



333 W Santa Ana Blvd  
Santa Ana, CA 92701

April 22, 2020

Dear Members of the Orange County Board of Supervisors,

We, the undersigned, call upon the **Orange County Board of Supervisors** to issue a resolution, with haste, in support of the Asian American community and to denounce the discrimination and hate crimes directed against Asian Americans in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic.

In the weeks since the Coronavirus spread to the United States, there has been a noted increase of bias incidents targeting Asian Americans.

Early in March, students at a high school in Garden Grove filmed themselves mocking Asian American students – shouting “coronavirus” during a school cultural assembly and harassing Vietnamese American classmates.<sup>1</sup> Later in the month, a flier that read, “You guys are Chinese Viruses” and “Get out of our country” was posted on a family’s front door and left on their car.<sup>2</sup>

The irrational abuse against Asian Americans is neither new nor unique. The history of Asian immigration to California is replete with systemic discrimination and mistreatment that relegated members of our communities to second-class citizens. For years, Asian Americans were denied the rights to own land, to become citizens, to vote or to marry outside of their race.

It has been a long-standing tactic of bigots to blame “the other” – in this case, Chinese Americans and those mistakenly believed to be of Chinese heritage. Regardless of facts, bigots are seizing this opportunity to cast a spotlight of hatred upon Asian Americans.

COVID-19 is a disease caused by a virus. There is no common characteristic with the disease and human ancestry. It doesn’t have a race, religion, nationality or political ideology. This renewed iteration of bigotry and hatred must be stopped.

We call upon the Orange County Board of Supervisors to show its solidarity with the more than 600,000 Asian Americans who live, work, go to school and serve in Orange County.<sup>3</sup> Pass a resolution with haste in support of the Asian American residents of Orange County and denounce bigotry and acts of hatred.

Sincerely,

**Naz Hamid** and **Patty Yoo**, Co-Chairs, Asian Americans in Action  
**Priscilla Huang**, Board Secretary, Asian Americans in Action

---

<sup>1</sup> Roxana Kopetmam, The Orange County Register, “Video: Garden Grove students scream ‘coronavirus,’ mock Asian teens,” March 12, 2020, <https://www.ocregister.com/video-garden-grove-students-scream-coronavirus-mocks-asian-teens>.

<sup>2</sup> ADL, “Reports of Anti-Asian Assaults, Harassment, and Hate Crimes Rise as Coronavirus Spreads,” April 8, 2020, <https://www.adl.org/blog/reports-of-anti-asian-assaults-harassment-and-hate-crimes-rise-as-coronavirus-spreads>.

<sup>3</sup> Asian Americans Advancing Justice - Orange County and Orange County Asian and Pacific Islander Community Alliance, *A Community of Contrasts* (2014), [https://www.advancingjustice-la.org/sites/default/files/CommunityofContrasts\\_OC2014.pdf](https://www.advancingjustice-la.org/sites/default/files/CommunityofContrasts_OC2014.pdf).

**Katie Porter**, Irvine Resident  
**Gilbert R. Cisneros, Jr.**, Yorba Linda Resident  
**Assemblymember Dr. Steven Choi**, California State Assembly  
**Assemblymember Sharon Quirk-Silva**, California State Assembly  
**Assemblymember Cottie Petrie-Norris**, California State Assembly  
**Mayor, Christina Shea**, City of Irvine  
**Hon. Farrah Khan**, City of Irvine  
**Hon. Anthony Kuo**, City of Irvine  
**Hon. Diedre Nguyen**, City of Garden Grove  
**Hon. Kim Nguyen**, City of Garden Grove  
**Hon. Andrew Chou**, City of Diamond Bar  
**Hon. Al Jabbar**, Trustee, Anaheim Union High School District  
**Hon. Melissa Ramoso**, State Chair, California Democratic Party Asian Pacific Islander Caucus  
**Tammy Kim**, Finance Commissioner, City of Irvine; Chair Emeritus, Asian Americans in Action  
**Branda Lin**, Community Services Commissioner, City of Irvine  
**Rabbi Stephen J. Einstein**, Congregation B'nai Tzedek (Emeritus)  
**Rev. Rayna Hamre**, Tapestry Unitarian Universalist Congregation  
**Tahil Sharma**, United Religions Initiative (Regional Coordinator for North America)  
**William M. Summerville**, Kingdom Come Community Church  
**Mary Anne Foo**, Orange County Asian Pacific Islander Community Alliance (OCAPICA)  
**Beth Fujishige**, Japanese American Citizens League  
**Jennifer S. Wang**, Asian American Senior Citizens Service Center (AASCSC)  
**Susan Lew & Joanne Kong**, National Asian American Community Foundation (NAACF)  
**Shikha Bhatnagar**, South Asian Network  
**Sonny Wynn**, Burmese Community Resettlement Initiative  
**Hang Nguyen**, BPSOS Center for Community Advancement  
**Charlie Choi**, Korean American Seniors Alliance  
**Prof. Edwin Tiongson**, ELEVATE AAPI at Irvine Valley College  
**Angela C. Chen**, UCI DREAM Center  
**Judy Tzu-Chun Wu**, Asian American Studies Department Chair, UC Irvine  
**Thuy Vo Dang**, Asian American Archives, UC Irvine  
**Prof. Dave Min**, UCI School of Law  
**Sandra Song**, Principal, Anaheim Elementary School District  
**Alan Woo**, Santa Ana Unidos  
**Guerline Jozèf**, Haitian Bridge Alliance  
**Ada Briceño**, UNITE HERE Local 11  
**Joanna Wiess & Ali Monge**, WAVE (Women for American Values and Ethics)  
**Felicity Figueroa**, Orange County Equality Coalition  
**Tim Burns**, Orange County Justice Fund  
**Ellen Breitman**, Arts Orange County  
**Lisa Pedersen**, Orange County Poor People's Campaign  
**Laura Ferejohn**, League of Humane Voters  
**Adelina Hernandez**, Junior State of America  
**Pat Davis**, People's Homeless Task Force OC  
**Bella Brannon**, March For Our Lives  
**Rebecca Kovacs-Stein**, Orange County Poverty Alleviation Coalition  
**Oscar Rodriguez**, Oak View ComUNIDAD  
**Clair Liu**, Innovations Art Group, Inc  
**Andy Lewandowski**, Together We Will OC  
**Maribel Nunez**, California PartnershipCOVID  
**Mayra E. Alvarez**, The Children's Partnership  
**Leng Leng Chancey**, 9 to 5, National Association of Working Women  
**Aimee Thorne-Thomsen**, Sister Song Women of Color Reproductive Justice Collective  
**Jutta Whitaker-Gamboa**, Democrats of Greater Irvine  
**John Park**, Greater Irvine Republicans

**Additional Signatories:**

Aaron Hoang	Cyril Yu	Hali Cespedes-Chorin
Alexandra Noyes	Darrell Neft	Homa Mahdavi
Alia Smithnanic	David Keeler	Hon. Joyce Krutick Craig
Allen Partono	David Stevens	Howard Roll
Amanda Case	Davida Gregory	Hyejee Joo
Amanda Mayo	Dean Inada	James Black
Amy Henry	Deborah Townes, RN, PHN	James Bledsoe
Amy Williams	Diane AVECILLA	Jane Chang
Angie Olivares	Diane Davidson	Janice Chiu
Anne Hoogasian	Diane M.	Jasen Ono
Annie Wright	Diem Phan	Jeffrey Zhou
Arnel Dino	Diesel Merkle	Jennie Ha
Autumn Heep	Doug Elliott	Jennifer Hull
B. Dorbecker	Dr. Kathleen Treseder	Jennifer Lee Koh
Barbara Garcia	Durre waseem	Jennifer Mirmak
Billie Lavrov	Duyen Doucette	Jerrine Reich-Murphy
Branda Lin	Eileen Hsuan	Jim Hess
Brian Hosokawa	Elena Raynak	Joel Davis
Bryan Fazio	Elisa Choi	John Murdent
Caroline Djang	Emily Yu	John Tran
Catherine Nguyen	Emmanuel Alvarez	Joshua Block
Catherine Sharbaugh	Enlai Weng	Judith Gadd
Celeste Pewter	Eric Lau	Julie Belmore
Chaitanya	Eugene W. Fields	Julie Herrick
Cherry Lai	Eva Au	Julie Meskell
Chrissy Morgan	Faye Austin	Kaitlyn Luhm
Christina Poopatana	Ford Fujii	Katy Kiso
Christy Hatt	Gail Benson Ledesma	Kelly Ren
Ciara Simonian	Gemmy Pham	Kelly Rice
Cindy Du	Germaine Neumann	Ken Warfield
Colleen Dong	Gina Hansen	Kenneth Kim, MD
Craig Lee Burket	Grace Wang	Kenny Uong
	Gregory Weiss	Kevork Abazajian

Kimberly Goering	Mei Chang	Sanjay B. Dalal
Kourtney McGowan	Melisa Masri	Sapna Chopra
Kristine Mayberry	Melissa Shi	Sara Ajster
Kyler Chin	Meredith Worden	Scott Hansen
Leslie Golson	Mesbah Islam	Sharon Haber
Libby Frolichman	Michele (Chele) Jones	Sharon Parker
Lindsay Erickson	Michelle Duman	Sorina Chung
Lita Robinow	Mimi Lee	Stahsha Stanowicz
Liz McGlinchey Tan	Mischa Gureghian Hall	Steven Carter
Liz Sigel	Monica Leavitt	Sudi Farokhnia
Loraine Lau	Ms. Toby Curry	Susan Gapinski
Lourdes Merrow	Natalie Johnson	Suthida Lerth
Luis Huang	Natalie Moser	Sylvia Pham
Lyndsey lefevre	Nico Pagone	Therese Sorey
Lynn Simpson	Nina Mehrnouché	Tina Crocco
Lynn Woods	Norma Lopez	Tina Diep
Lynne Burt-Jenkins	Octavia Tuohey	Tyson Monagle
Madelline Mojica-Wanly	Panisara Lau	Vina Williams
Mandy Knoll	Rachel Neeley	Virginia Tibbetts
Mani Kang	Rachel So	Wendy Chiu
Mari Fujii	Reema Saad	William Lee
Marie Luebbbers	Rev. Dr. Terry LePage	Winglei Ho
Marjorie Hironimus	Rhodora Bartolome	Yasmin Malik
Mark Richard Daniels	Richard Johnson	Yuzhan Hong
Marleen Gillespie	Richard Stein	Yvonne Roman
Mary Ann Gaido	Richie Pham	
Mary Broude	Rick Shapiro	
Mary Ochs	Robin Gurien	
Matthew Nishii	Roxanna Bautista	
Matthew Woodworth	Russell Baldwin	
Maureen Kim	Ryan C. Joshi	
Mee Vaj	Samantha Aluise	
Megan Malone-Franklin		