



Dear OSPA Members,

Over the past year, we have witnessed an increase in hate and violence rooted in racism, including attacks against the Asian, Asian American, and Pacific Islanders (AAPI) community. These attacks have been largely fueled by misinformation. On March 16th, the murders of 8 people outside of Atlanta, GA - six of whom were Asian women - forced the country to acknowledge the violence that AAPI in the US has experienced for generations. We pause to remember these recent victims: Xiaojie Tan, Daoyou Feng, Soon C. Park, Hyun J. Grant, Suncha Kim, Yong A. Yue, Delaina Ashley Yaun Gonzalez, and Paul Andre Michels.

Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, the racist rhetoric against AAPI has increased. The messaging is dehumanizing and results in real harm in the form of violence, vandalism, discrimination, emotional trauma, and harassment. A recent report released by [STOP AAPI](#) identified nearly 3,800 of these incidents nationwide. Per their statement, this only represents a small fraction of actual events. Shamefully, Oregon is ranked number 18 in the US for the highest number of reported incidents.

As Physician Assistants, we are uniquely positioned to counter misinformation that results in harm to our patients and colleagues. We call on Physician Assistants in Oregon to be leaders against racism in our communities. Advocacy can take many forms and starts with open conversations at home, in the clinic, through education, over social media, and most importantly in our professional behavior.

OSPA stands with and continues to support AAPI families, community members, and colleagues.

Thank you,

Oregon PA Society Board of Directors