Statement from the Sociology Faculty at Oregon State University Condemning Anti-Asian Racism.

The Sociology faculty at Oregon State University condemn in the strongest possible terms the violence and racism directed at Asians and Asian Americans across the country. From the beginning of our global pandemic crisis, people of Asian descent have been targeted with prejudice, racism, threats, and physical violence. Racism towards this group has been practiced and encouraged at the highest levels of political office. We also recognize that many of our own students feel particularly vulnerable during this time because of the racist and vile scapegoating regarding the origins of the COVID-19 virus. Scapegoating regarding the origins of the COVID-19 virus has caused our own students to feel vulnerable and vilified. We stand with our Asian and Asian American students, faculty, and neighbors against white supremacist discourse and actions.

The recent wave of anti-Asian racism follows a long history of discrimination against this group in the United States. For months, members of the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community have been urging greater attention and resources to combat the violent and often random attacks against people of Asian descent. Despite these calls, the violence has continued and escalated. All too often members of the AAPI community are left out of the conversations about racial justice and inclusion, despite the racism they have endured. The Sociology faculty recognize that this often leaves our Asian and Asian-American students feeling isolated, unheard, and vulnerable. We vow to stand with you, to combat this racism and neglect, and to be inclusive in our curriculum about the distinct and varied experiences of discrimination encountered by Asian, Asian American, and Pacific Islanders in the United States.

The pandemic has brought many challenges and we recognize that all of our students face uncertain futures. In this difficult time, we echo language from the OSU administration that our community must be relentless in ending racism and the violence it brings to our community. We, the Sociology faculty, vow to be a part of that mission. To our Asian, Asian American, and Pacific Islander students, please know that we stand with you in this moment of grief and stress. We also want to pass along some resources; you’ll find these listed below.

Please reach out to us if you are struggling. We will do our best to connect you with resources and support.

Signed,

Kelsy Kretschmer  Brett Burkhardt  Catherine Bolzendahl
Ana K. Spalding  Dwaine Plaza  Michelle Inderbitzin
Becky Warner  Mark Edwards  Lori A. Cramer
Allison L. Hurst  Sally K. Gallagher  Scott Akins
Kathleen Stanley  Hilary Boudet  Steven M. Ortiz
Chris McDaniel
Resources:
Stop AAPI Hate Reporting Center – https://www.asianpacificpolicyandplanningcouncil.org/stop-aapi-hate/
Statement from Oregon State University

PBS Asian Americans Documentary – https://www.pbs.org/show/asian-americans/

Zinn Education Project – https://www.zinnedproject.org/

The Making of Asian America by Erika Lee

The Color of Success by Ellen D. Wu

Asian American Activists to follow:

- Mia Mingus – Disability and racial justice activist, blog: https://leavingevidence.wordpress.com/
- Ai-jen Poo – Leader, founder, and CEO of National Domestic Workers Alliance
- Liz Kleinrock – Instagram @teachandtransform, https://www.teachandtransform.org/
- Michelle Kim – Head Queen @ Awaken, Entrepreneur, Speaker, Activist, Instagram @michellekimkim