



## **Opinion: Harvard's Asian student quota a lesson in liberal bias**

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How can you tell if you're a good Boston-Globe liberal?

If you think keeping over-achieving Asian kids out of Harvard because they're the wrong color isn't problematic, but a photo of Chinese food is — you get an A+!

Unlike the Asian-Americans applying to attend Harvard, who get a “‘Woke’ Gentleman’s C.”

New England's Partisan Paper of Record is celebrating the soon-to-be-overturned ruling of a liberal District Court judge who upheld Harvard's anti-Asian quota system in defense of the premise that racism, when practiced by progressives, is a good thing.

“Affirmative action must live on,” says Boston Globe-Democrat columnist Shirley Leung, who concedes that Harvard limits the number of Asian students specifically because they're Asian, and she acknowledges that the court didn't rule that Harvard doesn't discriminate but rather that Harvard does discrimination the right way.

“A very fine admissions program” as Judge Allison Burroughs calls it.

Almost sounds a bit ... Trumpian doesn't it? Then again, what else to expect from the “stable geniuses” of the Boston Left who cheer as Asians are turned away by Harvard but insist that a photo of Chinese food is a hate crime.

Ah, yes — Ms. Leung is the same Globe-Democrat columnist who reacted with outrage to a Boston Herald front-page story about \$4,700 of Chinese food bought by Massachusetts legislators on the taxpayers' dime featured art depicting ... Chinese food.

Oh the horror!

A good Boston-Globe liberal keeps things Asian-free on the front page ... and in the admissions office!

OK, cheap shot, sorry. Harvard's actually admitting a record number of Asian students of late (funny how a lawsuit will do that.) But they're also turning away a disproportionate number of qualified Asian students while admitting their less academically successful competitors, based solely on skin color.

Don't believe me? Don't take my word for it. Harvard's own internal investigation found that "demographic factors" alone reduced the share of admitted Asian Americans by 30% while increasing the proportion of Hispanic admissions by 140% and blacks by a jaw-dropping 370%.

The Harvard system hailed by Leung and her fellow liberals uses a "holistic" analysis to overcome the fact that Asian American students outperform their peers. As Ilya Shapiro of the libertarian CATO Institute wrote in the Wall Street Journal, "that's what Harvard did when it devised this method to cap the number of Jews it admitted in the 1920s and '30s."

Data revealed during last year's trial found that Asian-Americans got far lower scores on average in the "personal" ratings — character traits like "likability," "helpfulness" and "good human qualities" — than members of other racial groups.

"It's reminiscent of the old stereotype that Jews weren't 'clubbable,'" Shapiro says.

The premise of Harvard-style racial preferences is that members of some groups suffered unique harm and, therefore, deserve special treatment to help remedy the effects of that harm. It's the reason that progressive presidential candidates like Sen. Elizabeth Warren support reparations for slavery, for example.

What Harvard's "sorry you're Asian" policy reminds us is that millions of Americans who get stuck paying the reparations bill will themselves be members of racial groups who suffered discrimination: Asians, Jews, the Irish, etc. The Harvard example is yet more proof that reparations aren't about leveling the playing field but rather picking teams. One team — African Americans and (Warren says) Native Americans — wins, and the other groups, from children of Holocaust survivors to the descendants of the Chinese workers enslaved to build America's railroads, loses.

Or as that's known on the Harvard U. beat at the Boston Globe-Democrat, "racial justice."