



## Chief Student Services Officers Association

Zav Dadabhoy, President  
Ulises Velasco, Treasurer

Lataria Hall, President Elect  
Sylvia Dorsey-Robinson, Executive Manager

240 N. 12th Avenue; Suite 109 #150; Hanford, CA 93230  
[www.calcsso.org](http://www.calcsso.org)

March 19, 2021

### **CSSO Executive Board Statement**

This week's deplorable events in Atlanta remind us that despite the attention and focus of nationwide Anti-Racism proclamations and efforts, we have significant work still to be done. Once again we have witnessed violence and injustice based, solely, on race and/or gender. And once again we are issuing a statement condemning such senseless, misogynist and racist attacks represented by the shootings at three spas in Atlanta. We are outraged, dismayed, confused and angry that such depraved, xenophobic behavior continues.

In fact, racism against our Asian American Pacific Islander and Desi communities has dramatically increased and has been fueled over the past year by hateful, pandemic-related rhetoric such as referring to the coronavirus as the "China virus". Since the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic, the group Stop AAPI Hate has recorded over 3,800 reported incidents of hate against Asian American and Pacific Islanders. Many others go unreported. Racism against Asian American Pacific Islander and Desi Americans has been pervasive in history yet rarely talked about in the mainstream. This racism can be ingrained and subtle, and sometimes ranges from shunning, name calling, or racially insensitive incidents, and physical attacks. Each end of that spectrum has dangerous consequences.

Today, the CSSO Association Executive Board reaffirms our unwavering commitment to equity, inclusion, and anti-racism and urges each of our colleagues in the California Community Colleges, and the communities we serve to join us as we pledge continued focus on anti-bias, anti-racist educational outcomes.

### **Action items to consider:**

1. Issue a statement to your campus community condemning the racist violence in Georgia this week, and throughout the country last year
2. Remind your campus that there is significant additional work to be completed to model, develop and educate our communities about anti-racism
3. Provide an easy-to-use reporting structure so the College is aware of incidents and can respond when needed
4. Create an Asian Pacific Islander and Desi American Resource Guide for Students [https://pasadena.edu/faculty-and-staff/cape/docs/API\\_Student\\_Guide.pdf](https://pasadena.edu/faculty-and-staff/cape/docs/API_Student_Guide.pdf)
5. Engage with organizations on campus and in the community to form a coalition approach to addressing racism and working toward social justice
6. Sign this petition to end hate crimes against Asian Americans: <https://www.change.org/p/governor-andrew-cuomo-end-hate-crimes-against-asian-americans>
7. Write to your public officials. You can find out who your representatives are here: [Find Your Representatives](#)
8. Share tips to stay safe. An example is available here: <https://stopaapihate.org/safetytipsenglish/>
9. Provide co-curricular experiences to ensure students have an outlet to explore the topic with their peers in a safe space. Consider having a conversation with your students, classmates or colleagues on combating AAPI Hate.

### **Resources:**

1. Save the Date (March 27, 2021) for The Coalition presents "Silence is Violence: Unpacking and addressing Anti-AAPI Violence." Free webinar presented by Asian Pacific Islanders in Higher Education (APAHE), African American Male Education Network Development (A<sup>2</sup>MEND), and COLEGASXXXX - Zoom link will be forthcoming via [www.apahenational.org](http://www.apahenational.org)
2. Report instances of anti-Asian assault: <https://stopaapihate.org/>

***Ensuring Opportunities for Success for Every Student***



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3. Refer to other resources and news accounts, and be aware of the issues surrounding Asian American Pacific Islander and Desi hate:
  - <https://anti-asianviolenceresources.carrd.co/>
  - <https://time.com/5947603/how-to-help-fight-anti-asian-violence/>
  - Asian Pacific Islander and Desi American Resource Guide for Students [https://pasadena.edu/faculty-and-staff/cape/docs/API\\_Student\\_Guide.pdf](https://pasadena.edu/faculty-and-staff/cape/docs/API_Student_Guide.pdf)
  - <https://www.pbs.org/newshour/nation/what-you-can-do-to-fight-violence-and-racism-against-asian-americans>

*For further information or comments please contact:*

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