



California State
University

**CHICANA/O
STUDIES**

C H A N N E L
I S L A N D S

**Message from Chicana/o Studies Department
Condemning Anti-Asian Violence**

March 22, 2021

We, the faculty of Chicana/o Studies at California State University Channel Islands are heartbroken and outraged at the deadly violence that occurred in Georgia on March 16, 2021. We send our deepest condolences to the families of the eight people killed in Acworth and Atlanta:

Daoyou Feng
Delaina Ashley Yaun
Hyun Jung Grant
Paul Andre Michels
Soon Chung Park
Suncha Kim
Xiaojie Tan
Yong Ae Yue

What happened in Atlanta was one example of the many attacks on racially minoritized communities and reflects the escalation of anti-Asian violence in the U.S. since the 19th century to the current COVID-19 pandemic. Six of the eight people killed were Asian American women, and this act of violence is rooted in anti-Asian hate and misogyny.

As Ethnic Studies scholars and educators, we recognize a long history of hate and violence directed towards Asian, Asian American, Pacific Islander and Desi American communities are rooted in white supremacy, racism, misogyny, and xenophobia. The research shows that aggressors often act against Asians because of long-standing stereotypes that paint the community as “illegal” perpetual foreigners, model minorities, spreaders of illness and disease, and as exoticized and sexually objectified. The Atlanta killings also demonstrate the horrifying consequences of those attitudes when they are compounded by misogyny, racism, and xenophobia.

We respond to this violence by directing our energies to stopping Asian, Pacific Islander and Desi Americans (APIDA) hate through our teaching, locating resources for our students and community, and speaking out against such travesties in our local communities. We also call for the development and establishment of APIDA Studies and Ethnic Studies programs at CSUCI, as well as the hiring of APIDA Studies scholars to help lead and educate our campus about the complex histories and experiences of APIDAs in the U.S. Only by truly understanding the integral role that APIDAs have had in the development of the U.S. and American society, can we begin to heal the intergenerational trauma experienced by our APIDA brothers, sisters, and kin. These tragic events reinforce the urgency of anti-racism policies and practices that CSUCI must continue working towards through the advancement of diversity, equity and inclusion.

We must all become more informed and share facts. For resources and more information on the documented hate crimes collected by [Stop AAPI Hate](#), here is their most recent [report](#). We recommend watching “[Who Killed Vincent Chin?](#)” A documentary on a high-profile case of Anti-Asian violence American history. In addition, PBS has made their 5-part

documentary series, ASIAN AMERICANS, available for FREE to stream on their [website](#). Please support grassroots organizations organizing support and funds toward the families of victims as well as survivors like [Red Canary Song](#) and [Asian Americans Advancing Justice-Atlanta](#).

Sincerely,

The Chicana/o Studies Department
California State University Channel Islands