RESOLUTION NO. 117-07

[Resolution condemning AsianWeek, February 23, 2007, January 12, 2007, and November 24, 2006 Issues]

Resolution condemning AsianWeek and its columnist Kenneth Eng for the inappropriate and damaging column explicitly encouraging racial discrimination in the AsianWeek's February 23, 2007 issue titled, "Why I Hate Blacks", <u>January 12, 2007</u> <u>issued titled "Why I Hate Asians", and November 24, 2006 issued titled "Proof That</u> <u>Whites Inherently Hate Us"</u>.

WHEREAS, Ethical standards for journalists demand a code of behavior and practice that minimizes harm to the community in which they practice; and

WHEREAS, The First Amendment is the cornerstone of democracy and to maintain and protect it requires constant vigilance; and

WHEREAS, Conscientious journalists from all media and specialties should strive to serve the public with thoroughness and honesty; and

WHEREAS, AsianWeek has violated those standards of journalistic ethics by repeatedly publishing a commentary employing using stereotypes by race, religion, and ethnicity; and

WHEREAS, AsianWeek is one of the City's designated outreach newspapers in which the municipal government regularly publishes its official notices; and,

WHEREAS, San Francisco strives to promote tolerance and respect among all its residents, and it is the goal of this body to make this city a safe place to live for all kinds of people; and

WHEREAS, San Francisco expects much more from publications that set the tone for public dialogue in the City; and,

Supervisors Peskin, Maxwell, McGoldrick, Mirkarimi, Daly, Sandoval, Jew, Elsbernd, Ammiano, Alioto-Pier, Dufty BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

WHEREAS, We believe that community dialogue must be respectful for it to be constructive; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors condemns AsianWeek and its columnist Kenneth Eng for the inappropriate and damaging column in the AsianWeek's February 23, 2007 issued titled "Why I Hate Blacks", January 12, 2007 issued tittle "Why I Hate Asians", and November 24, 2006 issued tittle "Proof That Whites Inherently Hate Us"; and, be it

FURTHER RESOVLED, That the Board of Supervisors urges AsianWeek's owners to examine their own cultural values and motives for lowering the level of public discourse on issues of race; and be it,

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges all City departments and other government entities to withdraw any money spent on advertising in AsianWeek.

Supervisors Peskin, Maxwell, McGoldrick, Mirkarimi, Daly, Sandoval, Jew, Elsbernd, Ammiano, Alioto-Pier, Dufty BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



City Hall 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

Tails

## Resolution

File Number: 070276

Date Passed:

Resolution condemning AsianWeek and its columnist Kenneth Eng for the inappropriate and damaging column explicitly encouraging racial discrimination in the AsianWeek's February 23, 2007 issue titled, "Why I Hate Blacks", January 12, 2007 issued titled "Why I Hate Asians", and November 24, 2006 issued titled "Proof That Whites Inherently Hate Us".

March 6, 2007 Board of Supervisors — AMENDED, AN AMENDMENT OF THE WHOLE BEARING NEW TITLE

Ayes: 11 - Alioto-Pier, Ammiano, Daly, Dufty, Elsbernd, Jew, Maxwell, McGoldrick, Mirkarimi, Peskin, Sandoval

 March 6, 2007 Board of Supervisors — ADOPTED AS AMENDED
Ayes: 11 - Alioto-Pier, Ammiano, Daly, Dufty, Elsbernd, Jew, Maxwell, McGoldrick, Mirkarimi, Peskin, Sandoval File No. 070276

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED AS AMENDED on March 6, 2007 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

De oria L. Youn erk of the Bo layor Gavin Newsom

Date Approved