



If you would like to share news or information with our readers, please send the unique stories, business

news organization events, and school news to us including your name and phone number in case more information is needed.

For news and information consideration, please send to News@scdaily.com or contact

**John Robbins 281-965-6390**  
**Jun Gai 281-498-4310**

**Publisher:** Wea H. Lee  
**President:** Catherine Lee  
**Editor:** John Robbins

**Address:** 11122 Bellaire Blvd., Houston, TX 77072  
**E-mail:** News@scdaily.com



Inside C2

# Southern DAILY

Make Today Different

Southern Daily News is published by Southern News Group Daily

Monday, July 18 2022

## Beijing's assurances on mortgage protests fail to convince investors

HONG KONG/BEIJING, July 15 (Reuters) - Chinese regulators' assurances of help in delivering property projects on time failed to convince some homebuyers threatening to stop mortgage payments and investors continued to sell shares in embattled developers on Friday.

A growing nationwide homebuyers' boycott has re-kindled investor concerns about the China's slumping property sector, which accounts for a quarter of the economy, and raised fears banks could face hefty write-downs. read more

Up to 1.5 trillion yuan (\$220 billion) of mortgage loans are linked to unfinished Chinese residential projects, ANZ estimated in a report.

Shares in Chinese property developers extended losses, even after the banking watchdog vowed to strengthen coordination with other regulators to "guarantee the delivery of homes" and at least 10 banks said mortgages related to risky projects are relatively small, and risks are controllable. read more

The regulatory assurances came as homebuyers' threats to withhold payments for stalled property projects have proliferated in official and social media in recent weeks, in a rare show of public discontent.

The Hang Seng Mainland Properties Index (.HSMPI) tumbled 5% on Friday, dragging the Hong Kong benchmark index (.HSI) down 2.2%.

Among those hardest hit, shares in Shanghai-based CIFI Holdings (0884.HK) plunged 14.3%, while top developer Country Garden Holdings Co Ltd (2007.HK) fell 8.6%. Developers' bonds also took a heavy hit.

A 2026 dollar bond of Yuzhou Properties traded at 6.354 cents on the dollar on Friday afternoon, down from 6.861 a day ago, while a 2024 bond of Xinyuan Real Estate dropped to 11.125 from 12.425.

Onshore, a yuan bond of Powerlong Real Estate (1238.HK) and Sino-Ocean Group <3377.HK> slid 20% and 16%, respectively.

Government assurances were not enough to convince at least some homebuyers threatening to stop mortgage payments.

One homebuyer in the east-central Chinese city of Zhengzhou said on Friday that while local authorities assured buyers that the developers would resume construction soon, there hadn't seen any action on the ground.

"We don't have any other way to voice at the moment and we're still in a desperate situation," said the person, who declined to be identified due to sensitivity of the matter.



In a letter issued to the Xinyuan homebuyers in Yingyang, Zhengzhou, on Friday and seen by Reuters, the housing regulator said it along with other government departments had reached an agreement with the developer and the contractor that some funds would be paid to resume construction.

Another homebuyer in the northern-central city of Nanchang told Reuters that after regulatory assurances late on Thursday some people in his city had drafted an open letter to report developers' "misdeeds".

Earlier on Thursday, local regulators in Xi'an, a city in west China, said they would tighten oversight of escrow accounts and make sure money put down by home owners isn't transferred illegally by property developers.

The widening mortgage boycott has added to worries about a prolonged slump in China's property market and the risk of possible social unrest. Date on Friday showed property investment, home sales and new construction starts continued to slump. read more

"Things will get worse before they get better," said Xiaoxi Zhang, China finance analyst of Chinese research group Gavekal Dragonomics.

"China has been determined to curb the leverage (taken on) by property developers and the government will still try to refrain from providing liquidity to them in a big scale. It will take time for some more targeted measures to be issued," she said.

As property firms stocks weakened, a selloff in banking shares also gathered steam amid investor concerns that the mortgage revolt may snowball.

An industry gauge (.HSMBI) tracking mainland banks closed down 1.6%.

Tommy Xie, head of Greater China research of OCBC Bank, said the mortgage repayment suspension is turning from a "liquidity crisis (for) property developers to a financial crisis", and has made it urgent for the central government to step in.



**恒豐銀行**  
American First National Bank

Split bill with a friend  
Pay a bill

Deposit checks  
Send money

**Convenient, Fast, Secure**

**Make Deposit or Send Money Directly**

Mobile Deposit on the AFNB Mobile App

877-473-1888  
Call us for more information!

Get it on Google play

Download on the App Store

<b>Houston Area:</b>			<b>Nevada Area:</b>						
Main Office 713-596-2888	Spring Branch 713-273-1838	Katy Branch 281-762-6688	Harwin Branch 713-273-1888	First Colony Branch 713-596-2588	Sugar Land Branch 281-762-6699	Las Vegas Branch 702-777-9988	Pahrump Branch 775-751-1773	Amargosa Branch 775-372-1100	Henderson Branch 702-216-5500
<b>Dallas Area:</b>			<b>California Area:</b>						
Richardson Branch 972-348-3488	Harry-Hines Branch 972-348-3433	Legacy Branch 972-348-3466	Carrollton Branch 972-428-5088	Arlington Branch 817-261-5585	Garland Branch 972-272-3375	Plano Branch 469-429-2422	City of Industry Branch 626-667-3988	Alhambra Branch 626-863-1980	Arcadia Branch 626-321-4455

www.afnb.com

LOCAL NEWS

Amazon pauses work on six new U.S. office buildings to weigh hybrid work needs



July 15 (Reuters) - Amazon.com Inc (AMZN.O) is pausing the construction of six new office buildings in Bellevue and Nashville to reevaluate the designs to suit hybrid work, the tech giant said on Friday.

The pausing and delay of construction will not affect Amazon's hiring plans, a company spokesperson said, reiterating the firm's proposal to create 25,000 jobs in Bellevue and another 5,000 in Nashville.

"The pandemic has significantly changed the way people work ... Our offices are long-term investments and we want to make sure that we design them in a way that meets our employees' needs in the future," said John Schoettler, vice president of Global Real Estate and Facilities at Amazon.

Separately, Bloomberg News reported on

Friday that Facebook parent Meta Platforms (META.O) and Amazon have pulled back on their office expansion plans in New York City. (https://bit.ly/3PvFMeD)

Meta has decided not to take an additional 300,000 square feet of space at 770 Broadway, a building near Astor Place where it is already located and Amazon has cut down the amount of space it intended to lease from JPMorgan Chase & Co at Hudson Yards, the report said. Cómo proteger tu motor después de 75,000 millas. Maximiza la vida del motor con el aceite de motor Valvoline High Mileage y protégelo del calor, el desgaste, la fricción y los depósitos. Aprende más.

"There are often a number of reasons why we wouldn't proceed with a particular deal, including office utilization. The past few years have brought new possibilities around the

ways we connect and work," a Meta spokesperson told Reuters without confirming or denying the report.

"We remain firmly committed to New York and look forward to opening the Farley in the coming months," the spokesperson added.

Amazon declined to comment on the report.

"Case investigation, contact tracing, isolation at home will be your best bets," said Rosamund Lewis, WHO head of the smallpox secretariat which is part of the WHO Emergencies Programme.

Oil rises 2% as no immediate Saudi output boost expected

NEW YORK, July 15 (Reuters) - Oil gained 2.5% on Friday after a U.S. official told Reuters

that an immediate Saudi oil output boost was not expected, and as investors question whether OPEC has the room to significantly ramp up crude production.

The comment during U.S. President Joe Biden's Middle East visit comes at a time when spare capacity at members of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) is running low.

"Part of the support is that everybody and their brother who digs down into the Saudi situation see that they don't have a lot of capacity left," said

John Kilduff, partner at Again Capital LLC in New York.

Brent crude futures settled at \$101.16 a barrel, rising \$2.06, or 2.1%, while West Texas Intermediate crude settled at \$97.59 a barrel, gaining \$1.81, or 1.9%.

Both benchmarks saw their biggest weekly percentage drops in about a month, largely on fears earlier in the week that a nearing recession would chop away at demand. Brent lost 5.5% in its third weekly drop, while WTI was down 6.9% in its second weekly decline.

Biden, prompted by energy and security interests, arrived in Jeddah on Friday and had been expected to call for Saudi

Editor's Choice



Boats and houseboats are moored at record low water at Lake Oroville near Pentz, California, July 16, 2021. REUTERS/David Swanson



A lone boat sits perched on a mound near Hensley Lake in Madera, California, July 14, 2021. REUTERS/David Swanson



Iraqis visit an area near the pond remaining of Lake Sawa, due to a drought, in Samawa city, Iraq, May 1, 2022. REUTERS/Alaa Al-Marjani



A view shows residential boat docks on dry land at Medina Lake outside of San Antonio as majority of Texas experiences drought amid an extreme heat wave hitting the state, in Medina County, Texas, June 18, 2022. REUTERS/Jordan Vonderhaar



A tree trunk lies on Po's dry riverbed as parts of Italy's longest river and largest reservoir of freshwater have dried up due to the worst drought in the last 70 years, in Boretto, Italy, June 22, 2022. REUTERS/Guglielmo Mangiapane



Horses rest on the site of the dried-up Aculeo lagoon at Paine in Santiago, Chile, April 20, 2022. "Now there is no water, it is a desert here," said local campsite manager Francisco Martinez. "The animals are dying and there is nothing to do here in the lagoon any more." REUTERS/Ivan Alvarado

# Vincent Chin Was Killed 40 Years Ago And His Case Still Resonates

Forty years ago, 27-year-old Vincent Chin was enjoying a night out with his friends in Detroit. It was meant to be a celebration ahead of Chin's upcoming marriage, but he didn't make it to the wedding. That night he was beaten to death by two white men who worked in the auto industry and, according to witnesses, were angry over what they perceived as the loss of American jobs to Japanese imports. The men targeted Chin because he was Asian – not knowing he was Chinese American, not Japanese. The killing galvanized Asian Americans across the entire country to fight for civil rights. It's a battle that continues today.

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor

The murder of Vincent has become particularly relevant in the past two years, as racist attacks against Asian Americans have risen exponentially since the start of the pandemic. At least 10,905 hate incidents against Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders were recorded from March 19, 2020, through Dec. 31, 2021, according to the coalition Stop AAPI Hate. Chin's death on June 23, 1982, came at a time when the Japanese automotive industry was a flashpoint for racism. Today's hate incidents can be traced in large part to the anti-Asian rhetoric used at the beginning of the pandemic, including that by former President Donald Trump who referred to the coronavirus as "the Chinese virus."

The similarities between the rhetoric used 40 years ago and today present a chilling pattern, says social justice activist Helen Zia, who is also the executor of the estate of Vincent Chin and his mother, Lily.

"That was what was going on in America in the 1980s. And that's why as soon as that callout in the White House was pointing the fingers at China, everybody Asian American knew that that was going to land very hard on Asians in America," Zia told NPR's All Things Considered in reference to the former president's remarks.



Vincent Chin

"So, yes, the rhetoric, the innuendo – it has its impact. And when people are targeted and scapegoated, we know that that's only going to be bad for every American."

The fact that Chin was Chinese American, Zia said, is also telling about how Asian Americans are perceived in the U.S. "Asian Americans have always been lumped together, even though Asia is the largest continent on the planet," she said. "And so when people have hate or anger directed at some nebulous thing about Asia, it doesn't matter. If you're Asian, you're a target. And that's what's going on today. Every different ethnicity of Asian American has suffered the hate incidents that are going on today."

Zia is one of the organizers of the Vincent Chin 40th Remembrance & Rededication happening in Detroit this weekend. Events, including film screenings, public art, performances and panel discussions started on Thursday and go through Sunday.

David Han, commissioner of the Michigan Asian Pacific American Affairs Commission, spoke at the official kickoff event. He told member station WDET the rededication also serves as a reminder that "underneath the surface things are not OK," and that people in power play a role in the safety of the communities they represent.

"In leadership roles of any kind, whether it's the presidency or leaders in companies, leaders in our communities or even

leaders in our churches, the positions and the narratives that different folks speak, based on self-interest as well as fear, certainly impacts the Asian community in America," Han said.



While political leaders play a role in combating anti-Asian American sentiments, so do average citizens. Connecting the older and younger generations through Chin's legacy is another aim of the commemoration.

"The Vincent Chin Legacy Guide" was put together by Zia, with help from the Smithsonian Asian Pacific American Center. It's a teaching tool that tells the story of what happened 40 years ago. It is also meant to inspire people to take action. It ultimately shows why Chin's case still matters today.

"It really stands out as a landmark, not only for Asian Americans – it stands out as a landmark in American history," Zia said. "It's a time when a people in America, who were treated as though they were aliens – those people stood up and said, 'this is wrong. And not only that – we are a part of the American democracy, and we deserve to be treated as full Americans and full human beings.'" (Courtesy npr.com)

**Related**  
**Vincent Chin's Death Gave Others A Voice**  
An Interview With Writer Paula Yoo

Writer Paula Yoo was 13 years old and finishing up seventh grade when Vincent Chin was killed. Chin was a 27-year-old draftsman who was celebrating his impending wedding at a strip club in Detroit, when he was bludgeoned to death by a pair of white men. Those men were apparently upset by their perception that American auto jobs were disappearing as a result of Japanese success in the auto industry. (Chin was Chinese.)

Yoo didn't learn much about Chin's killing when it actually happened — let alone imagine that it would eventually become the subject of one of her books. But as an adult, she became fascinated by Chin's story and how it spurred a new generation of Asian Americans into political action. She started doing some reading and research, which eventually turned into her latest non-fiction book, geared toward young adults, which will be published next month: *From A Whisper to A Rallying Cry: The Killing of Vincent Chin and the Trial That Galvanized the Asian American Movement*.



Writer Paula Yoo

Full disclosure — Paula and I first met in the 90s when we both worked for People magazine in Los Angeles — so I've

known her for years. She's now a TV writer and producer in addition to being the author of several children's books about famous Asian Americans.

**Tell us a little bit about who Vincent Chin was, and what happened to him.**

Vincent Chin is famous in the Asian American community; his name has resurfaced recently due to the spike in anti-Asian racism. His was the first federal civil rights trial for an Asian American. On the night of June 19, 1982, the night of his bachelor party, Vincent Chin was beaten to death with a baseball bat by two white auto workers in Detroit. Ronald Ebens was a foreman at Chrysler at the time, and his stepson, Michael Nitz, was a recently laid-off auto worker. The reason I mention that is because this happened during the height of anti-Japanese sentiment. The American auto industry was



reeling, due to increased competition from Japanese import cars and mass layoffs happening across the country. Things were especially bad in Michigan, home to the Big Three: Ford, Chrysler and GM.

Vincent was beaten in the head so badly, he lapsed into a coma and died four days later. Before he lost consciousness, he whispered three words to one of the friends who'd been out with him that night: "It's not fair." He was buried the day after what should have been his wedding day.

**What happened after Vincent's death? Was there a trial?**  
More than one. The first was presided over by Judge Charles Kaufman. He gave both Ebens and Nitz three years' probation, fined them \$3,000 and court costs and released them. He later said that they "weren't the kind of men you send to jail." Citing the fact that neither man had a previous record, Kaufman said that he just didn't think putting them in prison would do any good for them or for society. That "you don't make the punishment fit the crime; you make the punishment fit the criminal."

**It's Not Fair!**

**What was the public's reaction?**

Judge Kaufman's lenient sentencing angered not just Vincent Chin's family, but the entire Asian American community. Led by activist Helen Zia, several Asian American lawyers and community leaders banded together to create American Citizens for Justice. This grassroots advocacy organization rallied with several diverse groups — churches, synagogues, Black activists — to protest Kaufman's sentencing.

This inspired other Asian Americans across the country to hold their own demonstrations. These protests resulted in the first federal civil rights trial for an Asian American. In 1984, Ronald Ebens and Michael Nitz were indicted on two counts of conspiracy and violating Vincent Chin's right to be in a place of public accommodation because of his race, and sentenced to 25 years. In the trial that followed the indictment, Nitz was cleared of all charges. Ebens (who held the baseball bat) was convicted of violating Chin's civil rights, and sentenced to 25 years.

But due to accusations of alleged witness coaching, Ebens was acquitted in a second trial held in 1987, in which his guilty conviction was reversed. He would ultimately be found not guilty, and he never spent a day in jail.

**You started this book before this most recent surge in anti-Asian violence. Why did you want to write it, and why write it for a young adult audience?**

My whole life I always kept thinking one day I'd love to write a non-fiction adult book, like *In Cold Blood*. And I remember everybody that I talked to about Vincent, everybody that I worked with, they all responded with, "This is an incredible story. We know nothing about it." So that's why I think it's a special book not just for adults, but also for teenagers, because I hope that it gives them a firsthand understanding of what this was like.



When I was offered a job at *The Detroit News*, for instance, I remember the first thing my Asian American journalist friends said to me was, "Are you afraid to go live in Detroit because of Vincent Chin?" You know, being Asian American in this country, we're often alone. We're often the only one in our high school or the only family on our block because for many, many decades, we have been a very small part of the percentage of the population. So being an Asian American in this country is very lonely. I've been very lonely my whole life.

**Did you do first-person interviews for this book, or rely mostly on archival information?**

I have thousands of pages of transcripts from 1982 to 1984; I read every single motion, all the boring stuff. I read everything. I have primary sources. I've actually talked to people who have refused to talk about this case for almost 40 years. And I have exclusive new information. I'm one of the first and only people to have met Ronald Ebens in person in his house. And it was an off-the-record informal visit. So I can't talk about what we talked about, but that was one of the most profound, deep and very disturbing moments in my life.

**One of the interesting things about this book is you show all sides of this tragedy. Even Ebens and Nitz. You actually had some compassion for these white men who killed someone who looked like you...**

You can have compassion, but compassion is not mutually exclusive from justice. At the end of the day, now that I know the humanity behind these two men, I can have compassion for them. But I can still think, "You still should have gone to jail. What you did was wrong. Justice was not served."



**Many people believe that Vincent Chin did not receive justice in the legal sense. But some important things emerged from his death. Tell us what some of those things are.**

His death had a tangible effect; he's not just a symbol. It changed manslaughter sentencing in Michigan. Because of Vincent Chin and other cases very similar to his, victims' families are now allowed to deliver a victim impact statement to the judge at a hearing. At Vincent's first trial, the prosecutors were just overwhelmed with cases and they didn't appear in court. Now, because of this, prosecutors have to be at all hearings.

His case also inspired Asian baby boomers. They came of age [about standing up for themselves and other people of color]. This was part of their civil rights education.

Aside from the tangible legal changes that happened in the court system, Vincent's case inspired a younger generation to get involved as activists, as writers, as lawyers going into politics, trying to effect policy change. There are so many Asian American politicians out there now, which is so wonderful! So I think our voice has been raised, our stories, our history, our contributions have been raised. So we've got to go out there and fill in the blanks, because if we don't, who will? (C NPR)

## Suicide Is The Leading Cause Of Death Among Asian American Young Adults And The Only Racial Group With This Distinction. Why?



Death by suicide is the number one cause of death for young adult Asian Americans. (Photo/Kelvin Murray/Getty Images)

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor

Racially motivated violence looks like the mass shootings that killed Xiaojie Tan, Daoyou Feng, Chung Park, Hyun Grant and Suncha Kim in Atlanta on March 16, 2021. Racially motivated violence also looks like suicide, which is defined as a deliberate act of self-directed violence in order to cause injury to oneself that results in death.

According to data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, suicide is the 10th leading cause of death in the United States. When broken down by race, suicide is the first leading cause of death among Asian American young adults age 15-24. This is true of no other racial group in this age range in America.

Despite this disparity, very little attention is paid by society and by gatekeeping institutions like academe and private and public funding agencies as to what causes suicidal behavior among racial minorities like Asian Americans. There is not enough research on how to prevent suicide among Asian Americans in particular. What makes this research more challenging to do is that Asian Americans are also the least likely racial group to

seek and utilize mental health services. I am a doctoral candidate studying public health, with a focus on minority mental health disparities research. Here's what I think is important to know about how violence, suicide and disparities all connect to affect Asian American lives.



**Determining who might be at risk for death by suicide is a difficult task. (Photo/MStudioImages/via Getty Images)**

**Beyond risk factors**  
When an Asian American death occurs by suicide, it is not simply because that person experienced risk factors. Sure, the evidence suggests that the risk of a suicide attempt increases if there are easily accessible means such as guns in the home or if the person knows someone

who died by suicide. But is that the full picture for Asian Americans, or even for other racial minorities?

The truth is, the people who study suicide are still trying to come up with a profile of who is "at risk" in order to precisely predict, and ultimately prevent, suicidal behavior and death. Today, many research dollars go into the development of computer algorithms and genetic biomarkers to precisely calculate who is at risk. Will these methods do justice to the racialized experience of being Asian American in the U.S.?

**Only one national study targeting Asian American mental health**

So the question now becomes: How can research scientists better understand and develop suicide prevention efforts that precisely address racial minorities like Asian Americans? To answer this question, there must first be research on Asian Americans to study. Unfortunately, the first, only and last study that assesses national epidemiological prevalence estimates of mental disorders in the Asian American community occurred and was published in the early 2000s, nearly two decades ago. Since these data were collected, the U.S. Asian population grew 72% by 2015, making Asians the fastest-growing racial or ethnic group, surpassing Hispanics.

In my view, suicide among Asian Americans is a seriously unaddressed problem that could become endemic in a rapidly growing community with little to no direction on how to stop it



**Comic Anna Akana discusses stigma about mental health issues in Asian Americans. Centuries of Stigma**

What if there was a way to scientifically account for racism as the fundamental cause of health disparities? The answer lies in understanding stigma. Stigmatized identity is arguably a universal phenomenon. People who are stigma-

tized are unwanted by society, negatively stereotyped, rejected and excluded, and ultimately othered. Asian Americans have experienced this kind of stigmatization institutionally since the early years of modern America as racial categorizations began to solidify.

As America continues to racialize Asian Americans, it continues a legacy of structural violence and historical trauma. This means that anti-Asian violence exists within the very fabric of American society. It is this societal oppression and violence that becomes internalized into self-hatred, self-harm and ultimately the self-directed violence that is suicide.

When it comes to being Asian in America, though, the story is incomplete with looking only at race. There are plenty of violently oppressive systems that Asian Americans face that pile on the risk of self-directed violence.



These are intersecting in nature. It is the intersectionality, or cross-sections, of Asian American identity that must be closely investigated to uncover insights into suicide prevention for this incredibly diverse community.

Being an immigrant and experiencing xenophobia, for example, is a dominant experience for many Asian Americans. Although many have lived in the United States for several generations, Asian Americans do account for a large portion of today's adult second generation. Second-generation immigrants are people who are native-born citizens in the United States and have at least one parent who is foreign-born.

**What makes this important to know?**  
Current trends indicate that the U.S. is explosively growing into an immigrant-rich nation. More than 36% of all Americans are projected to be of immigrant origin

— that's first- or second-generation — by 2050. By that time, the overwhelming majority — 93% — of the country's working-age population will be of immigrant origin, too. Here's the problem: Second-generation immigrants are considered an at-risk group for suicidal behavior and death by researchers across the world. Researchers aren't fully sure why yet, and that's why this research is so timely.



**Signs of suicidal thinking are hard to know. Everyday actions may not change at all. (Photo/Sean Justice/Getty Images)**

**A complicated and time-consuming issue**

Research takes decades to implement. It also takes decades to figure out the problem and how to address it. The public health scientists who work on disparities research are aware of the complex problems facing minority populations like Asian Americans. If there were an intervention to end racism and xenophobia, perhaps many Asian American lives would be saved both from homicide and suicide.

The reality is that white supremacy runs so deep in America that even reversing racism would not undo the disparities in health outcomes such as suicide. This is because assimilation is "traumagenic." That means the traumatic exposures of racist and xenophobic violence and discrimination hold the power to disrupt psychological and physiological functioning and alter genetic code for generations to come. Race-based traumatic stress holds the power to predispose entire populations, entire communities like Asian Americans, to self-directed violence.

In my view, what is left to do is to work to change the norms of inclusion. It won't take years of research to do that. Just start now. Act locally. That's a first step. (Courtesy <https://theconversation.com/>)