

Legal Psychology Program Statement to Address AAPI Hate

AAPI communities in the United States have been subjected to racism and xenophobia which has surged in recent times, including the devastating mass shooting in March 2021 of Asian-owned businesses resulting in the loss of eight lives. Six Asian women were murdered. We condemn this heinous and senseless tragedy and stand with the AAPI community in mourning the loss of:

Sun Cha Kim, 김선자, 69

Hyun Jung Grant, [김]현정, 51

Soon Chung Park, 박순정, 74

Yong Ae Yue, 유영애, 63

Xiaojie Tan, 谭小洁, 49

Daoyou Feng, 冯道友, 44

Delaina Ashley Yaun, 33

Paul Andre Michels, 54

Violence, hate, and discrimination against AAPI have also risen with the association of COVID-19 to Wuhan, China. Elected officials have used racist language, referring to COVID-19 as the “China Virus,” which has encouraged stigmatization and inspired acts of violence against the Asian community. Attributing a disease to a specific group of people and/or placing blame on the people of China for the disease is racist and xenophobic and we condemn such hate and bigotry. Although COVID-19 has inflamed incidences of hate, we acknowledge the pervasive discrimination and social inequality historically experienced by AAPI communities. We acknowledge the need to be more supportive of AAPI communities and as a program commit to taking steps to do so. We commit to amplifying the voices of AAPI students and faculty and creating an environment of support for AAPI communities. We pledge to support AAPI students, faculty, and communities by:

- Continually recommitting our program to anti-racist efforts, action, and education.
- Continuing to work to dismantle the systematic racism and oppression of AAPI as well as other marginalized groups via our research on the legal system.
- Being cognizant of how the aforementioned issues affect AAPI peoples within our own program’s students, faculty, labs, our research participants, and our surrounding community.

Our commitment is ongoing, and we will continue to work toward creating a more inclusive environment within our own program and community as well as within our research and continuing education. As a part of our continuing commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, we are working as a program to create actionable items to achieve this goal. We intend for this to be a living document, changing and growing as our program does.

We urge our faculty and students to report incidents of anti-AAPI hate. Please use the following resources to schedule a counseling appointment, receive immediate help, or to report an incident of bias:

- To share your suggestion or idea for an action item, or an observation, experience, or concern related to diversity, equity, and inclusion with the Psychology department's Diversity Committee, visit [FIU Psychology Department Diversity Committee Comment Box](#)
- Members of the Legal Psychology program may leave feedback and concerns specific to faculty and/or graduate students in Legal Psychology by accessing the Legal Psychology department's anonymous concern survey via Teams or Dropbox by clicking on the file named "How to Provide Anonymous Feedback."
- To report an incident to FIU's Office of Academic and Student Affairs by following this link to the incident report form: [Report an Incident of Bias](#)
- You can make an appointment with FIU's Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) center. Counselors specialize in a variety of areas including issues relating to violence, culture, and race. To schedule an appointment, call 305-348-2277.
- To receive support as faculty or staff visit [FIU Human Resource's Assistance & Wellness](#) webpage for resources on employee assistance, sympathy and support systems, and wellness services.
- To receive immediate, 24-hour crisis support from a licensed clinician, call 305-348-2277
- To reach on-campus police for FIU emergencies, call 305-348-5911

We encourage all faculty and students to use the following resources to educate themselves and others about AAPI hate and how to combat it. Below is a non-exhaustive list of resources:

- ["Stop AAPI Hate"](#), a national reporting center to collect and track incidents of anti-Asian American and Pacific Islander hate violence, adult harassment, discrimination, shunning, and child bullying throughout the country. Student researchers are supporting this project, which not only documents and analyzes hate incidents, but also works with community partners to provide resources to victims and advocates for responsible public policies to address the rise in anti-Asian discrimination and hostility.
- Tell [your personal story](#) and help the Asian Americans Advancing Justice affiliation (AAAJ) track hate.
- Learn what [steps](#) you can take to fight violence and racism against the AAPI community.
- Attend [bystander intervention training](#) specific to anti-Asian discrimination and hate.
- Learn about others' experiences of anti-AAPI hate (such as through [this NPR CodeSwitch podcast](#)) or how our current moment is connected to a broader U.S. history of racism and xenophobia (such as through [this Vox article](#)).
- Go to [Hate is a Virus](#) to learn more about hate, racism, and identity-based violence and how to combat them.