

## Struggle in Fragments

Cindy I-Fen Cheng would never think about, when she studied in high school, she would teach and write Asian American history, instead of being a scientist.

However, being a History professor is not the biggest struggle in her life. She might not expect how immigration identity becomes the reason for isolation from other members of the class. She doesn't anticipate how the power of narrating History would change her life. She doesn't expect that it would be hard to live in the U.S. with the identity of immigration, especially at this administration.

I-Fen's story just not happened as expected. I-Fen's story happened 18.2 million times on Asian Americans in the United States. These stories called a fragments collection- "Asian American History."

I-Fen switched her name to Cindy before she graduates from high school because of misunderstanding from his classmates. People would have a hard time pronouncing her name correctly. Hence people would tell her as "I-Phen" instead of "I-Fen."

"I had a problem with my hearing because then they called me from class like 'I PHEN,'" Professor Cheng said to me calmly, seems like this thing only happens on others, instead of herself. After this incident, Cheng changed her name from 'I-Fen' to 'Cindy,' "So, there's every one of us have kind of like we all have a reason why we change our name."

When Cheng went to university, she picked the way which parents and society picked for her-medication school. However, Cheng chooses the way he likes. Cheng decided to study in the Asian American study. Taking the Asian American major is a bold decision, and this causes the pressure from her parents.

"They said I always knew you choose the hard road in life," Cheng quoted the claims from her 'poor dad' with a funny tone. The choice of being a study in History would be a hard thing for Asian parents, "But to them, it like my mom some she still introduces sometimes like this is my daughter. She was pre-med at UCLA. But this is like when I was 18. She still introduces me like that because, at least for her, that's important."

As a History professor, Cheng focuses a lot on the status of immigration in the United States. However, she didn't hold an optimistic attitude about the situation of an immigrant in 2020. Even though there is an Asian American, Andrew Yang, is running for president. Cheng doesn't support him.

"I think that it's a plus in minus. But what's more important to me is that I want to know why he wasn't more radical in his immigration policies," Cheng is not satisfied with current immigration policies. She won't vote the presidential candidate who makes no change, even though they share the same race.

Cheng believes being a citizen is more critical than vote. She believes there is another way to participate in politics, which better than votes.