

## Asian American Pacific Islander Coalition of Wisconsin Statement on Anti Asian Racism and Xenophobic Attacks

The novel coronavirus has devastated nations across the globe. Its detrimental impact is felt particularly by vulnerable communities—front-line workers, older adults, people with certain health issues, economically disadvantaged individuals, and communities of color— including Asian and Asian-American people.

The Asian American Pacific Islander Coalition of Wisconsin (AAPI) is deeply troubled by the alarming rise in racist and xenophobic acts committed against people of Asian descent in reaction to the coronavirus pandemic. These acts are occurring around the world, across all of the United States, and perhaps, even within our own communities. Xenophobia, racism, and hate have no place in Wisconsin.

At a time when so many people are working to reduce the spread of COVID-19 globally, we are also fighting the spread of racism and stereotyping. We need to come together as a united front in denouncing racism and xenophobia. We call on policymakers, the media and the public to take affirmative steps to halt and condemn xenophobia to ensure that the health and safety of all Americans is protected.

- We encourage **policymakers** to take xenophobic and racist threats seriously by publicly condemning hate acts.
- We encourage **the media** to discontinue the use of photographs depicting people of Asian descent in COVID-19 coverage and seek out the voice of the Asian community.
- We ask **the public** to refrain from using ethnicity and race to describe the virus. These practices perpetuate the racist association between the disease and Asian communities, and have the potential to both directly and indirectly incite hostility and violence toward our communities.
- We ask **everyone** to report hate incidents. Many hate crimes go unreported by victims which hinders the ability to appropriately track and address the occurrences.

We ask you to stand with the Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) Coalition of Wisconsin in condemning racist and xenophobic acts against the Asian American community and all marginalized groups.

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**Organizations Supporting the Statement authored by the Asian American Pacific Islander  
Coalition of Wisconsin Executive Committee**

## **ATTACHMENT - WHAT YOU CAN DO**

**Speak Up** - There are a number of resources and online trainings to help you as an individual citizen when you are confronted with difficult anti-Asian situations.

[The Asian American Advancing Justice \(AAJC\) - Stand Against Hatred](#)

[The Anti-Defamation League \(ADL\)](#)

[The Anti Defamation League - Resources for Parents, Children and Educators](#)

[Hollaback Bystander Intervention Online Training](#)

[Hollaback Bystander Intervention Download](#)

[Hollaback - How to Respond to Street Harassment](#)

[How to Respond to Coronavirus Racism](#)

**Reporting** - It is important to report all incidents to help respond and prevent further incidents. You should report any hate attacks immediately to your local police department. If it is not an emergency, you can report it to your local police department's non-emergency line.

In addition, there are several local and national entities you can report your incident to.

Milwaukee & Wisconsin Area Reporting

Local FBI Reporting Line - 414-276-4684

Equal Rights Commission - 414-286-5532 or [ERC@milwaukee.gov](mailto:ERC@milwaukee.gov)

Milwaukee Police Department Non-Emergency Line - 414-933-4444

[Cia Siab - Wisconsin Incident Report Page](#)

National Reporting

[AAPI Stories - Submit Your Story](#)

[Anti-Defamation League Report Incident](#)

[Asians Advancing Justice Incident Report](#)

[Asian Pacific Planning and Policy Reporting Center](#)

[Organization of Chinese Americans - Online Reporting](#)

[South Asians Leading Together Acts of Hate Database](#)