

# Don't Turn Your Head

**Decrepit Dreams** by Qui-Shawn Tien Tran

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A Conversation With Myself.

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3800 crimes . . .

A statistic to forget

Microaggressions sky high . . .

So easy to turn a blind eye.

But don't turn your head

Injustice must be faced

Anti-Asian is here,

it's always been,

but it doesn't have to stay.

Acceptance is the first

stage to complete if we want to make change

And it shouldn't take a *mass* shooting or

*massive* action for us to diminish asian hate

It starts with *unmasking* stereotypes from the old days

Realize that we bleed red like every human in this race

Why aren't more people angry

about crimes against the innocent

If we stay quiet

we let the status quo decide to mistreat immigrants

Which by the way, is a complete notion of imagination  
Because immigrants inhabited  
*this* land  
*this* country  
*this* nation

White, Black, Yellow, Red,  
    every stereotype is in your head  
Black, White, Red, Yellow,  
    we need to stop allowing criminals  
Yellow, Red, White, Black,  
    the people in power don't want us to fight back  
Red, Yellow, Black, White,  
    we write history through our actions and our lives

What are you gonna do when the crimes cross the line  
and you finally get scared, *scarred*?  
There's a thin line between hate crimes, dehumanization, and  
genocide

It's happened before to my black brothers and sisters as slaves  
And to Japanese folk in my own neighborhood.  
*5 miles* away from where I grew up

Order 9066  
Internment camps, Men, Women, and Kids  
detained in silence  
houses raided  
children pulled out of their primaries  
Treated like cattle, sheep, and pigs

Dehumanized until they bore completely corroded skin  
But only from the outside looking in  
Because inside they were, they are human. More human than  
any of us could ever be—faced with unspeakable suffering

Our society had, *has* a chronic deficiency  
To hide tragedies until too many are lost and  
we feel guilty and sick  
That's when it finally stops . . .

But Humans to me are **indispensable**  
Each one of us are **essential**

**Each one of us has assumptions that would be better off  
dead**

Don't turn your head  
Injustice must be faced

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Qui-Hawn Jernran". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with large loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.