## **#Stop Asian Hate**

In 2021, a series of anti-Asian violent rallies were held in the United States, Canada and other regions, many of which were held after the Atlanta Massage Center shooting in 2021.



On March 16, 2021, a series of mass shootings occurred at three spas in the Atlanta metropolitan area. Although the shooter has not been charged with a hate crime, some commentators have characterized it as such, as of the eight people killed, six were Asian women.



#### **#Stop Asian Hate**

The number of hate crimes against the Asian American community has gone up 150 percent from 2019 to 2020.

The non-profit organization Stop Hate of Asian Pacific Americans Report Center received 3,795 hate incidents in the United States from March 19, 2020 to February 28, 2021.

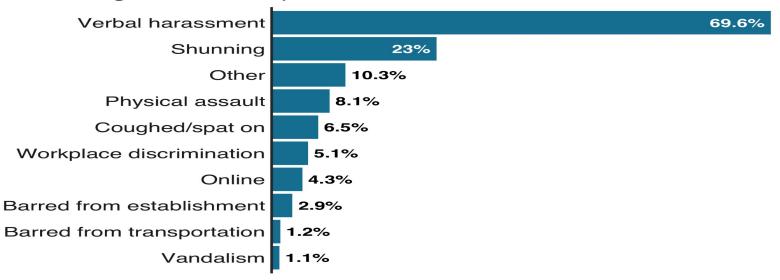
Stop AAPI (Asian American & Pacific Islander) Hate received nearly 3,300 reports of hate incidents against people of Asian descent across the U.S. in 2020, and nearly 70% of the respondents were women. But they say the number of hate crimes is likely higher due to underreporting.

The COVID-19 pandemic, first reported in Wuhan, Hubei, China, has led to an increase in racist activities against Asians and Asian Americans. A Pew Research study found that during the pandemic, 58% of Asian Americans believed that racist ideas had increased their influence. In the early days of the pandemic, racist language was often used to refer to the coronavirus, exacerbating deadly hateful violence in the United States.

#### #stopasianhate reports have increased treme

# Verbal harassment the most common form of discrimination

Percentage of 1,710 reported coronavirus-related incidents



#### COVID-19 Impact on Asian Hate

- -Since Trump referred to COVID as the "China virus," the hate speech led to more violence and acts of racism
- -Acts of racist violence lead to increased anxiety and fear in a population that already has higher rates of anxiety and depression related to COVID-19 than other racial groups
- -Asian Americans Advancing Justice Asian American Justice Center, recorded more than 3,000 hate incidents in their self-reporting system since late April 2020 (beginning of the pandemic), which is by far the highest number in the system's four-year history.
- -In New York City, police data shows there were 24 anti-Asian hate crimes related to the coronavirus between Jan. 1 and Nov. 29, 2020, compared with just 3 anti-Asian hate crimes in the same period in 2019.
- -In New York City, the Commission on Human Rights, which investigates incidents of harassment, discrimination and bias, has received a "sharp increase" in calls about COVID-19 related discrimination that includes incidents of bias against Asian Americans, spokeswoman Alicia McCauley said.

https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2021/02/12/asian-hate-incidents-covid-19-lunar-new-year/4447037001/

https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2020/03/28/coronavirus-racism-asian-americans-report-fear-harassment-violence/2903745001/

## COVID-19 Impact on Asian Hate

- -Since the beginning of the outbreak, organizations have documented at least 1,900 hate incidents across 46 states, one-third of Americans reported witnessing other individuals blame Asian Americans for the outbreak, and reports of anti-Asian violence and assaults have been on the rise.
- -Crisis Text Line saw a 39 percent increase in texts from Asian Americans in the first quarter of 2020.
- -Stigmatization may have discouraged affected populations from seeking care, resulting in underreported illnesses and worse health outcomes.

https://www.mckinsey.com/industries/public-and-social-sector/our-insights/covid-19-and-advancing-asian-american-recovery#

#### COVID-19 Impact on Asian Hate

Personal Anecdote from Hanna Brinnier:

For 7 months in 2019-2020, I had a foreign exchange student from Japan live with my family and I. She was a junior in public high school. When COVID-19 hit, she immediately became a target by her classmates. Even though she is Japanese, everyone bullied her and didn't want to be around her because they thought she was the virus itself. They yelled at her and shamed her and said things like "You brought this into our country! It's your fault!" She explained that she wasn't even from China, and even if she was, she didn't bring it into the country. This really upset her to the point where she wanted to go back home and didn't fight to stay in NY.

# Microaggressions

Microaggressions are defined as, "a statement, action, or incident regarded as an instance of indirect, subtle, or unintentional discrimination against members of a marginalized group such as a racial or ethnic minority."

#### **Examples of Racial Microaggressions**

Theme	Microaggression	Message
Alien in own land When Asian Americans and Latino Americans are assumed to be foreign-born	"Where are you from?" "Where were you born?" "You speak good English." A person asking an Asian American to teach them words in their native language.	You are not American You are a foreigner
Ascription of Intelligence Assigning intelligence to a person of color on the basis of their race.	"You are a credit to your race." "You are so articulate." Asking an Asian person to help with a Math or Science problem.	People of color are generally not as intelligent as Whites. It is unusual for someone of your race to be intelligent. All Asians are intelligent and good in Math / Sciences.

Asian Americans are frequently viewed as a model minority who have made it in this society and experience little in the form of racism. Despite the long documented history of racism toward Asian Americans, there has been a lack of attention paid to prejudice and discrimination directed against them. This model minority view is a big example of a highly dangerous microaggression, as it is often used to deny the racism Asian Americans face.

#### **Policies**

**Violence** and **discrimination** against Asian communities has increased staggeringly since the beginning of the coronavirus pandemic. This is most certainly due to racist connotations with the virus brought on by bigots.

- -Because of the overwhelming amount of hate and violence aimed toward them, Asian Americans feel uncomfortable walking the streets and fear for their lives.
- Many times these acts of hate go unnoticed and are met with silence. This silence is an act of violence itself by being complicit with the hate crime.
- -President Biden and the Senate recently passed a bill: <u>Condemning and Combating Racism</u>, <u>Xenophobia</u>, and Intolerance Against Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in the United <u>States</u>
- -Although violence and discrimination toward Asian Communities is not a new thing, it has increased by an exceedingly 150%, experts say. This policy may be long overdue but it is a step in the right direction by prosecuting the perpetrators.
- -American voices must be heard and respected.

# Ways We Can Help

Individuals of all backgrounds have a critical role to play in sustaining an ongoing dialogue, holding organizations accountable, and supporting the Asian American community. Here are some steps they can take:

- Individuals have engaged peers (Asian and non-Asian) to raise awareness of inequalities experienced by the Asian American community.
- Individuals have encouraged employers or policy makers to collect disaggregated data and initiate diversity efforts.
- Consumers have supported Asian small businesses and cultural centers during the COVID-19 recovery.
- Individuals have confronted instances of racism and discrimination.
- The mental health of fellow Asians has become a priority.

## Education

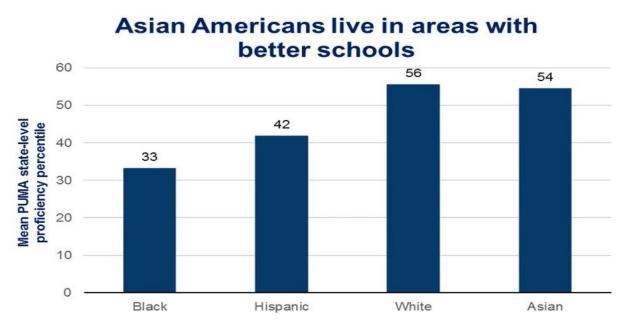
The most striking success of Asian-Americans, and the one most commonly highlighted in the media, is in educational attainment. While 36 percent of whites, 23 percent of blacks, and 16 percent of Hispanics have a bachelor's degree or more, 54 percent of Asians do. Furthermore, while 14 percent of whites have advanced degrees, 21 percent of Asian-Americans do.

Why? The answer is simple: Culture.

An "Asian attitude towards education" aims to perfect the virtue of learning and eventually become a saint. This is a moral and ideological state. These advantages include: sincerity, hard work, perseverance, focus, and respect for teachers. For the vast majority of Asian immigrants, the education of the next generation is close to religion.

#### E1: ASIAN-AMERICANS. ARE MORE LIKELY TO GO TO BETTER SCHOOLS

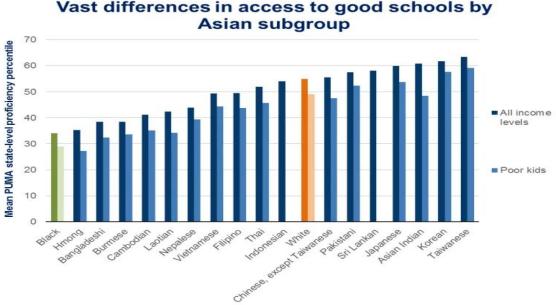
Although the average household income of Asians and whites is higher than that of blacks and Hispanics, this is equal in other respects, indicating that they will be able to afford to live in areas with better school conditions. In fact, the gap in access to quality schools is a huge obstacle.



Source: Author's calculations from ACS and Great Schools data. Note: Asian-American exam scores are stripped from our school quality measure.

#### E2: ASIAN-AMERICANS ARE FAR FROM THE SAME

In the United States, policymakers view Asian Americans as a whole. But there are big differences between different Asian American groups. Many people are struggling financially. The "Asian" advantage popularized in the media is far from popular. Many groups from East Asia and India are doing well financially. However, Cambodians and Hmongs are at the bottom of the economic ladder and have a high poverty rate.



## Mental Health Support:

There are many damaging issues facing the Asian American Community's mental health:

- Foreigner stereotype, Trauma, Stigma, Expectations, Religious Intolerance, etc.

In order to be an ALLY to this community, one must educate themselves on the available resources that may help these individuals.

#### Mental Health Organizations: (website links attached)

<u>South Asian Therapists</u> Home of the largest global community of South Asian therapists, including therapists of Indian, Pakistani, Bangladeshi, Sri Lankan, Afghani and Nepali heritage. Here you can find culturally competent South Asian mental health professionals to help you get the support you're looking for.

<u>Asian Mental Health Collective</u> It is the mission of the Asian Mental Health Collective to normalize and de-stigmatize mental health within the Asian community.

Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum APIAHF influences policy, mobilizes communities, and strengthens programs and organizations to improve the health of Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders.

Asian Pride Project Stories of lesbian, gay, transgender and queer triumphs and struggles in our Asian and Pacific Islander (API) communities through the eyes of parents, elders and family.

#### Mental Health Organizations: (continued)

The National Queer Asian Pacific Islander Alliance (NQAPIA) A federation of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) Asian American, South Asian, Southeast Asian, and Pacific Islander (AAPI) organizations. We seek to build the organizational capacity of local LGBT AAPI groups, develop leadership, promote visibility, educate our community, enhance grassroots organizing, expand collaborations, and challenge anti-LGBTQ bias and racism

"Workplace Mental Health for Asian American Professionals," Hear from Asian American professionals about the unique challenges they face around workplace mental health—insights from Employees at Adobe, Dell, Square, and UC Berkeley

Chinese-American Family Alliance For Mental Health Chinese-American Family Alliance for Mental Health (CAFAMH) seeks to promote self-empowerment and mutual support among Chinese-American caregivers of mentally ill individuals by providing a safe space for family support group meetings. CAFAMH aims to educate and raise community awareness of mental illness, improve the quality of services necessary for mental health patients, family members, and caregivers.