

April 5, 2021

ABRF condemns the rise of anti-immigrant rhetoric and the acts of hatred committed towards members of the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community. According to data compiled by California State University's Center for the Study of Hate and Extremism, violent behaviors towards Asian and Asian Americans have increased 150% since 2019.

ABRF states its solidarity with the AAPI community amid this rise in hate crimes, a rise that is highlighted by the tragic events in Atlanta on Tuesday, March 16, 2021, where six women of AAPI descent were murdered. Such violence and injustice is reprehensible and runs counter to ABRF's mission of supporting a diverse and inclusive community, in which we respect and affirm our differences. As a society, we affirm our commitment to building an anti-racist and inclusive practice and culture for the years to follow. We know that our pledge to diversity, equity, and inclusion cannot be possible until everyone in our community, regardless of background, nationality, race, and gender feels emotionally and physically seen, valued, respected, and safe.

To our AAPI colleagues, coworkers, collaborators, and close friends who fear visibility among the escalating wave of hate crimes, and who are directly and emotionally affected by these atrocities, we grieve with you and call for an immediate stop to such violence. We hope that you have been able to take care of yourselves as well as take the time to process the impact of the rising hate crimes on yourselves, your families, and your communities. ABRF stands with you and is committed to helping in any way possible.

We urge everyone else to educate themselves about the vast diversity of AAPI communities, the history of Asian American discrimination, and the way that historical and current xenophobia and misogyny has informed the rise in hate and intolerance. Please see the resources below to learn, to educate others, to act, and to find mental health support:

anti-asianviolenceresources.carrd.co

This guide includes statistics about anti-AAPI violence as well as petitions to sign, educational resources for children and adults, donation links, and national mental health resources.

aapicovid19.org/resources

The AAPI COVID-19 Project originated from Harvard University's Department of Sociology collective research study. It has resources for hate crime reporting, mental health support, and education addressing COVID-19 racism.

If you would like to add resources, please contact the ABRF DEI Council, so we can add them to our resource list.

In Solidarity

ABRF Executive Board and DEI Council