

UTS COSMOPOLITAN CIVIL SOCIETIES RESEARCH CENTRE

Teaching and Community Organizing for Social Justice with Multiethnic and Multilingual Families in Los Angeles

SEMINAR

Dr Benji Chang

When: Monday 16 August 2010, 12:00 – 2:00pm

Where: Cosmopolitan Civil Societies Research Centre, UTS City Campus
Level 3, Mary Ann House, 645 Harris Street, Sydney
(a short walk from Central Railway Station)

ABSTRACT

This seminar will discuss social justice approaches to teaching and community organizing in inner-city Los Angeles, rooted in conscious hip-hop as well as sociocultural and critical theory. Based on longitudinal K-12 efforts with Asian, Latino, Black, and 'mixed race' youth between 2000-2010, transformative intersections and collaborations of schools, families, neighborhoods, and community organizations will be explored. The focus will be on emancipatory pedagogies towards multiple literacies development and educational equity for students from immigrant, minority, and working-class backgrounds. Special implications for the long-term sustainability of academic achievement, youth activism, and community engagement will also be explored.

BIOGRAPHY

Dr. Benji Chang is the Director of Youth and Parent Leadership at the Asian Pacific American Legal Center (APALC), the largest Asian civil rights NGO in the United States. He earned his B.A. in Psychology at UC San Diego, and his clear teaching credential and M.Ed. at UCLA's Center X. Most recently he earned his Ph.D. in Education from the UCLA Graduate School of Education. For the past ten years he has been involved in education and social justice work as an inner-city classroom teacher (Los Angeles Unified School District), community organizer, union steward, hip-hop artist, researcher and teacher trainer. Dr. Chang has been published in several books and journals, including *Rethinking Schools* and *Teaching to Change the World*. He has also been a visiting scholar to universities in Hong Kong, Beijing, Singapore, and Australia.

REGISTRATION

Please send registration details to: ccs@uts.edu.au & please include name, group or organisational affiliation & e-mail address

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PLEASE RSVP AS PLACES ARE LIMITED**