by Race or Ethnicity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race or Ethnicity</th>
<th>Excellent/Very Good Health Status</th>
<th>Good Health Status</th>
<th>Fair/Poor Health Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Non-Hispanic White</td>
<td>59.3%</td>
<td>27.8%</td>
<td>12.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Hispanic Black</td>
<td>44.4%</td>
<td>34.6%</td>
<td>21.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>33.6%</td>
<td>35.4%</td>
<td>31.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>55.8%</td>
<td>33.8%</td>
<td>10.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hawaiian/PI^</td>
<td>55.4%</td>
<td>29.7%</td>
<td>14.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native American^</td>
<td>42.7%</td>
<td>32.8%</td>
<td>24.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Aged 18 years or older, ^Pacific Islander,  
*Includes American Indians and Alaska Natives
Racial and ethnic disparities in childhood immunization rates have declined as overall coverage increased.

Percentage of children ages 19 to 35 months who received complete 4:3:1:3:3:1 vaccine series, 2002–2005

Note: The 4:3:1:3:3:1 vaccine series includes four or more doses of diphtheria, tetanus toxoids, and pertussis vaccine (DTP), three or more doses of poliovirus vaccine, one or more doses of any measles-containing vaccine (MCV), three or more doses of Haemophilus influenzae type b vaccine (Hib), three or more doses of hepatitis B vaccine (HepB), and one or more doses of varicella vaccine.

Number of Reported Admissions to Prison for a Drug Offense, by Race/Ethnicity

- Black
- White
- Hispanic

[Graph showing trends over time, with an increase in admissions for all groups, particularly for Black individuals.]
Closing the gap in a generation

Health equity through action on the social determinants of health
### Comparison of Military Budgets by Country and for the World with Plan B Budget

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Budget (billion dollars)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>492</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saudi Arabia</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All other</td>
<td>142</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World Military Expenditure</td>
<td>975</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plan B Budget</td>
<td>161</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note:** The U.S. number is the budget estimate for FY2006 (including $50 billion for military operations in Iraq and Afghanistan); Russia and China data are for 2003.

**Source:** *Error! Bookmark not defined.*, 2007.
HELP WANTED
CHEAP, DISPOSABLE LABOR
TO KEEP OUR PROFITS GOING THRU THE ROOF

WANTED
FOR IMMEDIATE DEPORTATION
TO KEEP THE HELP IN THEIR PROPER PLACE

BIG BIZ
ICE
SEND US YOUR BEST AND BRIGHTEST POINT-GETTERS, YEARNING TO RAISE OUR G.D.P. ALL OTHERS PAY A FINE OF $5,000 AND MAYBE YOU CAN STAY.
"When you're finished building the house, doing the yardwork, taking out the garbage & caring for the kids, I've got a few hoops I'd like you to jump through."
IMMIGRANT FAMILY

U.S. SENATE IMMIGRATION BILL
WELCOME TO PLYMOUTH... YOU'RE ILLEGAL, AND WE'LL NEED $5000, A BACKGROUND CHECK, AND THEN YOU CAN GET A TWO YEAR GUEST VISA...
USA BUILT BY IMMIGRANTS
Stop the Abuse
Sweet Jesus! What is it?!
I borrowed this money from China so you could spend it on imported Chinese goods in order to jump start the economy!

Ours or theirs?
THE FUTURE OF HATE RADIO?

HUCKABEE WILL DESTROY THE REPUBLICAN PARTY!

McCain is not conservative. He's anti-conservative.

How can anyone vote for a Mormon?
WALL STREET JOURNAL
EDITORIAL PAGE

Murdock Purchase of Us is Good for Journalism

Rich Insufficiently Rich, Study Prove!

Universal Health Care Only Encourages the Weak & Feeble

Globe Has Been Too Chilly for Some Time Now. If You Ask Me.

THE RELIABILITY OF THIS SECTION HASN'T BEEN AFFECTED...

HE MAY EXPAND THE SECTION.
Minds are like parachutes. They work best when they are wide open

• Seek out alternative voices, philosophies, beliefs, points of view
• Do not discount information based on labels or stereotypes
• Read street political literature and attend demonstrations and protests
Progressive Resources

• www.justworldnews.org
• www.thenation.com
• www.votenader.org
• The Center for American Progress
• Netroots Nation
• Moveon.org
• Dailykos.com
• National Jobs for All Coalition
• Democracy Now
• KPFA.org
“money in politics is like water running down a mountain. It will find its way around, inside, under and through any obstacles”.
SO, WHAT'S ON FOR TOMORROW?
YOUR GUY INSULTS OUR GUY
OR OUR GUY INSULTS
YOUR GUY?
“the most harm will not come from the words of your enemy, but from the silence of your friends”

MLK
"Vision without action is merely a dream. Action without vision just passes time. Vision with action can change the world."

J. Barker
The Pursuit of Happiness

self-indulgence

materialism

social responsibility

making the world better
Organize Your Community

• Think up – Imagine a group in your town committed to something important to you
• Step up – Find and join the right local group OR start one!
• Meet up – Plant your flag online or deliver flyers. Schedule a meeting and they will come.
• Build up – Hold regular meetings to plan action and make change happen.

meetup.com
The Power of Slow – Finding balance and fulfillment beyond the culture of speed

By Carl Honore
UC Berkeley, 2009
“strange how a single conversation can change you”

“Communities had to be created, fought for, tended like gardens”

“We’re the ones we’ve been waiting for”

President Barack Obama