

ICAAP Statement Against Anti-Asian Violence

ICAAP extends our allyship and solidarity with our patients, families, colleagues, friends, and community who identify as Asian. We are deeply saddened by the historical racism and recent multiple acts of anti-Asian violence in our country, including the tragic mass shooting event in Atlanta on March 16th. This event highlights the intersection of anti-Asian racism, sexism, and gun-based violence. ICAAP is committed to health equity, and we recognize that these issues, and their resultant grief and stress, directly affect the health of our communities, our patients, and our colleagues.

We acknowledge the [long-standing history of anti-Asian racism in the United States¹](#). Our country has historically excluded Asian immigration, marginalized and exploited Asian workers, and invalidated the diversity of Asian-American experiences, placing Asians at odds with other minorities through the Model Minority Myth. In times of crisis, Asian-Americans have often been scapegoated, most prominently the Japanese internment camps in WWII. Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, spurred by prominent anti-Asian rhetoric, attacks against our Asian communities have significantly increased; [nearly 3800 hate incidents were reported²](#) over the last year, disproportionately affecting women but also including vulnerable older adults. These events make us pause, reflect, and stand up against the anti-Asian violence of our country's past and present.

[Racism has a profound impact on children's health outcomes³](#). Asian children and teens are experiencing [bullying and discrimination⁴](#), in person and online. They worry about their parents many of whom are essential workers, being harassed, attacked or killed. We must respect, validate, and listen to our Asian patients, and advocate for their mental and physical safety and wellbeing. And, we must also promote anti-bias conversations among the bullies and perpetrators who are also our patients. As part of ICAAP's anti-bias and anti-racism taskforce, we are working on educational programming to help our members and other providers caring for children and families do just that.

We in the pediatric community extend a helping hand to our patients, families and colleagues who are suffering and say, "You belong here." Let us listen deeply to their experiences and create a safe space for them to heal. We stand in solidarity with our Asian communities and speak out against anti-Asian bigotry. We are committed to dismantling systemic racism. Let us work to provide compassionate, respectful, and anti-racist care together.

Here are some resources to get started:

For providers:

- This article contains useful guidance for combating Anti-Asian racism in clinical settings for patients and staff
 - <https://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMp2102656?query=TOC>
- This website includes statistics, educational resources, information on allyship, organizations to donate to, links to report incidents, mental health resources, petitions, social medial campaigns and other ways to take action:
 - <https://anti-asianviolenceresources.carrd.co/>

For patients and families:

- In this article, Drs. Ashauta Anderson and Jacqueline Douge, discuss the development of racial bias and offer strategies for parents and children to talk about and deal with bias, racial differences and racism
 - <https://www.healthychildren.org/English/healthy-living/emotional-wellness/Building-Resilience/Pages/Talking-to-Children-About-Racial-Bias.aspx>
- In this NPR podcast with Audi Cornish, Nicole Chung, and Christine Koh discuss talking with children about Anti-Asian racism.
 - <https://tinyurl.com/NPRKidsAsianRacism>

Sincerely,

Members of the ICAAP Anti-Racism Taskforce

References:

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2. Jeung, R., J. Yellow Horse, A., Popovic, T., Lim, R. (n.d.). STOP AAPI HATE NATIONAL REPORT. Retrieved April 5, 2021, from
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3. Trent, M., Dooley D.G., Dougé, J. SECTION ON ADOLESCENT HEALTH, COUNCIL ON COMMUNITY PEDIATRICS, COMMITTEE ON ADOLESCENCE, “The Impact of Racism on Child and Adolescent Health” *Pediatrics* Aug 2019, 144 (2) e20191765; DOI: 10.1542/peds.2019-1765.
4. Jeung, R., J. Yellow Horse, A., Lau, A., Kong, P., Shen, K., Cayanan, C., . . . Lim, R. (n.d.). STOP AAPI HATE YOUTH REPORT. Retrieved April 5, 2021, from
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