



AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR ACCESS, EQUITY AND DIVERSITY

American Association for Access, Equity and Diversity Condemns the Vicious and Hateful Attacks Against Asian Americans

Organization of Equal Opportunity Professionals urges leaders of government, higher education and the private sector to exercise leadership to deter acts of hate and to promote equal treatment in the nation's workplaces, academic institutions and public facilities

Washington, DC, March 29, 2021 – The American Association for Access, Equity and Diversity (AAAED), an association of equal opportunity, affirmative action and diversity professionals, condemns the unconscionable acts of stalking, physical violence, online harassment and other incidents against the nation's Asian American community. AAAED urges swift action by public officials and leaders of government, higher education and the private sector to deter and punish those engaging in such hate and bias-related activity.

"In the forty-seven years since the founding of this association, we have stood against hate and the ill-treatment of all people, including minorities and women. It is unthinkable that in 2021, decades after the enactment of the civil rights acts, we continue to witness abhorrent actions against Asian Americans and other members of racial and ethnic minority groups," said AAAED President Richard Anthony Baker. Dr. Baker added, "We join our colleagues in the Equal Opportunity Profession, Diversity leaders, civil rights organizations, employer groups, equal opportunity and justice agencies and the President of the United States in their condemnation of such actions. Hate has no place in America."

In 2019, AAAED and its affiliate organization, the Fund for Leadership, Equity, Access and Diversity (LEAD Fund), issued a toolkit and survey on the issue of hate on college campuses. "In our collective fight for equal justice and against systems of discrimination, we all must do all that we can to ensure that we are able to live and work in environments free from bigotry and bias," added Dr. Baker. "We at AAAED will continue to pursue our mission of access, equity and diversity and to take every action within our power and control to ensure that this shameful era of racial enmity comes to an end."

For a copy of the LEAD Fund publication on campus hate and bias, "Report on the Uncivil Hate and Bias Incidents on Campus Survey" and the "Toolkit on Campus Hate and Bias," and its Accompanying Report, click here: https://www.aaaed.org/aaaed/LEAD_Fund_Project_on_Campus_Civility.asp.

For more information about AAAED, go to: www.aaaed.org.

Founded in 1974 as the American Association for Affirmative Action (AAAA), AAAED is a national not-for-profit association of professionals working in the areas of equal opportunity, compliance and diversity. The longest-serving representative of individuals in the equal opportunity and diversity professions, AAAED has 47 years of leadership providing quality professional training to practitioners and promoting understanding and advocacy of affirmative action and other equal opportunity laws. Nearly one-half of its membership is composed of EEO professionals working for academic institutions.

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