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Title: Place of Origin and Violent Disagreements among Asian American Families: Analysis Across Five States

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Abstract: Objectives

We examined the prevalence of and factors associated with violent and heated disagreements in the Asian American families, with an emphasis on place of birth differences between parent and child.

Methods

Data were obtained from the 2003 National Survey of Children's Health, limited to five states with the highest concentration of Asian-Americans (n=793). Multivariable analysis used generalized logistic regression models with a three-level outcome, violent and heated disagreement versus calm discussion.

Results

Violent disagreements were reported in 13.7% of Asian-American homes and 9.9% of white homes. Differential parent-child place of birth was associated with increased odds for heated disagreement in Asian-American families. Parenting stress increased the likelihood of violent disagreements in both Asian-American and white families.

Conclusions

Asian-American families are not immune to potential family violence. Reducing parenting stress and intervening in culturally appropriate ways to reduce generation differences should be violence prevention priorities.

Place of origin and Violent Disagreements among Asian American Families

Reviewer's comments	Action
Reviewer One:	
Discussion: top of page 12, first sentence "If it is possible..." is overly simplistic and needs further suggestions in a culturally appropriate way.	Culturally appropriate suggestions have been added into the top paragraph on P.12.
P12, lines 29-37 saying they may not take into account Asians needs should be changed. perhaps "they should take in consideration..." instead The last paragraph on p12 is strong.	The sentence was re-edited to make the idea more clear.
P13, is there any data regarding the last sentence of top paragraph (line 14-17)?	Although we found multiple articles describing the attitudes of immigrant families regarding violence, and many articles describing the provisions of the Violence Against Women Act, we could not find research documenting immigrant women's actual knowledge of their legal situation.
Limitations should be more flushed out in the text: in methods (p6) it says that violent disagreement is recorded if there has been 'hitting or throwing things even if only rarely'. When the choices were: never, rarely, sometimes, usually or always, is not there a chance to over-diagnose 'violent disagreement' if it has happened once ever? -cause and effect remains a question; parenting stress vs. violence -also a limitation is assessing the differences between US born and non-US born generations -another limitation is that those from different Asian cultures may have differential rates	We respectfully concur with most of the reviewer's suggestions, but disagree with one item: -- Three limitations noted by the reviewer (cause/effect, generations, differences across Asian cultures) have been added on p. 15 of the revised manuscript. -- Regarding the use of "ever" in the definition of violence: At root, we believe <i>even one</i> incident of violence has the potential to harm a child. Thus, we do not believe that we are over-diagnosing violence by including "rarely" in our definition. However, we have added a notation regarding the conservative nature of this definition to our description of the disagreement measure in the Methods section (P.6) and to the Limitations section (P.14-15).

Place of Origin and Violent Disagreements among Asian American Families: Analysis Across Five States

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5 **Analysis Across Five States**
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9 **Abstract**

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13 *Objectives*

14 We examined the prevalence of and factors associated with violent and heated
15 disagreements in the Asian American families, with an emphasis on place of birth
16 differences between parent and child.
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19 *Methods*

20 Data were obtained from the 2003 National Survey of Children's Health, limited to five
21 states with the highest concentration of Asian-Americans (n=793). Multivariable analysis
22 used generalized logistic regression models with a three-level outcome, violent and
23 heated disagreement versus calm discussion.
24

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28 white homes. Differential parent-child place of birth was associated with increased odds
29 for heated disagreement in Asian-American families. Parenting stress increased the
30 likelihood of violent disagreements in both Asian-American and white families.
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32
33 *Conclusions*

34 Asian-American families are not immune to potential family violence. Reducing
35 parenting stress and intervening in culturally appropriate ways to reduce generation
36 differences should be violence prevention priorities.
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41 *Key Words*

42 Violence, Disagreement, Stress, Place of Birth, Asian American
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4 **Place of Origin and Violent Disagreement among Asian American Families:**
5 **Analysis Across Five States**
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10 **INTRODUCTION**
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12 The term Asian American refers to persons who have personal or ancestral roots
13 in the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent. Asian Americans are the
14 fastest growing ethnic group in the US, with a growth rate of 63.2% from 1990-2000.
15 This lead to an estimated population in 2004 of 3.96 percent of the American population,
16 or approximately 11.9 million individuals [1]. The Asian-American population is diverse
17 in economic and health status. At one extreme, a significant proportion of Asian
18 Americans live at or below the federal poverty level; at the other extreme Asian-
19 American women have the highest race-sex specific life expectancy in the country [2].
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32 Domestic violence is of concern, but difficult to accurately assess. Research
33 indicates a substantial proportion of the US population experiences domestic violence,
34 ranging from 9-30% among women and 13-18% among men [3, 4]. Previous research
35 regarding domestic abuse among Asian Americans is mixed. Chang et al found lower
36 rates of violence among Asian populations (10.1% - 11.9%) than the general population,
37 but the self-report nature of the data could conservatively bias the results [5]. Others,
38 however, have found higher rates of partner abuse among Asian populations [6].
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49 The reasons for an increased surveillance of domestic violence among Asian
50 Americans are many. Potential conflicts can arise because immigrant parents maintain
51 traditional family values while their children usually tend to adopt Western lifestyles [7-
52 9]. Foreign-born Asian parents normally expect their US-born children to maintain
53 traditions, but US-born children, especially highly acculturated ones, perceive traditional
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4 values negatively and reject this expectation [10-12]. Among Asian immigrants, the
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6 responsibility of children and the role of education as a source of family pride and status
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8 influenced generational stress for parents [13].
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11 Short length of stay in the US and low acculturation have been shown to be
12
13 associated with increased domestic violence among Asian-American families [14].
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16 Generation status and length of stay in the US are important determinants of the level of
17
18 acculturation [14, 15]. The acculturation process may be particularly difficult for Asian
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20 American immigrant families, as children of immigrant parents generally accommodate
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22 Western values and lifestyles faster than their parents. Immigrant parents, on the other
23
24 hand, are more likely to retain their native language and traditional values and lifestyle
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26 [9]. Lee and Liu [16] found that Asian American college students reported a higher
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28 likelihood of family conflict than their Hispanic and European peer counterparts.
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33 Violence in the home can increase a child's risk for emotional or behavioral
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35 problems as an adult, even if the child is a witness rather than a target of the violent
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37 behavior [17-20]. Determining the proportion of children at risk is difficult for Asian
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39 American children. For example, the 2000 National Survey of Adolescents found that
40
41 34% white, 57% of African-American and 50% of Hispanic children had witnessed in-
42
43 home or community violence in their lifetimes, did not over-sample to include sufficient
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45 Asian American children for accurate estimates [21]. It has been suggested that a belief
46
47 that Asian-Americans are a "model minority" has impaired the development of research
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49 into the needs of this population [2].
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54 Large scale surveys that measure violence against women do not typically include
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56 adequate numbers of Asian American women for useful analysis. The National Violence
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4 Against Women (NVAW) survey, conducted by the U.S. Department of Justice, only
5 surveyed 134 Asian American women [4]. Other studies have surveyed included more
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7 Asian American women, but did not study the impact upon children [5]. In addition,
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9 traditional Asian values of harmony and close family ties, along with fatalism and self-
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11 restraint, may not discourage physical and verbal abuse within the family, but encourage
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13 concealing such problems [22].
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18 **Research Purpose**

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21 The present study sought to explore the prevalence of and risk factors for violent
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23 and heated disagreements in the home among Asian American families. We further
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25 sought to investigate whether parent–child differences in place of birth positively related
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27 to violent and heated disagreements in the home. Because previous research [23] revealed
28
29 the importance of parental stress as a correlate of violent disagreement, we treated this
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31 variable as a potential confounder and explored factors associated with it. By focusing on
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33 families with children in the general population, rather than clinic-based or other
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35 convenience samples, the present research allows better estimates of the prevalence of
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37 violent and heated disagreements in Asian-American households with children.
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43 **METHODS**

44 **Study Design and Data Source**

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46 We analyzed data from the cross-sectional 2003 National Survey of Children’s
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48 Health (NSCH). The NSCH was conducted by the State and Local Area Telephone
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50 Survey (SLAITS) of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) using
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52 random digit dialing. The survey was designed to be representative of all US households
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54 with children. One child was randomly selected in each household to be the subject of the
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4 interview. Respondents were mothers (71.2%, Asian respondents), fathers (25.5%), and
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6 other relatives (3.3%) of the selected child. A detailed description of the NSCH has been
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8 published [24].
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10 11 **Population Studied**

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14 We studied families living in five states (California, Hawaii, New Jersey, New
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16 York, and Washington) for which the number of respondents allowed Asian-Americans
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18 to be designated as a specific race/ethnicity group without compromising respondent
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20 confidentiality. Across these five states, 793 children were categorized as Asian-
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22 American, with no other race listed. For comparative purposes, white children in the
23
24 same five states (n = 5,942) are also described. The majority of unweighted Asian-
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26 American observations was highest for Hawaii (466), followed by California (112), New
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28 Jersey (97), New York (53) and Washington (65). We did not develop state-specific
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30 estimates for violent or heated disagreements, as the number of unweighted observations
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32 among Asian-American families fell below the value needed for valid estimates of
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34 violent disagreement in three of the states studied. When weighted to reflex the complex
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36 sampling design, the observations represent 11.33 million children, of whom 1.40 million
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38 are Asian and 9.93 million are white.
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46 **Dependent Variable**

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49 The likelihood of violence exposure was assessed using questions about
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51 disagreement style. The stem for each question was “when you have a serious
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53 disagreement with your household members, how often do you... discuss your
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55 disagreements calmly ... argue heatedly or shout ...[or] end up hitting or throwing
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4 things.” Response choices were never, rarely, sometimes, usually, or always. We
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6 collapsed these questions into a three-level measure of potential violence:
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- 9 • Violent disagreement: hitting or throwing things, even if only “rarely;”
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- 11 • Heated disagreement: the respondent did not report hitting or throwing, but
- 12 reported arguing heatedly or shouting sometimes, usually or always;
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- 14
- 15 • Calm: all other responses.
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20 We note that the definition of violent disagreement is conservative, in that hitting
21 or throwing does not have to be frequent and consistent to be included in this category.
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23 Given the potential consequences of violence and violence witness among children [17-
24 20], a conservative approach appears appropriate.
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29 A small proportion of all observations (120/6,735; 1.78%) reported “rarely” or
30 “never” discussing things calmly, but also did not report violent or heated disagreement.
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32 This uncertain response category was more common among Asian than among white
33 respondents (5.6% versus 1.6%; $p = 0.0490$), among families in which one (10 or 10.3%)
34 or both parents (46, 41.4%) were foreign born, and in households where English was not
35 the primary language than in English-speaking households (7.9% versus 0.8%; $p =$
36 <0.001). These observations were retained in the “calm” or baseline category, but with
37 the caveat that some responses may be ambiguous.
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49 **Independent Variable**

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51 Parent–child differences in place of birth were expressed as a three-level variable,
52 defined using three items from the NSCH pertaining to parental and child place of birth.
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54 Categories were 1] both mother and father were born outside the US, but child was born
55 in the US (a generation difference deemed to be present); 2] one parent in a two-parent
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4 family was born outside the US and the child was or was not born in the US (a possible
5 generation difference) and 3] All other combinations, including single parent families.

9 **Control Variables**

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11 Characteristics of the child and parent that might contribute to violent
12 disagreements were also examined. Other characteristics of the child included age, sex,
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14 reported health status, presence of special health care needs, and health insurance status.
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16 The three health-related variables were conceptualized as potential sources of emotional
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18 stress, either through the difficulty of caring for a sick child or through financial
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20 difficulty (24).
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26 Both attitudinal and demographic characteristics of the parent were included. The
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28 available attitudinal variables were parental stress, availability of another person for day-
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30 to-day emotional help with parenthood, and perceived neighborhood support [25].
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32 Parental stress was measured in the NSCH using three questions derived from the
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34 Parental Stress Index [26] and the Parental Attitudes about Childrearing scale [27].
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36 Questions asked how often, during the past month, the parent had felt that the child “was
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38 much harder to care for than children his/her age,” “did anything that really bothers you a
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40 lot,” and “[you] felt angry with him/her.” Cronbach’s α for the parenting stress scale
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42 were modest, 0.60 among Asian parents and 0.61 among white parents. Summative
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44 scores ranged from 3 through 12, but were not normally distributed. Scores were summed,
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46 and dichotomized into high versus low stress at the 75th percentile. Parental stress
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48 remained a continuous measure when it was modeled as an outcome. Emotional help and
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50 perceived neighborhood support were used as a measure of social support and social
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52 capital respectively [28]; absence of support has been associated with violence in inner-
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4 city neighborhoods [29]. Perceived neighborhood support was measured with four items
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6 pertaining to neighbors' willingness to help out, both generally and specifically for
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8 children, derived from Fields and Smith [28]. Parents who responded negatively to 2 or
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10 more statements were classified as perceiving a low-supportive neighborhood. Other
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12 parental characteristics included education, and parental physical and mental health.
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14 Family characteristics included income, primary language in the home (English versus
15
16 other), and number of children in the household.
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21 **Analytic Approach**

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23 We examined factors associated with violent disagreement and parental stress
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25 using bivariate and multivariable statistics. Preliminary examination revealed that the
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27 relationship between potential correlates and disagreement style was different among
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29 Asian than among white families, based on statistically significant interactions for two
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31 variables, place of birth differences and child's insurance. Thus, findings for Asian and
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33 white families are not incorporated into a single model, but presented separately.
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38 Multivariable analysis used generalized logistic regression models [30] with a three-fold
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40 outcome, in which the risk of violent and heated disagreement were simultaneously
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42 compared to a baseline condition of calm discussion [31]. Analysis pertaining to parental
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44 stress used multiple linear regression with a continuous outcome. All testing was two
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46 sided and conducted at $\alpha=0.05$. All analyses employed sampling weights, reflecting the
47
48 complex survey design, and were carried out in SAS-callable SUDAAN.
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55 **RESULTS**

56 **Characteristics of Asian Children and Parents**

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4 Asian families were more likely to experience parent-child differences in place of
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6 birth (50.5% among Asians, 10.9% among whites; $p < 0.001$; Table 1). Among both
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8 groups, about one in eight children were considered to be in good to poor health (12.9%
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10 among Asians, 13.1% among whites). Fewer Asian children were reported to have
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12 special health care needs (10.1% among Asians, 16.0% among whites; $p = 0.0151$; Table
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19 Asian parents were more likely than whites to report education beyond high
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21 school. However, they were also more likely to report high parental stress (32.6% versus
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23 24.5%) and less available emotional help (80.4% versus 87.8%). Asian families were
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25 more likely than white to speak a primary language other than English at home (41.1%
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27 versus 14.1%). Notably, family poverty level and health insurance status did not differ
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29 across groups.
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32 33 **Violent and Heated Disagreement**

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36 The prevalence of violent disagreements was similar across Asian and white
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38 homes, at 13.7% and 9.9%, respectively (Table 2, $p=0.1642$). Heated disagreements were
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40 reported by 34.5% of Asian parents, and 31.1% of white parents. Factors associated with
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42 disagreements were similar for both races (Table 2). Only two variables were
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44 significantly different among Asian and white populations: place of birth differences
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46 between parent and child, and the child's insurance status, as measured by a statistically
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48 significant interaction term ($p < 0.01$).
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53 The results of the adjusted analysis, holding all characteristics of child, parent,
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55 and family constant, are shown in Table 3. Place of birth differences between parent and
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57 child were associated with increased odds for heated disagreement among Asian families
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4 (OR 3.18, 95% CI 1.55, 6.55), but were not linked to violent disagreement (OR 1.90,
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7 95% CI 0.59, 6.11). Among white families, the presence of differences in place of birth
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9 was not significantly associated with disagreement style.

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11 Asian parents reporting high parenting stress had markedly higher odds for both
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13 violent disagreement (OR 7.35; 95% CI 2.69-20.06) and heated disagreement (OR 2.41,
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15 95% CI 1.20-4.85; Table 3). Results were similar among whites. Among Asian families,
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17 lower education level strongly increased the odds for violent disagreements (OR 6.20, CI
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19 1.35-28.39; Table 3), but not for heated disagreements. Among family characteristics,
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21 primary language and total children in the household were linked to violent
22
23 disagreements. Asian families that did not speak English as the primary language had
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25 decreased odds for violent disagreement (OR 0.25, CI 0.09-0.73). Asian parents who
26
27 reared three or more children were more likely than those with two or less children to
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29 report violent disagreement in the family (OR 5.82, CI 1.61-21.04). Among white
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31 families, relatively large family size was also linked to violent disagreement. Other
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33 significant predictors of conflict level among whites included age, parenting stress,
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35 emotional help with parenthood, parent's mental health, primary language, and total
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37 children in household.
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45 The effects of stress were so dramatic, particularly among Asian families, that a
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47 separate analysis of parenting stress was performed. Among Asian families, three health
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49 related factors emerged as significant predictors of parental stress (Table 4). When
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51 children had special health care needs or lacked health insurance, parents tended to report
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53 higher stress. Similarly, if at least one parent reported poor physical health, the score of
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55 stress was higher. Four factors were found to be the significant predictors of parental
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4 stress among whites; the age of child, having a child with special health care needs, the
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6 lack of insurance for the child, and parental mental health, but not physical health.
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10 11 **DISCUSSION**

12 13 *Prevalence of Violent Disagreements*

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15 We found a 13.7% prevalence of violent disagreements among Asian families in
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17 five selected states. This estimate is higher than previous estimates [5], but lower than the
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19 estimates for the population at large [4]. In addition, slightly over a third of Asian
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21 families (34.5%) reported heated disagreement, arguing and shouting. Children can
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23 interpret symbolic behaviors, such as shouting, as a form of violence [32]. Thus, nearly
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25 one of every two Asian children (48.2%) lived in homes where heated or violent
26
27 disagreements may have adverse effects on children. The notion that Asian American
28
29 families are free from physical or symbolic violence is clearly erroneous.
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33 34 *Limited Impact of Generation Differences*

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36 In multivariable analysis, parent-child difference in place of birth was a major
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38 correlate of heated, but not violent, disagreements within Asian American families
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40 (heated, OR 3.18, Table 3). Difference in place of birth was not associated with parenting
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42 stress as measured in this study (P=0.8068, Table 4). The NSCH did not include detailed
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44 questions that would allow us to assess the nature of potential differences between Asian-
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46 born parents and their US-born children, or how these might be related to heated
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48 disagreement. Previous research suggests that generation differences between parents and
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50 children compound the intergeneration gap [33].
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54 55 *Association of Parenting Stress with Violent Disagreements*

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59 Parental stress was closely associated with both violent and heated disagreements,
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4 although it cannot be determined whether stress gives rise to disagreement, or
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6 disagreement styles influence stress. In either case, identification of stress as a strong risk
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8 factor for potential violence among Asian-American parents (OR 7.35) has important
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10 clinical implications, and mirrors previous studies [34]. In helping Asian-Americans,
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12 pediatric practitioners, educators, and school or community counselors should consider
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14 the three essential predictors of Asian-American's parenting stress, including child's
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16 special health care needs, insurance status, and parent's physical health. Discussions
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18 probing the family situation and examining options for reducing parenting stress need to
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20 be carefully initiated. Avoidance of actions or disclosures that might bring shame on the
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22 family unit is strongly felt in most of Asian-American subcultures [35, 36]. Thus,
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24 providers may wish to consider describing treatment options as steps to strengthen family
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26 harmony, rather than a reflection of family failure.
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33 It is noteworthy that principal correlates of parenting stress, in both Asian
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35 American and white homes in the states studied, were health related. In particular, parents
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37 of children with special health care needs experience marked stress. Depending on the
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39 severity of the child's problems, programs for alleviating stress can range from respite
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41 care, for severely handicapped children, to anticipatory guidance regarding common
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43 special needs diagnoses, such as asthma. Parent support services, specifically for helping
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45 parents cope with the stress of managing their children's care, are often provided through
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47 state Title V programs or non-profit organizations. These program providers are acutely
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49 aware of the risk of domestic violence in families of children with special needs.
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51 However, they should take in consideration the unique cultural issues of Asian
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53 Americans when planning their services, especially in states where this population is very
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6 Finally, the link between stress and violence may aid in detection of homes
7 experiencing violence. Given the pressures on Asian American women to avoid revealing
8 inappropriate behavior [22], a more neutral question set, such as the items used to
9 measure parenting stress, may be key to detection of violence. It may be more effective if
10 practitioners initiate discussion around child-raising issues, examining how hard the
11 parent believes it is to care for their child, than to directly ask about violence [15].
12 Answers suggestive of high parental stress could trigger additional screening questions
13 related to disagreement style.
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26 Effectively tackling domestic violence involves a framework that can engage the
27 intersection of local, state, and national policies that may offer hotlines, shelters, support
28 groups, and legal advocacy. Legislation provides protection for immigrant women who
29 find themselves victims of domestic violence. The 1994 Violence Against Women Act
30 helps undocumented abused women petition for their permanent resident status [37].
31 Whether or not Asian American women are aware of their legal protection and
32 community programs is unclear.
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43 Immigrant bureau agencies and mental health and social workers at all levels can
44 make a key contribution to the policy development for risk-reduction services among
45 minoritized groups [38]. Since heated disagreements were more likely among Asian
46 immigrants whose children were born in the US, clinicians should be sensitive to the
47 potential for family conflict when working with such families. In addition, prevention and
48 education programs at the community level are essential to help parents of children with
49 special health care needs cope without experiencing markedly increase parenting stress,
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4 with its links to violent disagreement. Reaching Asian Americans with the help of
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6 ethnically and linguistically compatible counseling and social workers may be effective.
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8 Rigorous evaluation of any strategies adopted is essential, although the barriers in
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10 connecting with the target families may be considerable [39]. Culturally appropriate
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12 interventions for addressing generation differences, child health, and parenting stress, and
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14 thus possibly reducing the prevalence of violent disagreement among Asian families,
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17 form an area for future research.
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21 Limitations of the present study stem from the measures used and the unique nature
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23 of Asian populations. First, as noted previously, our measure of disagreement is a
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25 conservative one, including families where hitting/throwing occur “rarely” in the “violent
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27 disagreement” category. Second, ambiguous responses to the conflict questions (giving
28
29 the same answer, “rarely,” to all questions) were more common among Asian-American
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31 than among white families and among families in which one or both parents was foreign
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33 born but the child was born in the US. Because all such responses were placed in the
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35 “calm” or baseline category, this may bias the study toward underestimating the
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37 prevalence of heated or violent disagreement among Asian American families. Third,
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39 although the measure of potentially violent disagreement was broad, asking about
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41 behaviors (hit, throw) rather than about injury or outcomes, it may still underestimate
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43 violence, as a respondent’s personal behavior may not be representative of other
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45 household members. We would not expect this to occur differentially in families with
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47 different origins compared to those with the same origin. Further, violent behaviors are
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49 generally underreported [40]. If this underreporting were higher in Asian-American
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51 families, particularly those with different places of birth, our results would represent a
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4 conservative estimate of the differences. Fourth, all analyses were cross-sectional. It is
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6 impossible to determine a causal effect from the analysis. Instead, only the associations
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8 can be inferred. Next, we note that place of birth is only an approximation for
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10 generational differences that are assumed to be present. Our data did not include
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12 measurement of attitude conflict between parents and children. Similarly, because length
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14 of stay in the US was not available in the NSCH data set, the present study could only
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16 measure parent-child generation differences by examining whether or not both parent and
17
18 child were both born US. We cannot speculate whether length of stay in the US would be
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20 positively or negatively associated with disagreement style. Finally, we note that the
21
22 phrase “Asian-American” artificially unifies individuals drawn from 25 cultures and 40
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24 subcultures across the Asia [36]. Practitioners need to develop an understanding of the
25
26 specific cultures of the families they serve.
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34 The present study suggests that parenting stress is closely related to heated and
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36 violent behaviors among Asian-Americans, and that a difference in place of birth is
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38 associated with heated disagreement. These findings can be used to develop interventions
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40 that are tailored to the special characteristics of Asian American families. Prior research
41
42 has suggested that mental health services are underutilized for domestic violence issues
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44 among Asian Americans [37], emphasizing the need for culturally sensitive detection and
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46 intervention programs for this population.
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53 **Acknowledgements**

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Table 1. Characteristics of Asian and White families, 5 states, NSCH 2003

	Asian children (n = 793)		White children (n=5,942)		P value for Asian-White Differences
	Percent	SE	Percent	SE	
Differences in place of birth					<0.0001
Child born in US; both parents born outside US	50.5	3.8	10.9	0.62	
Only one parent born outside US	9.5	2.1	8.0	0.56	
Other	40.0	3.7	81.1	0.78	
Parenting stress					0.0235
High	32.6	3.5	24.5	0.81	
Low	67.4	3.5	75.5	0.81	
Characteristics of the child					
Age					0.3955
0-5	33.4	3.6	31.6	0.88	
6-11	36.3	3.7	33.3	0.92	
12-17	30.3	3.4	35.2	0.91	
Sex					0.7947
Male	50.7	3.8	51.7	0.96	
Female	49.3	3.8	48.3	0.96	
Child's health					0.9225
Good to poor ¹	12.9	2.4	13.1	0.66	
Excellent to very good	87.2	2.4	86.9	0.66	
Child has special health care needs					0.0151
Yes	10.1	2.3	16.0	0.68	
No	89.9	2.3	84.0	0.68	
Child's insurance					0.0884
Private	79.1	2.9	72.9	0.90	
Public	17.1	2.7	20.8	0.83	
None	3.8	1.4	6.4	0.49	
Characteristics of the parents					
Emotional help with parenthood					0.0235
Yes	80.4	3.1	87.8	0.67	
No	19.6	3.1	12.2	0.67	
Perceived neighborhood support					0.8975
High	87.7	2.6	88.0	0.63	
Low	12.3	2.6	12.0	0.63	
Highest education in household					<0.0001
High school or less	9.3	2.2	27.5	0.91	
More than high school	90.8	2.2	72.5	0.91	
Parent's physical health					0.3402
Good to poor	34.0	3.6	37.5	0.94	
Excellent to very good	66.0	3.6	62.5	0.94	

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Parent's mental/emotional health					0.8869
Good to poor	20.9	3.2	20.4	0.81	
Excellent to very good	79.1	3.2	79.6	0.81	
Characteristics of the family					
Poverty					0.2938
<100%	8.4	2.3	11.4	0.70	
100-200%	18.3	3.3	15.7	0.76	
200-400%	25.6	3.4	29.8	0.87	
400%+	39.4	3.6	33.6	0.85	
Missing	8.3	2.1	9.6	0.59	
Primary language					<0.0001
English	58.9	3.8	85.9	0.72	
Not English	41.1	3.8	14.1	0.72	
Total children in household					0.2970
3+	34.6	4.1	38.9	1.0	
2 or less	65.4	4.1	61.1	1.0	

Table 2. Disagreement style by characteristics of the child and family, Asian and white children in five states, 2003 NSCH.

	Disagreements among Asian families (n=793)			Disagreements among white families (n=5,942)		
	Violent %	Heated %	P value within Asian	Violent %	Heated %	P value within white
Total	13.7	34.5		9.9	31.1	
Differences in place of birth*			0.4915			0.4658
Child born in US; both parents born outside US	12.6	40.4		13.5	29.7	
Only one parent born outside US	18.2	34.5		8.2	32.4	
Other	14.0	27.2		9.6	31.1	
Parenting stress			0.0141			<0.0001
High	22.6	40.2		15.6	39.1	
Low	9.4	31.8		8.0	28.5	
Characteristics of the child						
Age			0.0618			<0.0001
0-5	11.7	26.1		8.9	23.6	
6-11	17.3	45.8		10.1	34.1	
12-17	11.5	30.3		10.6	35.0	
Sex			0.1060			0.6186
Male	13.6	41.6		9.5	30.6	
Female	13.8	27.2		10.3	31.6	
Child's health			0.3751			0.0053
Good to poor	8.8	45.5		11.5	37.8	
Excellent to very good	14.4	32.9		9.7	30.1	
Child has special health care needs			0.9620			0.0066
Yes	15.1	36.0		13.0	34.5	
No	13.5	34.4		9.3	30.4	
Child's insurance*			0.7927			0.4793
Private	13.5	35.0		9.4	31.8	
Public	10.9	32.8		11.8	28.7	
None	30.3	31.6		8.7	30.5	
Characteristics of the parents						
Parenting stress			0.0141			<0.0001
High	22.6	40.2		15.6	39.1	
Low	9.4	31.8		8.0	28.5	
Emotional help with parenthood			0.3611			0.0051
Yes	11.3	35.4		9.4	30.4	
No	23.5	30.8		13.8	36.2	
Perceived neighborhood support			0.7264			0.0667
High	11.8	35.3		9.7	30.6	
Low	20.0	30.0		11.9	35.3	
Highest education in household			0.3414			0.9142
High school or less	33.6	26.8		10.3	30.6	
More than high school	11.7	35.5		9.8	31.3	
Parent's physical health			0.3770			<0.001
Good to poor	19.4	34.4		12.0	35.8	
Excellent to very good	10.7	34.6		8.6	28.2	
Parent's mental/emotional			0.7601			<0.001

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health					
Good to poor	15.7	38.1		17.2	43.8
Excellent to very good	13.1	33.6		8.0	27.8
Characteristics of the family					
Poverty			0.3893		0.0132
<100%	9.4	35.6		8.6	28.8
100-200%	26.5	28.8		13.0	34.3
200-400%	6.3	29.6		10.1	32.7
400%+	13.0	42.0		7.8	30.6
Missing	15.6	25.9		13.0	25.5
Primary language			0.9939		0.1343
English	13.9	34.4		9.5	31.7
Not English	13.3	34.8		12.6	27.3
Total children in household			0.1861		0.0318
3+	21.8	34.6		11.9	31.7
2 or less	9.4	34.5		8.6	30.7

* Flagged variables perform differently among Asian and white populations, as measured by a statistically significant interaction term in three-way analysis.

Table 3. Factors linked to disagreement style among Asian and White families, holding child, parent, and family characteristics constant, five states. Data Source: 2003 NSCH. Odds ratios (OR) and 95% Confidence Interval (CI).

	Asian families				White families			
	Hit, throw versus discuss calmly		Argue, shout versus discuss calmly		Hit, throw versus discuss calmly		Argue, shout versus discuss calmly	
	OR	95% CI	OR	95% CI	OR	95% CI	OR	95% CI
Differences in place of birth								
Child born in US; both parents born outside US	1.90	0.59, 6.11	3.18	1.55, 6.55	1.53	0.84, 2.76	1.19	0.80, 1.77
Only one parent born outside US	1.45	0.21, 9.84	2.37	0.82, 6.81	0.96	0.51, 1.79	1.20	0.86, 1.66
Other	1.00	---	1.00	---	1.00	---	1.00	---
Parenting stress								
High	7.35	2.69, 20.06	2.41	1.20, 4.85	2.46	1.82, 3.32	1.78	1.44, 2.19
Low	1.00	---	1.00	---	1.00	---	1.00	---
Characteristics of the child								
Age								
0-5	1.00	---	1.00	---	1.00	---	1.00	---
6-11	2.45	0.74, 8.11	3.99	1.66, 9.57	1.42	0.98, 2.06	1.77	1.42, 2.21
12-17	1.23	0.41, 3.67	1.87	0.78, 4.49	1.37	0.94, 1.98	1.69	1.37, 2.08
Sex								
Male	2.10	0.74, 5.97	3.13	1.51, 6.49	0.90	0.68, 1.20	0.94	0.79, 1.11
Female	1.00	---	1.00	---	1.00	---	1.00	---
Child's health								
Good to poor	0.40	0.08, 1.93	1.74	0.58, 5.18	0.85	0.55, 1.33	1.25	0.93, 1.67
Excellent to very good	1.00	---	1.00	---	1.00	---	1.00	---
Child has special health care needs								
Yes	1.04	0.22, 4.84	0.63	0.20, 1.97	1.20	0.84, 1.71	0.94	0.73, 1.20
No	1.00	---	1.00	---	1.00	---	1.00	---
Child's insurance								
Private	1.00	---	1.00	---	1.00	---	1.00	---

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Public	0.71	0.15, 3.28	1.39	0.51, 3.78	0.90	0.58, 1.40	0.75	0.56, 1.01
None	5.34	0.92, 31.06	1.17	0.15, 9.50	0.65	0.32, 1.33	0.79	0.54, 1.17
Characteristics of the parents								
Emotional help with parenthood								
Yes	1.00	---	1.00	---	1.00	---	1.00	---
No	2.55	0.75, 8.65	0.80	0.30, 2.15	1.39	0.83, 2.34	1.50	1.11, 2.02
Perceived neighborhood support								
High	0.45	0.14, 1.41	0.69	0.23, 2.08	0.87	0.58, 1.30	0.83	0.63, 1.09
Low	1.00	---	1.00	---	1.00	---	1.00	---
Highest education in household								
High school or less	6.20	1.35, 28.39	1.56	0.37, 6.52	0.73	0.50, 1.07	0.86	0.69, 1.09
More than high school	1.00	---	1.00	---	1.00	---	1.00	---
Parent's physical health								
Good to poor	1.69	0.56, 5.11	1.00	0.44, 2.27	1.07	0.72, 1.58	1.13	0.92, 1.37
Excellent to very good	1.00	---	1.00	---	1.00	---	1.00	---
Parent's mental/emotional health								
Good to poor	0.48	0.13, 1.76	0.96	0.34, 2.71	3.25	2.10, 5.03	2.41	1.86, 3.12
Excellent to very good	1.00	---	1.00	---	1.00	---	1.00	---
Characteristics of the family								
Poverty								
<100%	0.59	0.08, 4.12	0.74	0.13, 4.18	0.53	0.23, 1.24	0.79	0.53, 1.18
100-200%	2.17	0.35, 13.26	1.05	0.34, 3.30	1.08	0.67, 1.75	1.07	0.79, 1.44
200-400%	1.00	---	1.00	---	1.00	---	1.00	---
400%+	5.35	1.11, 25.76	2.90	1.18, 7.15	0.78	0.56, 1.09	0.94	0.76, 1.16
Missing	2.29	0.53, 9.87	1.23	0.16, 9.14	1.25	0.77, 2.03	0.82	0.58, 1.17
Primary language								
English	1.00	---	1.00	---	1.00	---	1.00	---
Not English	0.25	0.09, 0.73	0.71	0.33, 1.55	0.85	0.43, 1.67	0.59	0.39, 0.89

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Total children in household								
3+	5.82	1.61, 21.04	2.20	0.93, 5.22	1.55	1.15, 2.09	1.16	0.95, 1.41
2 or less	1.00	---	1.00	---	1.00	---	1.00	---

Table 4. Factors linked to parental stress among Asian and White families, holding child, parent, and family characteristics constant, five states. Data Source: 2003 NSCH.

	Parental stress among Asian families		Parental stress among White families	
	LS mean	P value	LS mean	P value
Differences in place of birth		0.8068		0.2109
Child born in US; both parents born outside US	4.93		4.74	
Only one parent born outside US	5.12		4.94	
Other	5.04		4.77	
Characteristics of the child				
Age		0.2247		<0.0001
0-5	5.12		4.60	
6-11	5.09		4.84	
12-17	4.76		4.90	
Sex		0.8845		0.6863
Male	4.98		4.77	
Female	5.01		4.79	
Child's health		0.2447		0.1059
Good to poor	4.63		4.91	
Excellent to very good	5.05		4.76	
Child has special health care needs		0.0087		<0.0001
Yes	5.76		5.34	
No	4.91		4.68	
Child's insurance		0.0444		0.4163
Private	4.97		4.80	
Public	4.90		4.75	
None	5.91		4.66	
Characteristics of the parents				
Emotional help with parenthood		0.5899		0.0251
Yes	4.96		4.76	
No	5.14		4.98	
Perceived neighborhood support		0.1401		0.1227
High	4.91		4.77	
Low	5.66		4.89	
Highest education in household		0.2843		0.5834
High school or less	5.75		4.76	
More than high school	4.92		4.79	
Parent's physical health		0.0464		0.6302
Good to poor	5.39		4.80	
Excellent to very good	4.81		4.77	
Parent's mental/emotional health		0.5950		<0.0001
Good to poor	5.08		5.12	
Excellent to very good	4.97		4.70	

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Characteristics of the family				
Poverty		0.9272		0.5784
<100%	4.81		4.68	
100-200%	5.15		4.81	
200-400%	4.89		4.79	
400%+	5.04		4.82	
Missing	4.94		4.70	
Primary language		0.1225		0.1335
English	4.86		4.75	
Not English	5.20		4.98	
Total children in household		0.6031		0.8340
3+	5.08		4.79	
2 or less	4.95		4.78	