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October 28, 2013

Mr. Paul Lee
President
ABC Entertainment Group
500 S. Buena Vista St.
Burbank, CA 91521-4589

Dear Mr. Lee:

On behalf of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus (CAPAC), we write to express our grave concerns over the "Kids Table" segment aired on the show *Jimmy Kimmel Live* on October 16, 2013. In the segment, Mr. Kimmel asked four children how the U.S. should pay back the debt owed to China. One of the children suggested that the United States "kill everyone in China." The audience laughed and Mr. Kimmel acknowledged the comment with "That's an interesting idea." He repeated the suggestion one more time, eliciting more laughter.

While I understand the nature of a comedy show, these comments are both inappropriate and offensive to us and others in diverse communities throughout the country. The implications go beyond the Asian American community by promoting a culture of intolerance and perpetuating xenophobic rhetoric. A joke about killing over 1 billion Chinese people is no laughing matter. Given the reach of your network throughout the country, you are aware that what is said on this show can influence the American society's perception of different cultures and communities. All we have to do is look at the stereotypes and hysteria of the 1980's that resulted in the murder of Vincent Chin by two white unemployed autoworkers to see that tragedy can happen when xenophobia is tolerated in our society.

Instead, we should all strive to treat everyone with civility and respect. As Members of the United States Congress, we urge Mr. Kimmel to issue a formal apology and that ABC Entertainment Group remove the skit from future broadcasts. I trust that ABC will act to ensure that such racially insensitive sentiments are not tolerated at any level of the organization.

Respectfully,

JUDY CHU
Member of Congress
CAPAC Chair

MIKE HONDA
Member of Congress
CAPAC Chair Emeritus

GRACE MENG
Member of Congress