

Alvin Alvarez:

Alvin N. Alvarez (Ph.D., Counseling Psychology, University of Maryland, 1996) immigrated to the US from Cebu, Philippines when he was five and was raised in Long Beach, California. He completed his undergraduate degree at the University of California at Irvine in biological sciences and psychology. An Asian American Psychology course sparked his passion in Asian American issues, so he dropped his plans for medical school and earned his doctorate in counseling psychology from the University of Maryland at College Park. Currently, he is a Professor and Coordinator of the College Counseling Program at San Francisco State University, where he trains masters-level students to be college counselors and student affairs practitioners. His personal and professional interests focus on Asian Americans, racial identity, and the psychological impact of racism. Dr. Alvarez is currently conducting community-based studies funded by the National Institute of Mental Health to examine how Chinese-Americans, Pilipino-Americans, and Vietnamese-Americans perceive and cope with racism. In the long term, Dr. Alvarez aims to develop community-based interventions to help Asian Americans cope with racism in constructive ways. Dr. Alvarez currently serves as the President of the Asian American Psychological Association and has been involved in national-level projects and initiatives, advocating for all oppressed groups. He received the Early Career Award for Distinguished Contributions from the Asian American Psychological Association, the Tanaka Memorial Dissertation Award from the American Psychological Association and the Asian Pacific American Network's Research Award from the American College Personnel Association. He is a co-editor of *Asian American Psychology: Current Perspectives* and *Working with Asian American College Students: New Directions for Student Services*. He also serves on the editorial boards of the *Journal of Counseling Psychology* and *Cultural Diversity and Ethnic Minority Psychology*. Consistent with his belief that psychologists serve the communities they came from, Dr. Alvarez is currently a member of the Board of Directors of the community mental health center Richmond Area Multi-Services (RAMS) in San Francisco.