

Embrace the Linsanity: The role of comedy in discussions of “Race” and “Racism” in the media

Dan Molden

Introduction

In February of 2012, a series of injuries to the starting members of the New York Knicks led to Jeremy Lin, a rarely used reserve player, being asked to play significant minutes and, after one game as a reserve, to become the starting point guard. At that point in the lockout shortened season, the Knicks had just 8 wins against 15 losses, having lost 11 out of 13 games. Two weeks later, despite the absence of two of their biggest stars (Carmelo Anthony was injured and Amare Stoudamire was absent due to the death of his brother) the Knicks were 15-15, having won all seven games in that span. Lin set records for the “modern” era of the NBA for wins and points (and turnovers) for a first time starter. This unexpectedly strong play from a “role” player, in addition to the rarity of a person of Asian descent, much less an Asian American, playing significant minutes in the National Basketball Association led to a media coverage/fan reaction phenomenon which was called “Linsanity.”

In addition to the sports based discussions of the quality or problems with Lin’s play and impact on the record of the Knicks, Linsanity also became a discussion about the roles of race, talent and societal recognition in the United States. The central figure in Linsanity, Jeremy Lin, was also discussed and examined in an attempt to discover how much of the media coverage was owed to his talent and how much was owed to his identity and character. This paper seeks to analyze the phenomenon of Linsanity as it occurred in and was covered by the media (both social and traditional). This paper seeks to continue the discussion of an earlier paper (Molden 2012), by focusing on the reaction to the discussion of coverage and conversation about Lin, in particular tweets by Jason Whitlock, a Foxsports.com commentator, and Floyd Mayweather, a boxing champion.

The earlier paper examined the media coverage of both Lin and the initial media reaction to him to consider the way the media and society create and reify the concepts of “race” and “racism” and the extent to which “goodmouthing” makes those concepts more problematic for both the media and the various audiences. This paper will consider the use of humor (in particular Saturday Night Live, the Daily Show and Conan) as a possible way forward in social discussions of situations in which race, ethnicity, and nationality become problematic.

Who is Jeremy Lin?

Jeremy Shu-How Lin was born in Los Angeles, California on August 22 of 1988. His parents, who had immigrated to the United States from Taiwan and hold both United States and Taiwanese citizenship, raised him in northern California where he eventually played basketball for Palo Alto High School. His senior year, he captained his team to the California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) Division II State title and was named to the All-State first team as well as the Division II player of the year. Lin went on to play

basketball for four years at Harvard University. While a member of the Harvard team, he was named to the All-Ivy League first team twice (“4-Jeremy Lin”).

Lin signed with an agent and entered the National Basketball Association draft in 2010. Although he was undrafted, he did eventually sign a two-year contract with the Golden State Warriors, a professional basketball team also located in Northern California. He played very little that season and was, in fact, assigned to the development league team three times. Because of the lockout, Lin then played briefly for the Dongguan Leopards of the Chinese Basketball Association, but he could not sign a long term contract with them because he was still under contract with the Warriors. However, after the lockout ended, he was released by the Warriors just before the start of the 2011-2012 season. The Houston Rockets then signed Lin only to release him from his contract just twelve days later. It was at this point that his contract was claimed by the New York Knicks who had several key players injured. Despite the injuries, for over a month Lin was rarely used by the Knicks and was again sent to the development league. A series of injuries to guards on the team, however, finally led to the opportunity for playing time for him which, in turn, led to Linsanity (Janowitz, 2012).

Linsanity

An injury to one guard led to the Knicks’ signing of Lin and an illness suffered by another guard led to Lin finally playing extended minutes. On February 4, 2012, more than one month after he signed with the team, Lin was given his first chance to play significant time in a game when the Knicks played the New Jersey Nets. Lin did not start, but he played for 36 minutes, scored 25 points and had seven assists.

Lin’s performance in that game was followed by a series of successful games. He was named the Eastern Conference player of the week after his fourth start (“Knicks’ Lin” 2012). Lin became the first player in the modern NBA to average more than 20 points and go undefeated in his first 5 games (“Lin-vestigating history,” 2012). He became only the second player on record to average over 20 points per game and seven assists per game over his first eight starts in the NBA. He scored 200 points over those eight starts, putting him fifth on the all-time list of scorers over their first eight starts (“Lin makes the,” 2012). Lin’s season ended less than two months after his first start due to a knee injury (Beck, 2012a).

The reaction to Linsanity

For the brief time he was a playing significant minutes for the New York Knicks, the reaction to Jeremy Lin, as both a basketball player and a personality, was extreme. He was, for example, declared the Knicks’ “most popular player in a decade” by the New York Times (Beck, 2012b). There were, however, less positive reactions. Three moments in the popular discussion of Lin, however, showed a more negative reaction to both the play of Lin and the coverage of his play in the News. The first moment was the New York Post’s headline for a sports story discussing Lin having made a last-second, game-winning shot against the Toronto Raptors. The headline, run in large font at the top of the front page of the sports section below an image of Lin taking the shot, was

“Amasian”—a play on words using the pronunciation of “amazing” and adding the spelling of “Asian.”

The second occurred on Twitter. Tweets by a famous sports figure and a sports reporter were about Lin’s performance and the reaction to it. Professional Boxer Floyd Mayweather tweeted that, “Jeremy Lin is a good player but all the hype is because he’s Asian. Black players do what he does every night and don’t get the same praise” (FloydMayweather 2012). Foxsports.com reporter Jason Whitlock, in a tweet he then deleted, wrote that “some lucky lady in NYC is gonna feel a couple inches of pain tonight” (Hanstock, 2012).

The final moment was the use of the expression “chink in the armor” by the Entertainment Sports Network (ESPN) to describe the shortcomings or weaknesses in Lin’s play. The phrase was used twice, once on talk program broadcast on their radio network and once as a tag line for a picture on their mobile website (McNeal, 2012).

Taken together, these three moments (along with a few other, less clear moments including a controversy over the ingredients in the “Taste the Lin-Sanity” flavor of Ben and Jerry’s ice cream) were examples of the negative side of Linsanity (c.f. McCarthy, 2012; Freeman, 2012). While Ben and Jerry’s and the New York Post can be seen as trying, if ungracefully, to honor Lin as well as benefit from his story, Mayweather and Whitlock could, at best, be seen as trying to draw attention to themselves by attacking Lin and, at worst, as attempting to minimize his play.

The Problem

The previous paper noted that the position of Asian Americans in the United States as a kind of “middleman” minority, coupled with the Black-White duality of race in the culture of the U.S., created a real problem in societal discussions of Lin.

Because Asian Americans like Lin exist at neither extreme of the Black-White ethnic poles, they can become invisible on the one hand or absorbed into the opposite pole. In other words, to people on the White end of the ethnic color bar, Asians are “essentially” Black. To those on the Black end, however, they are “essentially” White. In any case, then, Lin and other Asian Americans could be seen as not “really” an ethnic group (or ethnic group member) at all. Eugene Wong (1985) contended that those who are characterized as a “middleman minority,” like Asians in the United States, are outside of the social understanding of ethnicity and class—and, as a result, have no part in the societal conversation about race or ethnicity.

The middleman group is considered to be an alien entity by both the elite and the masses. When seen in the light of the intensity of the relationship between the elite and the masses the middleman minority is, to all intents and purposes, perceived by the larger contending ends as being an invalid candidate for consideration as a legitimate part of the mechanics of state and society (53).

Comedy as a potential solution

While news sources, like Fox Sports News and ESPN, had difficulty framing the discussion about Lin in the larger society, there were some television programs which did have some interesting conversations about Lin. The three that this paper will consider were all comedic variety or talk shows.

This suggests, as the previous paper contended, a potential answer. Just days after the headline in the New York Post, the tweets by Floyd Mayweather and Jason Whitlock, and ESPN's use of the phrase "chink in the armor," *Conan* (a comedic talk program), the *Daily Show* (a comedic news program), and *Saturday Night Live* (a comedic variety program) all dealt with the topic of Linsanity and the broader racial and ethnic tensions it brought to light in surprising detail. That depth of discussion may well stem from the space that comedy allows for—a space in which, unlike standard news reportage or attempts at praise and blame, all the details need fit or affirm the broader society's values. James Kincaid (1991), in a presentation at the Modern Language Association convention, contended that

Comedy is the whole story, the narrative which refuses to leave things out. Tragedy insists on a formal structure that is unified and coherent, formally balanced and elegantly tight. Only that which is coordinate is allowed to adorn the tragic body. With comedy, nothing is sacrificed, nothing lost; the discoordinate and the discontinuous are especially welcome.

The comedic discussion of Linsanity

Though chronologically the last of the three comedic discussions of Linsanity, the longest and most varied conversation was the one featured in a comedy skit on the variety show *Saturday Night Live*, (SNL). The skit featured "White" comedians Bill Hader as Dan Mardell, Taran Killam as Joe Dickson and "Black" comedians Kenan Thompson and Jay Pharoah as unnamed Anchors #1 and #2.

Mardell: Welcome to "New York Sports Now." I'm Dan Mardell with our special report on Knicks point guard #17, Jeremy Lin, and the *Lin-sanity* surrounding him. Now, uh, despite the Knicks' loss in New Orleans, the Big Apple is still in the middle of a Jeremy *Lin-vasion*. Fellows, do you have *Lin-sanity*?

Anchor #2: Hey you better lock me up! I mean, I am criminally *Lin-sane*!

Dickson: Oh, yeah! My feelings are *Lin-tense*!

Anchor #1: It's *Lin-describable*! I mean, I am *Lin-erally Lin love* with this Jeremy Lin!

Mardell: I think we can all agree that we'll never get tired of Lin puns!

Anchor #1: Well, as Charlie Sheen would say: "*Lin-ing*!"

Mardell: That's another thing we never got tired of! Yeah. Now, with all the talk swirling around Lin, some of the discussion has gotten racially charged.

We've seen derogatory comments from Fox Sports' Jason Whitlock and ESPN.com. The bottom line is the kid's a great basketball player, and race has nothing to do with it. As the New York Post says, "He's Amasian!"

Anchor #1: Hilarious! Hilarious! I mean, he's unstoppable! He's like that sign said at Wednesday's game: "Lin is the Knicks good fortune!"¹

Anchor #2: He's sweet not sour.²

Anchor #1: He turned Kobe into kobe beef!³

Dickson: And Kobe's like, "Hey! I ordered fried chicken!"⁴

Anchor #1: Hey yo, what's up with that? What's up with that?

Anchor #2: You said chicken! You said chicken!

Mardell: Come on, Joe! Joe, leave race out of this! Fellows, Jeremy Lin had some amazing moments this week. What were some of your favorite *Lin-cidences*?

Anchor #1: Well, I'd say it was in the Fourth Quarter against the Lakers. Lin goes to the corner and, "me love you long time,"⁵ sends a three!

Anchor #2: I've got to say, Knicks-Raptors up last Tuesday. Five seconds left, Lin goes to the top of the key and, "wax on, wax off, Mr. Miyagi,"⁶ game winning shot!

Dickson: I, I picked the Knicks kings when Lin passed it to Amare Stoudemire. Stoudemire was dancing like Maury Povich just told him, "You are not the father!"⁷

Anchor #1: Yo, yo, what's up with that?

Anchor #2: That's not cool.

Anchor #1: He was not dancing!

Dickson: I'm just finding the line...

Mardell: If he was, I bet he was saying, "No more arigato, Mr. Lin-bato!"⁸

Anchor #1: Ha ha! Now, that's funny! That's funny!

Mardell: Switching gears for a moment, it's Black History Month. Let's take a moment to honor a great African-American athlete.

¹ Fortune cookies are a type of hard cookie associated with Chinese food in the United States.

² Sweet and sour pork is a famous Chinese dish in the United States.

³ Although Kobe beef is a famous Japanese dish in the United States, Japanese and Chinese foods are often connected together.

⁴ Fried chicken has historically been associated with African Americans.

⁵ "Me love you long time" is a line said by a Vietnamese prostitute in the movie *Full Metal Jacket*.

⁶ "Wax on, wax off" is a line said by the Japanese-American character Mr. Miyagi in the movie *Karate Kid*.

⁷ A common stereotype of African-Americans is that they are more animalistic, especially with regards to sex. In this case, it means that they may have multiple sexual partners and so not be clear on the paternity of the child. Maury Povich hosted a show in which paternity testing was done and the results show on television.

⁸ This line is a pun based on the song "Mr. Roboto" by Styx. The Robot is made in Japan, so the singer speaks to it briefly in Japanese. The phrase "Domo arigato, Mr. Roboto" has become a set phrase in the United States.

(cut to classic news coverage of Jackie Robinson)

Voiceover: Jackie Robinson: An amazing athlete who broke down barriers. Robinson endured name-calling and racial taunts, but he persevered. And that's why, today, the sports world is tolerant.

Mardell: The Lin Dynasty! *New York Sports Now* caught up with Jeremy Lin last Tuesday. Let's take a look.

(cut to an interview of Jeremy Lin)

Lin: Yeah, we talked about...

Fake Chinese accent voice over: "Ha ha! It was a great honor to throw the ball today! Better than throwing stones! Ha! Soon, we battle Dallas and I will try my tiger claw technique! Go!"⁹

Mardell: Oops! We must have switched the audio, that person will be reprimanded!

Sportscaster #1: You know, I think there is something glaring that we are all overlooking. I mean, what's going to happen when Carmelo Anthony comes back?

Mardell: I hope he likes Chinese in his MSG!¹⁰ See what I did there?

Sportscaster #1: Yeah, I saw that! I saw that!

Sportscaster #2: Hey! Carmelo's going to see Lin in the locker room and be like, "Excuse me, are we playing ping-pong¹¹ here?"

Dickson: Well, they may not see him at all, because my homie Carmelo rolls in late!

Sportscaster #1: Hey! Hey! I'll tell you one more time! One more time!

Sportscaster #2: That's extremely offensive!

Sportscaster #1: Yeah! The notion that African-American men are late for work is an outdated and ignorant stereotype!

Dickson: I'm sorry. I thought we were having that kind of fun! Dan back me up!

Mardell: We apologize to the viewers at home for the comments of Joe Dickson. They were *Lin-sensitive* and politically *Lin-correct*. He has been fired!

Mardell: When we return, we'll talk Jeremy Lin with comedian Don Rickles and a crotchety World War II veteran. "Live from New York, it's Saturday Night!"

(“Season 37, Episode 15.” 2012)

⁹ This dialog is a reference to old Chinese fighting movies which were imported to the United States, often with very badly done voice overs.

¹⁰ MSG is both Madison Square Garden, the arena where the Knicks play and Mono-Sodium Glutamate, a flavor enhancer often found in Chinese food.

¹¹ As a sport, ping-pong is closely associated with Asians in the United States.

The comedy talk show, *Conan*, had a brief segment in which Conan O’Brien, the “White” anchor of the show introduced Deon Cole, a “Black” writer for the show. Cole delivered the following monologue:

Thanks, Conan. Yeah, I hear all the hype surrounding Asian basketball player, Jeremy Lin. And quite frankly it makes me nervous. And I’ll tell you why, but first let me do my “I’m about to do something racist” look around.

I’m nervous because I don’t want Asians taking over basketball, like they took over hip hop dancing.

(cut to a picture of a group of Asian men dancing hip-hop)

Oh, that hurts. But I guess we hurt Asians as well, when we made up a rap group called Wu-Tang Clan. So let’s just call it even, Asian people, all right? And let Black people keep basketball, OK?

And you can take over any other jobs we have, like being preachers, bodyguards to celebrities, or simply working at the DMV.

So please, let Black people keep basketball. Thank you very much.

(“February 16, 2012.” 2012a)

The Daily Show, (TDS) featured a dialog between Jon Stewart, the “White” host of the show and Larry Wilmore, a “Black” correspondent for the show.

Wilmore: The real issue right now is how can it be that in the middle of Black History Month an Asian kid comes in and does this:

(cut to news programs talking about Linsanity, using various puns on Lin’s name)

Oh, here’s one: I hate Jeremy Lin.

Stewart: Now wait, that’s not... You’re upset because an Asian person, an Asian American is excelling at a traditionally African American sport?

Wilmore: Now, I’m not the only one who’s not happy. Just look at Carmelo Anthony. He can’t even bring himself to put on his uniform.

Stewart: He’s hurt, he’s hurt right now.

Wilmore: Well, Jon, I’d be hurt too. To have your job outsourced to Asia right in your face.

Stewart: No, they don’t even play the same position. And Jeremy Lin has had to overcome a great deal to get where he is. I thought as an African American that you of all people...

Wilmore: No, no, no Jon. Don't reduce this to a discussion about my race. This is about *his* race. And, ok, you know, he's had some struggles.

(cut to news footage about his degree from Harvard with a 3.1 GPA)

Seriously, 3.1? That's an Asian F.

Stewart: I didn't realize that.

Wilmore: I mean, I get it. I get it. Clearly the basketball is just an attempt to win back the love of his tiger mom,¹² you know. Hey, that shame runs deep.

Stewart: I cannot even believe... What has gotten into you?

Wilmore: It's just another thing that got taken from us: Jazz, rock and roll, ebonics, now basketball?

Stewart: Nothing is being taken, Larry.

Wilmore: Oh really?

(cut to news footage of Lin being interviewed talking about how he feels this is all a dream).

You have a dream? Knickerbocker, please. Oh no no. Knickerbocker, please. Slow down, Martin Luther Kung-Pao¹³. We have the dream.

Stewart: No Larry. African Americans have been doing very, very well lately: The first African American president.

Wilmore: Yeah, for how long?

Stewart: Tiger Woods.

Wilmore: Yeah, his Asian side likes golf. His Black side likes trashy white girls.

Stewart: No, Larry. It's not like Black players are going to disappear because an Asian guy is in the league.

Wilmore: Oh really? Well, then tell me this, Jon, who were the first pro basketball players?

Stewart: White guys, I guess.

Wilmore: No, no. It was White Jews.

Stewart: What?

Wilmore: It's true, Jon. Immigrant Jews dominated the first pro basketball league. They played for teams like the Cleveland Rosenblums.

Stewart: That cannot be true.

Wilmore: I can't make that shit up, Jon. Look, they even had their own cultural uniforms.

(cut to a picture of a basketball team wearing uniforms with the Star of David).

¹² "Tiger mom" is a recent term for Asian mothers, who are seen as tough and demanding, especially about education.

¹³ Kung-Pao is a famous Chinese dish in the United States.

Stewart: OK. You know what was surprising about that picture? Gyms are very drafty and you would think they would have had longer sleeves, because Jews are traditionally, very prone to colds.

Wilmore: Jon, this is how it happens, Jon. Jewish basketball players were replaced by Gentiles, then it was us and, unless we do something quick, now it is going to be Asians.

Stewart: But, but what can you do?

Wilmore: Don’t worry, Jon. I may have a solution. I’m pretty sure this whole Asian basketball invasion might be revenge for Neil deGrasse Tyson.

Stewart: The astrophysicist?

Wilmore: Exactly. What was he thinking? Science? That’s Asian’s turf. Duh. But, it’s all right. I’ve conferred with the Black community, Jon, and we are officially asking Mr. Tyson to stop it. Don’t worry, Jon. He’ll be fine. We’ll put him in a sitcom. Make him a funny dad on BET. He’ll make forty times the money, I’m telling you. Just give us back the rock. We’ll call it *evLin*.

(“February 16, 2012.” 2012b)

Discussion

Considering the three comedy programs together, a pattern of discussion emerges that was not clearly seen in the news coverage. First, the sense that certain types of ethnic stereotyping are acceptable and certain types are not is explored. The SNL skit shows various stereotypes about Asian food consumption without comment, but when one of the commentators uses a stereotype about Black food consumption, Dan Mardell, the lead character responds by saying, “Joe, leave race out of this!”

The TDS dialog also uses food, which is a common point in social dialog about different ethnicities—as food is one of the common points of contact between different ethnic groups.

Both Conan and TDS engaged the idea of conflict between ethnic groups on the basis of their position and status in the broader society. Deon Cole wonders if having a “Black” hip-hop group named after the Chinese martial art called Wu Tang or Wudang was part of the genesis of Jeremy Lin playing basketball, while Larry Wilmore attributes it to the success of “Black” astrophysicist, Neil deGrasse Tyson. In both cases, there is an assumed interplay between the African-American and Asian-American communities, where “turf” is established and defended.

Here, we can see comedy’s willingness to leave the world unsettled as a positive. The comedians can see the tension between both groups without having to decide which

ethnic group is “right.” Cole and Wilmore can play the “aggrieved” party while also using humor to undermine their positions.

Conclusion

In this sense, both the tweets by Floyd Mayweather and Jason Whitlock make a certain amount more sense. Both potentially saw the issue as one on a Black-White continuum, and so the praise of Jeremy Lin (by what they perceived as the White side of that continuum) justified their reaction—not so much against Lin, but against the attack they perceived from the White commentators. They did not perceive their comments as racially motivated, on the other hand because Asian-Americans did not fit into the standard Black-White model.

The ESPN use of “chink in the armor,” similarly, was probably not seen as racially motivated by the people who used the term, because Jeremy Lin isn’t “Black” although he is an “other”—which is to say, he is non-White. As such, both the Black and White sides of the societal mix could “other” Lin by, for example, exoticizing his food choices (Ben and Jerry’s use of fortune cookies and the many other references to Chinese food).

Finally, the use of praise (as mentioned in the earlier paper) complicates the discussion in the mainstream news, because praise is positive and so should not (for consistency’s sake) be negative. In the comedy programs, however, it is clear that praise can also be negative as in the example of “Amasian” which both points out that Lin’s play was amazing but adds the caveat that he is Asian.

Works Cited

- 4-Jeremy Lin. (n.d.). *GoCrimson.com* Retrieved from http://www.gocrimson.com/sports/mbkb/2009-10/bios/Jeremy_Lin_Bio
- Beck, H. (2012a, March 31). Knicks’ push for playoffs will go on without lin. *New York Times*. Retrieved from <http://www.nytimes.com/2012/04/01/sports/basketball/jeremy-lin-to-have-knee-surgery-will-miss-rest-of-regular-season.html>
- Beck, H. (2012b, July 15). Growing doubts on Lin’s return to the knicks. *New York Times*. Retrieved from http://www.nytimes.com/2012/07/16/sports/basketball/jeremy-lin-may-not-return-to-the-knicks.html?_r=0
- “February 16, 2012.” *Conan*. February 16, 2012a. Television.
- “February 16, 2012.” *The Daily Show*. February 16, 2012b. Television
- FloydMayweather. (2012, Feb 12). Jeremy Lin is a good player but all the hype is because he’s Asian. Black players do what he does every night and don’t get the same praise. Retrieved from <https://jp.twitter.com/FloydMayweather/status/169170084739289089>

- Freeman, H. (2012, Feb 12). Jeremy lin row reveals deep-seated racism against asian americans. *The Guardian*. Retrieved from <http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/cifamerica/2012/feb/21/jeremy-lin-racism-asian-americans>
- Hanstock, B. (2012, Feb 11). Jason Whitlock ‘congratulates’ Jeremy Lin with racist tweet. *SB Nation Bay Area*. Retrieved from <http://bayarea.sbnation.com/2012/2/11/2791353/jason-whitlock-racist-tweet-jeremy-lin>
- Janowitz, N. (2012, March 9). After backing a dark horse, Lin’s agent is riding high. *New York Times*. Retrieved from <http://www.nytimes.com/2012/03/10/sports/basketball/jeremy-lins-agent-roger-montgomery-is-riding-high.html?pagewanted=all>
- Kincaid, J. (1991, Dec). On the value of comedy in the face of tragedy. Paper presented at the Modern Language Association convention in San Francisco.
- Knicks’ Lin, Thunder’s Westbrook named players of the week. (2012, Feb 13). *NBA.com*. Retrieved from <http://www.nba.com/2012/news/02/13/players-of-the-week/index.html?ls=iref:nbahpt2>
- Lin makes the difference for the Knicks. (2012, Feb 19). *ESPN.com*. Retrieved from http://espn.go.com/blog/truehoop/post/_/id/37261/lin-makes-the-difference-for-the-knicks
- Lin-vestigating history. (2012, Feb 15). *ESPN.com*. Retrieved from http://espn.go.com/blog/truehoop/post/_/id/36972/lin-vestigating-history
- McCarthy, M. (2012, Feb 16). Asian stereotypes appearing in coverage of Knicks’ Jeremy Lin. *USA Today*. Retrieved from <http://usatoday30.usatoday.com/sports/basketball/nba/story/2012-02-16/Asian-stereotypes-appearing-in-coverage-of-Knicks-Jeremy-Lin/53120426/1>
- McNeal, G. (2012, Feb 18). Espn uses “chink in the armor” line twice update- espn fires one employee suspends another. *Forbes.com*. Retrieved from <http://www.forbes.com/sites/gregorymcneal/2012/02/18/espn-uses-chink-in-the-armor-line-twice-did-linsanity-just-go-racist/>
- Molden, D. (2012). “Stop the Linsanity: Jeremy Lin and the limits of “Race” and “Racism” in media coverage.” *The Asian Conference on Media & Mass Communication Official Proceedings 2012*. pp. 291-301.
- Whitlock, J. (2012, Feb 16). The real reason I think Lin is a great story. *Foxsports.com* Retrieved from <http://msn.foxsports.com/nba/story/Unlike-Denver-Broncos-quarterback-Tim-Tebow-New-York-Knicks-point-guard-Jeremy-Lin-is-real-deal-021412>
- Wong, E. F. (1985, Spring). Asian American middleman minority theory: The framework of an American myth. *The Journal of Ethnic Studies*. Vol. 13, No. 1. pp.51-88.