



Presidential Statement on Our Condemnation of Anti-Asian Violence

Ye Tong, Ph.D., NCME President

March 18, 2021

My Dear NCME Colleagues,

Over the past few weeks I have been thinking about writing a statement condemning the drastic increase in anti-Asian violence and hate crimes. I have read the research published by [Stop AAPI Hate](#), a national coalition documenting and addressing anti-Asian discrimination during the pandemic. I have seen hate crimes reported through news outlets and social media. I have also heard personal stories from the Asian community around me. The increase in racism and violence toward Asians and Asian Americans has troubled me greatly. However, the horrific shootings that occurred in Atlanta this week shook me to my very core. As an Asian woman, I did not expect how strongly it impacted me, gutted me, left me without words, only profound sadness and worry.

These recent events are very personal to me, but unfortunately, they are not new. There has been a longstanding history of racial violence against people like me, from the late-19th-century attacks against Chinese laborers, to the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882, to the most recent scapegoating tactics and xenophobic sentiments by the Trump administration. And of course, whenever such an atrocity occurs against a race or ethnic class, people who identify with them experience the shock, the trauma, and the fear. I am not alone.

For the NCME community, our mission is to work together to advance theory and applications of educational measurement to benefit society. I sincerely hope that through bettering society, we are also helping to reduce hate, social injustice, and racism. I believe it is also important to let our Asian friends and colleagues know that we condemn anti-Asian violence and hate crimes and that we stand with them in solidarity.

It is unfortunate that I have to release this statement. It is also unfortunate that I had to release a statement on NCME's commitment to [Equality and Social Justice](#) in June last year. However, I do believe in our collective voice and power, and I do believe we can work towards a better future.

As the first NCME President of Asian descent, my presidential year so far has certainly been a very difficult but very rewarding year. I appreciate our NCME community of colleagues and friends. I thank you for listening to me today.

Ye Tong, Ph.D.

NCME President