



**Be part of the census – May 20, 2010**

Re: David Broder's May 11 column, *A changing America*: During the next few months the U.S. Census will focus on hard-to-count residents during the door-to-door enumeration. In my experience as a 2010 Sunshine Census partner -- and as an Asian American -- I know many members of Florida's minority populations fear answering their door for census takers.

This letter is a call to action for those who understand how important census data is to our neighborhoods. Spread the word to family and friends who did not mail back a census form. Tell them that they still have a chance to be counted by talking with a census taker and that they do not need to be afraid as long as they know the guidelines to protect themselves.

[SunshineCensus2010.com](http://SunshineCensus2010.com) reminds us that census takers will carry an official government badge with their name and a U.S. Census Bureau shoulder bag. They will never ask to enter your home and will only ask the 10 quick questions on the census.

If members of your family or friends do not speak English, census takers are prepared to identify the person's language and assign a new census taker accordingly. Census takers take an oath to protect all data collected.

Surveys like the 2010 Census are our opportunity to speak out for the needs of our communities.

**L. GEORGE YAP, Miami**