

We Stand in Solidarity with the Asian American and Pacific Islander Communities
Department of Psychology

Committed to racial justice for all people, the Department of Psychology stands in solidarity with the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) communities in the U.S. who have faced rising discrimination and violence since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as a history of discriminatory actions towards AAPI individuals. Both the recent exponential increase in discrimination and the history of AAPI communities in the U.S. has tragically been overlooked. Notably, this history is intertwined with the histories of Black, Indigenous, Latinx, and other communities of color, who are all harmed by white supremacist ideology.

In particular, the tragedies in Atlanta on March 16, 2021, reflect both racism and misogyny. This illustrates the clear need for dialogues on racial justice to include intersectionality. We also acknowledge that the dehumanizing impact of stereotyping Asian women as subservient by Western white culture contributed to this act of sexualized racial violence. Moreover, we acknowledge the harmful nature of the “model minority” myth towards AAPI communities, which has been used as a wedge issue to pit communities of color against each other. The “model minority” myth suggests that AAPI communities cannot be a target of white supremacy or oppressive actions.

To those of us who identify as AAPI, some resources available at Loyola and in the Chicagoland area include, but are not limited to, [The Wellness Center](#), [Asian Americans Advancing Justice](#), [STOP AAPI HATE](#), [A Safe Haven for Asians and Asian Americans](#), and the [National Asian Pacific American Women’s Forum](#). Furthermore, those of us who do not identify as AAPI are encouraged to attend [bystander intervention trainings](#) to combat anti-Asian harassment, discrimination, and hate.

We are a multiracial department and represent a multiracial coalition. We are committed to examining how the Department of Psychology both consciously and unconsciously may continue to uphold racial stereotypes that ultimately harm AAPI communities and other communities of color. Importantly, we are committed to acting upon what we continue to learn and to unlearn through the Racial Justice Examen process ([see Phase 2 of the Anti-Racism Initiative](#)).

We stand in solidarity alongside AAPI students, staff, and faculty members and all Black, Indigenous, and communities of color. You are seen. You are recognized. You are not alone.