Regardless of how stressful the Covid-19 pandemic is, it was not caused by our Philipino-American neighbors, our Korean-American friends, or by Chinese UCSC students. Few of our Bay Area Asian community members have even been to Asia in recent months, years, or even generations. Those that have, have quarantined themselves upon returning to the US - governments in Asia have instilled the necessity of the 14-day quarantine period.

Even so, it doesn't matter: we are all in this together. Politicians try to distract by blaming one group for problems - not limited to Covid-19 - that all Americans face. We are smarter than that.

If your friend makes a racist joke, speak up. If you hear wrong information, correct it. If you see someone being harassed at a grocery store go say hi to them in a familiar way and make sure they are safe.

Asian Americans are suffering alongside everyone else right now, please don't add to their burden by making them live in fear of harassment and violence.