



Comment / Letters

Ethnic minorities in Hong Kong

+ FOLLOW

# Letters | Hong Kong must leave no ethnic minority youth behind

- Discrimination is still crippling opportunities for ethnic minority youth, which can only lead to a shrinking and less diverse talent pool
- Society must empower them to build up their soft skills and resilience, and give them the space to grow and contribute back

Letters + FOLLOW

Published: 6:20am, 22 Mar, 2021

Why you can trust SCMP

### TOP PICKS

5 trending wellness habits in Hong Kong

Paid Post: HSBC



### Magazines

Reality star no more: inside Rob Kardashian's impressive net worth

4 Jul 2022



### Magazines

Meet Elvis Presley's 'stepson' Navarone Garibaldi

3 Jul 2022



### This Week in Asia

Trouble in Paradise: George Clooney, Julia Roberts film stirs debate in Indonesia

4 Jul 2022



### News

End of 'Angola model' sees number of Chinese in oil-rich country plummet

3 Jul 2022



48

- Facebook
- Twitter
- WhatsApp
- Telegram
- 8
- Envelope
- Print

Post

- Comment
- Bookmark



Ethnic minority students in Hong Kong pose for a photo at their school in 2019. From 2006 to 2016, the number of ethnic minority youth aged 15-24 doubled. Photo: Edmond So

The claim that Hong Kong is a diverse city is supported by the increase in its ethnic minority population. From 2006 to 2016, the number of ethnic minority youth aged 15-24 doubled, reaching 27,651. This number is expected to continue to rise.

With this tremendous growth of the ethnic minority population, have we been an authentically inclusive society? If we have, does that mean discrimination no longer exists?

One 23-year-old of Filipino descent who grew up in Hong Kong doubts an encouraging answer can be given to both questions. "When I tell people I study and work here in Hong Kong, they would be surprised, saying that they thought I was a migrant," she told us. "I have one ethnic...

Magazines

Meet Karan Adani, son of Asia's richest man Gautam Adani

4 Jul 2022



Magazines

21 mirror-image female celebrities who look so similar they could be twins

4 Jul 2022



Magazines

Was Michael Jackson and Lisa Marie Presley's marriage real?

2 Jul 2022



News

Mahathir proud Malaysia-born Penny Wong is Australia's foreign minister

3 Jul 2022



China Macro Economy

What was China's one-child policy and why was it so controversial?

1 Jun 2021



China Macro Economy

What is 'lying flat', and why are Chinese officials standing up to it?

23 Dec 2021



mindset in the young to harness the GBA's potential

Paid Post: CoolThink@JC



saying that they thought I was a maid," she told us. "There are ethnic minorities surviving and actually contributing to Hong Kong, but sadly some people in society still look down on and marginalise them."

Unfortunately, discrimination is still crippling opportunities for ethnic minority youth. If we don't work on this issue, serious consequences will emerge, from losing diversity in our future talent pool to people's basic respect for each other being diminished. When that happens, our claim to being a multicultural inclusive city can only ever be superficial.



Hong Kong's ethnic minority groups struggle as city battles Covid-19 and recession

We need to act now. Tackling discrimination can start with intentionally nurturing our ethnic minority youth, investing in the potential change-makers in their midst, just like we would do for any other local youth. First we must change the perception that these youth are "problematic" or "not good enough", then find ways to discover their potential.

While we see that sensible resources have been invested, it only counts if accountability for their usage is taken seriously. The truth is, resources will not matter if young people themselves do not feel empowered and included in our society. Indeed, they should be equipped with the necessary abilities to construct their future, as they are the ones in charge of it.

Racism in Hong Kong: time to act on good intentions and reject divisions

2 Mar 2021



As a youth organisation, we value young people's thoughts and contributions. On International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination today, let's pledge to end discrimination and not leave behind our ethnic minority youth.

Racism in Hong Kong: time to act on good intentions and reject divisions

2 Mar 2021



As a youth organisation, we value young people's thoughts and contributions. On International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination today, let's pledge to end discrimination and not leave behind our ethnic minority youth.

Let us take a bottom-up approach and empower young people from our ethnic minorities through building up their soft skills and resilience, giving them space to identify the ways to contribute to and fully invest back in Hong Kong.

Sky Siu, executive director, KELY Support Group

Read more



Read more



The accents of Hong Kong's Eurasian, Portuguese communitie...

Read more



What's wrong with dropping English in school?

Read more



No one race bears the blame for Hong Kong's Covid clusters

Read more



Fish curry for 5.6 million: 'ordinary food' makes Hong Kong mum a...

Read more



How to stop anti-Asian hate crimes from surging in times of tension