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# Gender Roles in the Japanese American Community

— Joshua Pugel —

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## Roles coming from Japan until emigration

- Unity of Family
- Obedience to Parents, Family
- Men work in politics, while Women work in the home
- Monoethnic Past

(via Adler 25, Endo and Della-Piana)

## Roles coming from the U.S. through the 1960s

- Individualism
- Self-Assertion
- Men in the workforce, while Women work in the home
- Multiracial Past

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(via Adler 25, Endo and Della-Piana)



**MEN**

*Anger*

*Provider*

*Housewife*

*Babymaker*

*Strict*

*Subservient*

*Show No  
Affection*

*Patriotic*

**WOMEN**

# Unity and Dependence of Japanese Culture Vs. Individualism of the American Dream

- Must be **obedient** to Mother and Father, but **Independent** enough to fit in
- Must have strong **work ethic**, yet have enough time for **family**
- Must show a national pride to their **country**, but not to their **heritage**
  - Must be the ***Model Minority***

(via Adler 25, Endo and Della-Piana)

# Fighting for the Rights of others

- Counterculture and the Summer of Love, 1967
  - LGBT Rights
  - Chicano Movement

“No one spoke up on our behalf. We realized we needed to help others.”

-Priscilla Ouchida (qtd. in Lilly)

All as a result of...



via Wikimedia



via PRI



**Executive Order  
9066**



## **Impression of the Internment and Questionnaires on Gender**

- **Men: Gardening, Sewing, etc.**
- **Women: Teaching, Labor, etc.**
  
- **Straying into a non-binary workforce**



# Japanese American Gender in 2018

## Abandonment of the Binary

There are no longer “just” two options for jobs: men’s and women’s

## Equality between Genders

Women in workplace more than ever, Stay-At-Home Fathers more common  
More Japanese American Women in politics

## Repetition of the Past

Japanese Americans will be at the forefront of any defense of minorities



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