

The Department of Hispanic Studies condemns the abominable violence against Asian, Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community members that has brutally escalated throughout the COVID pandemic and that reached horrifying heights in the March 16 shootings in Atlanta, Georgia, and March 29 brutal beating of a woman near Times Square. As members of the AAPI community have continued to point out, there is tragically nothing new in the anti-Asian hatred, discrimination, and violence of these atrocities and countless others being documented by the [Stop AAPI Hate Reporting Center](#) (founded in March 2020 by the Asian Pacific Planning and Policy Council [A3PCON], Chinese for Affirmative Action [CAA], and the Asian American Studies Department of San Francisco State University). In US society, people from Asia and of Asian descent, and especially women, have for centuries been targeted by such discrimination and violence, a manifestation of the overlapping and poisonous structures of white supremacy, misogyny, xenophobia, colonialism, classism, labor precarity, and anti-immigrant sentiment that continue to plague this country.

We stand in solidarity with the AAPI community, acknowledge the grief and rage inspired by these incidents and histories, and encourage members of our department to take immediate action in the following ways suggested by [Common Power](#):

- Check in with family and friends in the AAPI community, listen to their stories, for as long they want to talk about it.
- Contact your representatives by texting RESIST to 50409 and encourage them to condemn Anti-AAPI hate and violence and act against racism.
- If you see racism, say something. Strong allyship behavior needs to be modeled over and over again. The [5 D's from Hollaback](#) offer concrete ways of intervening.
- Donate to [stopaapihate.org](#). Less than 1% of philanthropic resources go to Asian-American communities historically.
- Donate to [napawf.org](#), the National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum, specifically their Atlanta chapter.

In the [spirit of the statement drafted by our graduate students last summer](#) in support of the Black Lives Matter movement, as a department we pledge to do better, to educate ourselves about anti-Asian racism and violence, and to create more inclusive spaces in our department and curriculum. We offer a list of further resources below with the hope that faculty, staff, and students in Hispanic Studies will use them to learn more about historical and contemporary struggles against racism and xenophobia, and discover ways to proactively take anti-racist action in support of those who are the targets of racism and xenophobia.

In respectful solidarity,

Brown University Department of Hispanic Studies
Departmental Diversity and Inclusion Committee

Some Further Resources:

- Read and make use of the extensive resources compiled by [San Francisco State University](#), which are useful for educators to learn more about histories of racism and include ally toolkits and teaching resources
- Read through the resources on [Asian Americans Advancing Justice - Atlanta](#); consider signing their [statement](#) denouncing systemic violence against AAPI communities and calling for community-centered response
- Read reports of increasing racist incidents in the US and act on the items proposed by [Stop AAPI Hate's "Act Now" page](#) (and consider donating)
- Visit [Hollaback](#) to sign up for anti-harassment bystander intervention trainings
- Read Brown [Professor Elena Shih's Op-Ed in the New York Times](#) on protecting Asian massage workers and decriminalizing sex work