



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
29 March 2021

MIAMI UNIVERSITY ASSOCIATED STUDENT GOVERNMENT STATEMENT CONDEMNING ASIAN-AMERICAN HATE

Dear Miami Family,

As many of you are undoubtedly aware of on Tuesday the 16th of March 2021 a shooter assaulted 3 spas in the Atlanta area resulting in the death of 8 people, 6 of whom were of Asian descent. The victims of these horrific events are Soon Chung Park (age 74), Hyun Jung Grant (age 51), Suncha Kim (age 69), Yong Ae Yue (age 63), Xiaojie Tan (age 49), Daoyou Feng (age 44), Delaina Ashley Yaun (age 33), and Paul Andre Michels (age 54). Although these events have been understated by multiple law enforcement and media groups, the members of the Miami University Associated Student Government would like to unequivocally state that these acts of violence are a hate crime against the Asian American community and should be condemned in the strongest manner available.

It is important to recognize that as a nation we have experienced a sharp rise in anti-Asian-American violence, discrimination, and rhetoric, especially in the wake of COVID-19. In the past year, data has shown that hate crimes against Asian-Americans have increased 150% while overall hate crimes decreased by 7% in America's largest cities. These hate crimes do not come from nowhere; they evolve from the normalization of racist microaggressions and discrimination building into expressions of violence against Asian-Americans. When we allow bigotry against the existence of a group of people, it naturally reaches a state of violence that results in the unjust deaths we have seen in Atlanta and the continuation of inflammatory racist rhetoric. The impact of racism and discrimination cannot be understated, and anti-Asian-American rhetoric continues to plague our nation and cannot go unaddressed, as it directly affects the Miami community. Some of these direct impacts include, but are not limited to: mental health, safety, and identity. Many students on campus have reported feeling a sense of unease due to the attack upon their identity as Asian and/or Asian-American. This has occurred to the extent where many students' mental health and physical safety have been compromised.

Our Code of Love and Honor states that we "welcome a diversity of people, ideas, and experiences," that we "demonstrate Love and Honor by supporting and caring for [our] fellow Miamians," and that we "act through [our] words and deeds in ways that reflect these values and beliefs." In reflection of this, the Senate body of the Associated Student Government reviewed a resolution to formally condemn anti-Asian-American hate crimes, violence, and discrimination on the 23rd of March. The resolution passed with the unanimous consent of the Senate. The Associated Student Government has a commitment to both Miami's Code of Love



and Honor and to the students we serve. With this in mind, the Miami University Associated Student Government condemns racism, hate, violence, and all other forms of discrimination on our campus in the strongest terms possible. Moving forward, we commit to communicating and collaborating with Asian/Asian-American student groups on campus to ensure that our efforts are effectively meeting their needs and actively combating the injustices they face.

With Love and Honor,

The Associated Student Government

VISIT:

<https://linktr.ee/miamiasg> and click 'Asian American Association & AAPI Resources'*

RESOURCES AT MIAMI UNIVERSITY:

- [MU HOPE Line | \(855-249-5649\)](#)
- [Center for Student Diversity and Inclusion \(CSDI\)](#)
- [Office of Institutional Diversity and Inclusion](#)
- [Student Counseling Services](#)

DONATE:

- Stop AAPI Hate - <https://stopaapihate.org/actnow/>
- Red Canary Song - <https://www.redcanarysong.net/>

EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS:

Read:

- Why This Wave of Anti-Asian Racism Feels Different by Morgan One
- Real Stories from Asian Americans Today by PBS

Watch:

- Stop the Hate: The rise in violence against Asian Americans by ABC
- Asian Americans are Dealing With a Wave of Bigotry and Assaults Because of the Coronavirus by Vice

Listen:

- Dear Asian Americans | Episode 98 w/ Liz Kleinrock | Anti-Bias & Anti-Racist Educator

**Credit to the Miami University Asian American Association for creating this document and providing resources.*