

Communication from Public

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Council File No: 19-1470

Comments for Public Posting: ORDINANCE NO. _____ AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER IV, ARTICLE 4, SECTION 51.03 OF THE LOS ANGELES MUNICIPAL CODE, PROHIBITING DISCRIMINATION BASED ON AN INDIVIDUAL'S LINEAGE OR CASTE DERIVED FROM THE CASTA SYSTEM INTRODUCED BY SPANISH COLONIZERS IN THE PHILIPPINES AND MEXICO, WHICH INCLUDED THE PUEBLO DE LOS ANGELES. WHEREAS, casta or caste is a system of racist social discrimination characterized by hereditary status, endogamy, and social barriers sanctioned by custom, law, or religion; WHEREAS, casta or caste discrimination is based on lineage, which can include genealogy or genetic information, and occurs in the form of social segregation, physical and psychological abuse, or violence; WHEREAS, indigenous communities refer to the original, diverse societies with their own identities that constitute an integral part of the Americas and other regions; WHEREAS, indigenous communities have suffered from historic injustices as a result of Spanish and Mexican colonization, the casta system and the dispossession of indigenous lands, languages, territories and resources, thus preventing them from exercising their right to development in accordance with their own needs or interests; WHEREAS, the majority of the indigenous communities in the City of Los Angeles originate from Los Angeles itself (the Gabrielino-Tongva or San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians and the Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians), Mexico (Oaxacans), the Philippines (Negrito-Dumagat, Igorot-Ifugao), the First Communities of California and other communities, including those from Guatemala or other regions of Central and South America; WHEREAS, a racist, neo-casta political syndicate with a pattern of criminally deceptive behavior spanning years and multiple persons manifest itself a year ago in the conversations of several Mexican-Americans, some of whom were members of the Los Angeles City Council, along with a Chinese-Guatemalan-American (Kevin Alexander Leon) who self-identifies as Mexican and, despite a brief exile, has remained embedded in the City Council; WHEREAS, the surname this person has unofficially adopted, de León, is derived from the city of León and the Spanish region called Castile and León, where in the late 1400's, the Catholic Monarchs Isabella and Ferdinand

dispossessed as many as 150,000 Jews of their lands and resources through confiscatory taxation and permanent exile in order to finance the enterprises of various Spanish imperialists who colonized the Americas and maintained their power through the racist casta or caste system; WHEREAS, the California Governor vetoed a law with a flawed definition of “ancestry” which fails to address the racist Spanish/Mexican colonial system of casta that has persisted in Los Angeles since the founding of the pueblo by two “white” Spaniards and their 42 accompanying servants of mixed race and color who were considered to be of various lower-level castas, with black-skinned people at the bottom of the hierarchy; WHEREAS, the progressive metropolis of Fresno, California has already passed a law dealing mainly with Indian religious caste discrimination and a limited form of “indigeneity,” while its sister metropolis of Los Angeles has not considered any ordinances or amendments to law that would effectively subdue and eliminate the racist Spanish/Mexican colonial version of this manifest system of racism; WHEREAS, instead of addressing the problem of universal racism and violence, the City Council, spearheaded by a racist Councilmember in concert with a self-professed neo-pachuco born and raised in La Mirada, now on the Boyle Heights Neighborhood Council (Sammy Gonzales Lamberson), focused on “White Racism” from 1943 and recently passed a resolution applauding pachucos, who set off the “Zoot-Suit” riots, without acknowledging and apologizing for the violence perpetrated by pachucos on black, white and indigenous military men and their families during World War II and on civilians in the City of Los Angeles during and after the war; WHEREAS, a syndicate of racist Spanish/Mexican colonial casta or caste discrimination remains embedded in the City Council, and in the Boyle Heights Neighborhood Council, and continues to manifest itself in oppressing indigenous and black people with respect to employment, education, commerce, government and housing in Los Angeles; NOW THEREFORE, THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES DO ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS: Section 51.03, Article 16, Chapter IV of the Los Angeles Municipal Code is amended to read as follows: [SEE ATTACHED RESOLUTION AND PROPOSED AMENDMENT]

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER IV, ARTICLE 4, SECTION 51.03 OF THE LOS ANGELES MUNICIPAL CODE, PROHIBITING DISCRIMINATION BASED ON AN INDIVIDUAL'S LINEAGE OR CASTE DERIVED FROM THE CASTA SYSTEM INTRODUCED BY SPANISH COLONIZERS IN THE PHILIPPINES AND MEXICO, WHICH INCLUDED THE PUEBLO DE LOS ANGELES.

WHEREAS, casta or caste is a system of racist social discrimination characterized by hereditary status, endogamy, and social barriers sanctioned by custom, law, or religion;

WHEREAS, casta or caste discrimination is based on lineage, which can include genealogy or genetic information, and occurs in the form of social segregation, physical and psychological abuse, or violence;

WHEREAS, indigenous communities refer to the original, diverse societies with their own identities that constitute an integral part of the Americas and other regions;

WHEREAS, indigenous communities have suffered from historic injustices as a result of Spanish and Mexican colonization, the casta system and the dispossession of indigenous lands, languages, territories and resources, thus preventing them from exercising their right to development in accordance with their own needs or interests;

WHEREAS, the majority of the indigenous communities in the City of Los Angeles originate from Los Angeles itself (the Gabrielino-Tongva or San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians and the Fernandefio Tataviam Band of Mission Indians), Mexico (Oaxacans), the Philippines (Negrito-Dumagat, Igorot-Ifugao), the First Communities of California and other communities, including those from Guatemala or other regions of Central and South America;

WHEREAS, a racist, neo-casta political syndicate with a pattern of criminally deceptive behavior spanning years and multiple persons manifest itself a year ago in the conversations of several Mexican-Americans, some of whom were members of the Los Angeles City Council, along with a Chinese-Guatemalan-American (Kevin Alexander Leon) who self-identifies as Mexican and, despite a brief exile, has remained embedded in the City Council;

WHEREAS, the surname this person has unofficially adopted, de León, is derived from the city of León and the Spanish region called Castile and León, where in the late 1400's, the Catholic Monarchs Isabella and Ferdinand dispossessed as many as 150,000 Jews of their lands and resources through confiscatory taxation and permanent exile in order to finance the enterprises of various Spanish imperialists who colonized the Americas and maintained their power through the racist casta or caste system;

WHEREAS, the California Governor vetoed a law with a flawed definition of "ancestry" which fails to address the racist Spanish/Mexican colonial system of casta that has persisted in Los Angeles since the founding of the pueblo by two "white" Spaniards and their 42 accompanying servants of mixed race and color who were considered to be of various lower-level castas, with black-skinned people at the bottom of the hierarchy;

WHEREAS, the progressive metropolis of Fresno, California has already passed a law dealing mainly with Indian religious caste discrimination and a limited form of “indigeneity,” while its sister metropolis of Los Angeles has not considered any ordinances or amendments to law that would effectively subdue and eliminate the racist Spanish/Mexican colonial version of this manifest system of racism;

WHEREAS, instead of addressing the problem of universal racism and violence, the City Council, spearheaded by a racist Councilmember in concert with a self-professed neo-pachuco born and raised in La Mirada, now on the Boyle Heights Neighborhood Council (Sammy Gonzales Lamberson), focused on “White Racism” from 1943 and recently passed a resolution applauding pachucos, who set off the “Zoot-Suit” riots, without acknowledging and apologizing for the violence perpetrated by pachucos on black, white and indigenous military men and their families during World War II and on civilians in the City of Los Angeles during and after the war;

WHEREAS, a syndicate of racist Spanish/Mexican colonial casta or caste discrimination remains embedded in the City Council, and in the Boyle Heights Neighborhood Council, and continues to manifest itself in oppressing indigenous and black people with respect to employment, education, commerce, government and housing in Los Angeles;

NOW THEREFORE,

**THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES
DO ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:**

Section 51.03, Article 16, Chapter IV of the Los Angeles Municipal Code is amended to read as follows:

SEC. 51.03. DISCRIMINATION PROHIBITED

- A. No person shall discriminate against another person in ~~private~~ employment, housing, education, government or commerce, because of that person’s actual or perceived race, color, ethnicity, creed, age, national origin, religion, citizenship status, gender, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, disability, medical condition, genetic information, lineage or casta/caste, marital status, source of income, military status, veteran status, or primary language.