



Wisconsin Medical Society

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Statement on Unacceptable Rise in Anti-Asian Hate Crimes

The murders of eight people, including six Asian women, by a white man in Atlanta one week ago was heart-breaking and horrifying. This senseless violence is a continuation in the recent rise in anti-Asian hate crimes, which have [risen 150% in the U.S.](#) since the pandemic began and which have [disproportionately targeted Asian-American women](#). They occur against a background of a [long history](#) of anti-Asian and anti-Asian American discrimination and hate in the U.S.

The Wisconsin Medical Society [condemns racism](#), in all its forms, as a public health crisis. We condemn these racially-motivated murders, the rise in discrimination and hate crimes against Asian Americans, and the long history of discrimination and violence against Asian Americans. We grieve the loss of invaluable lives this past week, and we stand with the communities that have suffered loss directly through this event or indirectly through the terror it induced, or through the months of building concern due to building hate and discrimination. We are deeply appreciative of our Asian-American members, for the vibrancy and value they bring to the American tapestry. We believe diversity is a strength of our community, and racism [saps this strength](#) to the detriment of the whole of society.

It is long past time for our nation to take a critical look at the root causes of racism and take meaningful steps to exact change.

For those looking to combat hate against Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) people and/or to be allies to Asian Americans and to other groups experiencing discrimination, there are many bystander engagement and allyship guides (including [this one](#) and [this](#), among many others), and following the work of groups like [AAPI Coalition of Wisconsin](#) and [Stop AAPI Hate](#).

For those looking to learn more about anti-Asian discrimination, we have linked numerous articles above, alongside the many documented experiences of discrimination (both [within our Wisconsin communities and national settings](#)).

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With more than 10,000 members dedicated to the best interests of their patients, the [Wisconsin Medical Society](#) is the largest association of medical doctors in the state and a trusted source for health policy leadership since 1841.