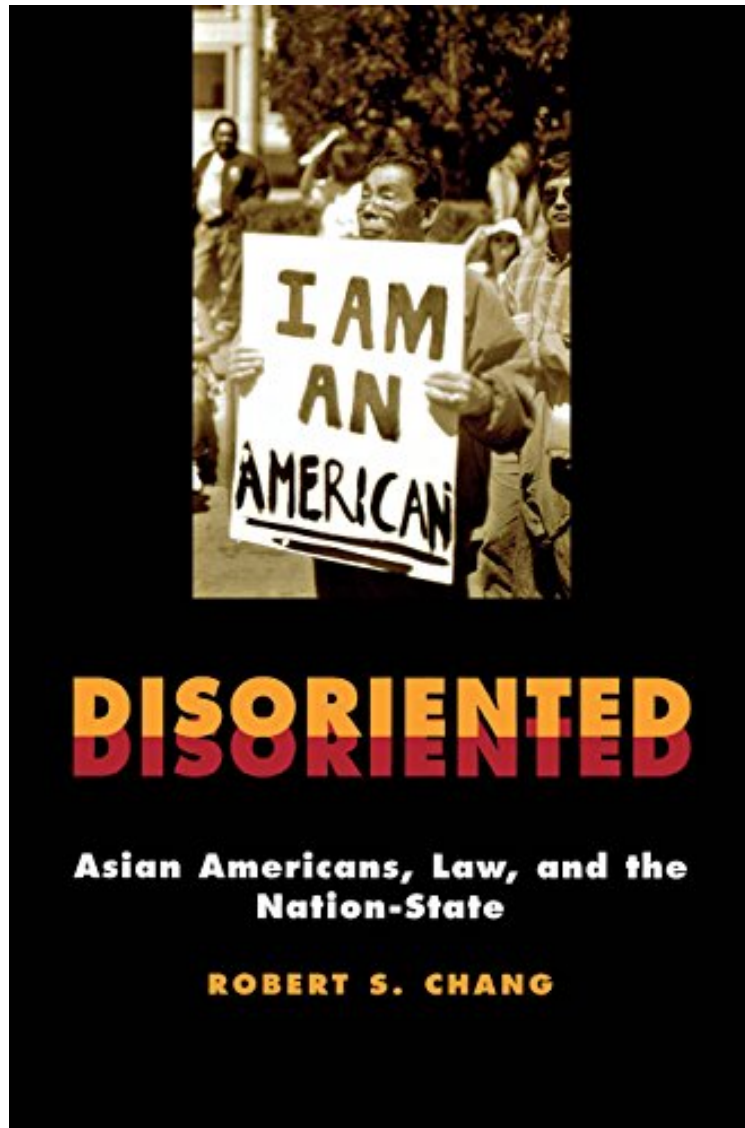


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Disoriented: Asian Americans, Law, and the Nation-State (Critical America)

Robert Chang

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Robert Chang : Disoriented: Asian Americans, Law, and the Nation-State (Critical America) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Disoriented: Asian Americans, Law, and the Nation-State (Critical America):

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and thought it was accessible (I read it in a couple days), at times humorous, and smart. It contains multiple essays on law and Asian America, one of which is a thought-provoking discussion of the place/placing of Asian Americans in the Affirmative Action debate, particularly for those of us who are used to looking at affirmative action through a different racial/ethnic lens. I am very impressed with this author.³ of 9 people found the following review helpful. Brilliant
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Having come from a similar background as an Asian-American in the field of law, I can relate well to many of the experiences highlighted in the text. This work accurately describes the intricate philosophies and common experiences held by many Asian-Americans, thus allowing vital insight into a often misconstrued culture. It represents a fresh look into this important segment of the American society. The text flowed well and covered a broad range of stimulating issues. A very satisfying read.³ of 9 people found the following review helpful. Thoughtful and perceptive
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Does "Asian American" denote an ethnic or racial identification? Is a person of mixed ancestry, the child of Euro- and Asian American parents, Asian American? What does it mean to refer to first generation Hmong refugees and fifth generation Chinese Americans both as Asian American? In *Disoriented: Asian Americans, Law, and the Nation State*, Robert Chang examines the current discourse on race and law and the implications of postmodern theory and affirmative action—all of which have largely excluded Asian Americans—in order to develop a theory of critical Asian American legal studies. Demonstrating that the ongoing debate surrounding multiculturalism and immigration in the U.S. is really a struggle over the meaning of "America," Chang reveals how the construction of Asian American-ness has become a necessary component in stabilizing a national American identity—a fact Chang criticizes as harmful to Asian Americans. Defining the many "borders" that operate in positive and negative ways to construct America as we know it, Chang analyzes the position of Asian Americans within America's black/white racial paradigm, how "the family" operates as a stand-in for race and nation, and how the figure of the immigrant embodies a central contradiction in allegories of America. "Has profound political implications for race relations in the new century"
Michigan Law Review, May 2001

"Sophisticated and passionate . . . As [Robert Chang] says, our world is now bursting with color' and it is his accomplishment in this book to re-theorize the vocabulary within which questions of race are debated in this society."—Stanley Fish, *University of Illinois, Chicago*
"Has profound political implications for race relations in the new century."—*Michigan Law*
About the Author
Robert S. Chang is Professor of Law at Loyola Law School in Los Angeles.