

Statement by CEJTE Co-Directors on the Shootings in Atlanta on March 16, 2021 and Growing Anti-Asian Violence

March 22, 2021

We are deeply saddened by the anti-Asian events that ended the lives of Delania Ashely Yaun, Xiaojie Tan, Daoyou Feng, Julie Park, Hyeon Jeong Park. They were daughters, mothers, sisters, wives, loved ones. We mourn them and stand against the misogynistic and gendered violence that led to their murders alongside Elcias R. Hernandez-Ortiz and Paul Andre Michaels. We offer our deepest condolences to the families and loved ones of the victims.

Data released in March 2020 by the Center for the Study of Hate and Extremism at California State University, San Bernardino, indicate that hate crimes against Asian Americans in the largest 16 U.S. cities spiked by nearly 150 percent in 2020, while overall hate crimes dropped by 7 percent.

The shooting in Atlanta was a horrendous tragedy indicative of the existing hate and racism in our country. We, the Co-Directors of the Center for Equity and Justice in Teacher Education, strongly condemn anti-Asian discrimination. As advocates and co-conspirators, we strive to intentionally disrupt hate in all forms, including AAPI, BIPOC, LGBTQ+, religion, immigration status, and those who live at the intersections of these groups. We are deeply committed to improving educational policies, practices, and systems to interrupt the spread of hate, injustice, and discrimination. We invite you to explore our resources related to this work by clicking on [this](#) link. Below, we offer some curated resources we hope you will find helpful to learn more and take action specific to anti-Asian discrimination.

In the larger society:

[Stop Asian Hate Instagram Page](#)

[Stop AAPI Hate](#)

[Stop Asian American Pacific Islander Hate Organization](#)

<https://www.facebook.com/StopAAPIHate/>

<http://advancingjustice-atlanta.org/>

[Anti Asian Violence Resources](#)

[Standing Up to Anti-Asian Violence](#)

[Anti-racism Resources for AAPI Community](#)

[Stand Against Hatred Resource](#)

[Act to Change](#)

[NPR Podcast on The Rise in Anti-Asian Attacks](#)

[PBS Resource on How to address the surge of anti-Asian hate crimes](#)

In our classrooms:

[Learning For Justice Responding to Anti-Asian Violence and the Georgia Shootings](#)
[Teaching For Justice: Exploring Asian Identity and History after the Atlanta Shootings](#)

[What's in Your News?](#) A lesson inviting students to share their responses to world events

[Anti Asian Racism: Lesson and Resources](#)
[National Education Association Ed Justice](#)

As we strive for transparent leadership, know that we are committed to learning together and doing better in our movement toward equity and justice in teacher education, and in our work more broadly defined. As outlined in one of our belief statements, we believe in participatory, shared leadership in which leaders represent varying identities and life experiences and *hold one another accountable to the mission and vision*. As such, we stand against all forms of hate and White supremacy, we commit to *taking action* through CEJTE with programming and supports that educate us all in better ways forward, and we promise continued conversations and accountability within our leadership and with our partners about *when and why* individuals or organizations--including CEJTE-- decide to take a stand/issue a statement, while at other times make the conscious or dysconscious decision to move forward in silence. These are important conversations to have, with much to unpack, including how our responses (or lack thereof) position the pain of some as mattering more than the pain of others. We invite all of you to engage in similar conversations, both as individuals and as representatives of organizations striving to do justice and advocacy work.