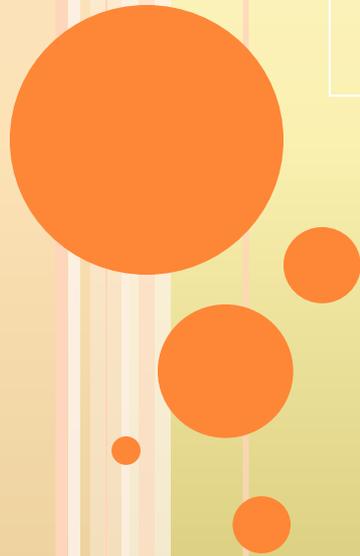


# CHINATOWN'S ECONOMY

**By: Ke Xin and Ann**



## MEET NOELLA WONG!

- Noella is a bakery worker that immigrated to the United States from Hong Kong with her family when she was a teenager (1997).
- They moved for better security that the native country could not provide.

### Work Life

- At the bakery, Noella is a cashier.
- She loves her job
- Noel has 4 siblings. One is still in school, two works in Dai Ban bakery. One works for the MTA.





# BEFORE AND AFTER 9/11

- Before 9/11, Chinatown used to be a much more crowded place. There were more garment factories.
- Today, there is an increase in hotel business. However, many building are still vacant.

## The People

- There are a lot of people constantly moving in and out of the neighborhood. Most are not permanent residents.



# BRIEF HISTORY

- The Chinese has been coming in since the mid eighteenth century.
- Chinese Exclusion (1882)
- When the act was lifted in 1943, the mass immigration continued. Until today, Chinatown is still a growing community.



## ANOTHER ECONOMIC CRISIS

Besides 911, Lehman's failure which happened three years ago also influenced Chinatown's economy. Many people lost their jobs at that time; their reduced consumption caused a decline in business. But this economic depression didn't exert tremendous influence as the way 911 did. The business recovered as the entire country's economy recovered.



# CONCLUSION

## 1. **What have you learned?**

I have learned the wide influence 911 has made on Chinatown's economy. For example, before the garment factory closed down in Chinatown due to the influence of 911, business of the bakery where Noel works was very good. The factory workers brought their breakfast and even lunch from the bakery. (There were about 200 workers in one factory and many factories in Chinatown, so the bakery's business used to be very good before the factories closed down or moved out.)

## 2. **What is the future of your interviewee's business?**

I think my interviewee's business will still be stable in



### **3. What do you foresee/hope for in Chinatown's future?**

I have negative outlook on Chinatown's future. According to the results from a survey of business owners in NYC's Chinatown done by SIS International Research, there're 36.3% business owners says that their businesses declined by more than 10 % from last year and only 2.9% of them shows that their businesses improved more than 10 %. What's worse, these owners also state that "parking is too hard to find, so less customers." and "rent goes up, business goes down every year. People go the WTC, come here at lunch, no more events. Weekdays are dead." These results made me have a negative outlook for Chinatown's future.

But some people still has optimistic view for the future of Chinatown.(e.g. Noel, she believes the hotels and the new-emerging force (like Kung Fu Tea and YaYa) can reenergize Chinatown. )

### **4. What are some things we can do for Chinatown?**

