

## **Statement and Recommendations from the NYU Student Government on a Recent Uptick in Anti-Asian Violence and Hate Crimes in Our Community**

For New Yorkers, the subway is more than just a method of transportation. It is a way of life. No one should have to fear for their lives when trying to move around the city. On behalf of New York University's Student Government Assembly, we strongly denounce the alarming increase of bias and hate crimes targeted towards Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPI). We find ourselves fighting not only the pandemic of a deadly virus but also the pandemic of ignorance and hate. The anti-Asian narrative in the COVID-19 pandemic is not only inaccurate but also inherently xenophobic. An increase in hate crimes and targeted violence has been prevalent over the past year and the response from NYU has been lackluster.

We stand in solidarity with our AAPI community and ask all members of the NYU community to stand with us and the members of our community who are experiencing this and other forms of racism and xenophobia. We must remain vigilant to the many ways that anti-Asian prejudice and bias affect us and continue working as a department to identify effective and actionable ways to address this and all forms of prejudice, stigmatization, and racism.

We have heard enough advice about how we should stay in groups and be aware of your surroundings. However, no amount of precaution could have prevented Michelle Go's murder. The responsibility should not be placed on the victims. Too long have Asian individuals been dismissed in conversations of racism. We are more than your stereotype, we are more than your movie sidekicks. We belong here. Too long have we allowed ourselves to become desensitized to news of yet another racially-motivated crime; they are not and will never be anything short of horrific and should be treated as such.

NYU *needs* to recognize the alarming surge in anti-Asian hate crimes on campus and take action to protect our community, students, staff, and faculty alike, immediately.

On behalf of the Student Government Assembly, we demand more attention be dedicated to the Bias Response Line, especially in regards to hate crimes and racial attacks. A report will be issued at the March University Senate detailing the speed of response and resources offered to students. NYU Safe Ride Service needs to be expanded to include larger commuter hub destinations [Grand Central Station, Penn Station] to ensure that students who need transportation home can avoid the subways if they feel unsafe. Student voices should be included and consulted in the meetings and steps taken to bolster existing services and target programs to those being directly impacted. Finally, Campus safety should immediately send out a

university-wide announcement of the attack as soon as it is reported and label it as what it is: a hate crime.

We are in conversation with university administration to establish a safer community, specifically for AAPI students. Please do not hesitate to reach out to [student.government@nyu.edu](mailto:student.government@nyu.edu) with questions, suggestions, or ways that we might be able to offer our support.

### **Report an incident/attack**

- Report hate incident at [STOP AAPI HATE](#)
- Report experiences and concerns of bias at [NYU Bias Response Line](#)

### **Other resources at NYU**

- [NYU Counseling and Wellness Services](#)
  - **API Students Support Space** *Fridays, 2pm-3pm*
  - This workshop is open to API (Asian and Pacific Islander identified) students and those students impacted by anti-Asian violence and microaggression. Participants will have the opportunity to share their thoughts, feelings and experiences in a safe and supportive environment.
    - To sign-up, please call Counseling and Wellness Services at (212) 998-4780. The workshop leader will send you the Zoom meeting info prior to the start time.
  - If you need someone to talk to, please reach out to the Wellness Exchange's 24-hour hotline at 212-443-9999 or access the [Wellness Exchange](#) toll-free from any NYU Global Academic site.
- **Grief Garden**
  - [March 1-May 27](#)
  - Asian/Pacific/American Institute at NYU, Gallery 8 Washington Mews
  - *Grief Garden* is an immersive interpretation of Khaty Xiong's poem, where visitors can write messages to those lost.
- [NYU Global Inclusion and Diversity Resources](#)
- [NYU Asian/Pacific/American Institute](#)

### Clubs to connect with

- [A/P/A Bridge](#)
- [Pan-Asian Student Alliance](#)
- [Asian Heritage Month](#) / [@nyuahm](#)
- [Generasian](#)
- [All Asian Arts Alliance](#)

### Provide relief to AAPI small businesses

- [Small Business Relief Fund](#)
- [@sendchinatownlove](#) / [Donate](#)
- [@welcome.to.chinatown](#) / [Donate](#)
- [@explorechinatown](#)
- [61 Ways to Donate](#)

### Educational resources

- [Anti-Asian Violence Resources Card](#)
- [Coping with and Contextualizing Anti-Asian Racism](#)
- [White House Statement on Combating Asian American Intolerance](#)
- [Self-Care Tips for Asians Dealing with Racism Amid Coronavirus](#)
- [Self-Evident: Asian America's Stories Podcast](#)
- [NYC Gov Toolkit- Stop Asian Hate](#)

### Creative ways to support/donate

- Support your local Asian-owned small business, particularly in Chinatown and Flushing.
- Call your local legislators and ask what they are doing for the Asian community.
- Check in on your AAPI friends and family.
- Read books by Asian American and Pacific Islander writers — *Kim's Convenience*, *Fresh off the boat*, *Joy Luck Club*, [Crying in H Mart](#), [Everything I Never Told You](#). Share and amplify these stories on your social media and through conversations.

In solidarity,

JiWon Lee, Senator-at Large for Women of Color

Megan Chen, Senator-at-Large for Asian Students & Mental Health

Tien N. Nguyen Senator-at-Large for School of Professional Studies

Ariana Zhao, Senator-at-Large for Low Income Students & International Students

Mark Hu, Senator-at Large for Chinese International Students

The Executive Committee of the Student Government Assembly

