

College of Education and Human Services

Department of Family Science and Human Development

Statement on Anti-Asian Racism
March 2021

The FSHD Community stands in solidarity with those who identify as Asian, Asian American, and/or Pacific Islanders.

We condemn any acts of hate and violence and the spreading of false information that fuels anti-Asian racism. We call out and reject any and all white terrorism and white supremacy behind this hate and violence. We encourage our FSHD community to stand together as one, with one voice, to combat these continued racial injustices and to support the health and well-being of Asian, Asian American, and Pacific Islander individuals, families, and communities.

As details about the March 16, 2021 murders of 8 people in Atlanta continue to emerge, the fact that 6 of the 7 female victims were of Asian cultural heritage strongly suggests motivations of anti-Asian racism. This tragedy comes after a year of increased violence and other bias incidents in the U.S., and globally, directed toward those with Asian cultural heritage. Many centers and agencies track [bias incidents](#) as well as those acts that fit the legal definition of a [hate crime](#). All of these figures suggest a sharp increase in violence directed toward those with an Asian cultural heritage, including in the NYC/NJ area. A number of these occurrences are attributable to false information spread through mainstream and social media outlets [about the origins of COVID-19](#) and a desire to assign blame for the pandemic. In doing so, people of Asian descent became targets of retaliation fueled by fear, uncertainty, anger, and pre-existing biases.

The bias incidents and hate crimes from the past year most often were rooted in patriarchal and white supremacist culture. To be clear, though, anti-Asian racism is not new in the United States as evidenced by the long history of discrimination, exclusion, and violence directed toward those with Asian cultural heritages. Multiple sources [document](#) the history of anti-Asian racism in the U.S. and we encourage everyone to familiarize themselves with the historical context that serves as a backdrop to the anti-Asian racism pervading society today.

FSHD encourages everyone to educate and arm themselves with facts about the lives and culture of Asian, Asian American, and Pacific Islanders, their families, and their communities.

FSHD encourages everyone to call out and report any racial injustice and/or discrimination toward Asian, Asian American, and Pacific Islanders.

In the aftermath of this heinous event, our hearts are heavy; yet, our resolve is stronger than ever.

#StopAsianHate

Links to some helpful resources:

If you experience or witness bias, report it [here](#).

If you need someone to support you, contact [MSU's Counseling and Psychological Services](#).

NCFR [Resource Collection](#) on Dismantling Anti-Asian Racism.

For additional informational statistics, educational resources, and organizations, click [here](#).

If you have suggestions for programming or resources we can provide for the FSHD community, tell us [here](#).