

The murders of eight people in Atlanta, including six Asian American women, is a tragic, chilling reminder that the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community has suffered a marked increase in overt racism and violence nationwide. The California Association of Professional Scientists (CAPS) stands against hate, racism, and xenophobia against people of Asian descent. Furthermore, we denounce gender violence, abuse, and racist attacks that target vulnerable groups.

While CAPS condemns these recent heinous acts, we note that America has a long, shameful history of racially scapegoating the AAPI community. From the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882, to World War II internment camps, to current misinformation campaigns and slurs concerning the COVID-19 pandemic, Asian people have endured a heavy burden for our national insecurities.

But as scientists, we also know that knowledge sheds light on ignorance, eases irrational fear, and moves humanity forward. While some people will cling to racist ideologies regardless of facts, enlightenment will change hearts and stiffen spines to stand against hate.

To that end, the CAPS Board of Directors encourages everyone to explore the following resources, learn about AAPI issues, and consider your role in addressing them:

Stop AAPI Hate National Report NBC News Resource List

Asian Americans Advancing Justice CDC Guidelines on Reducing Stigma

Let us work together to create a more just world with optimism, hope, light, and love. Hate has no place in science or society. CAPS stands in solidarity with the AAPI community. #StopAAPIHate.

In solidarity and hope,

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