



From darkness, light.

February 22, 2021

Statement in response to the violence towards the Asian American and Pacific Islander community:

The Holocaust started with words. After WWI, Jews became scapegoats for all of Germany's problems. In times of national or global upset, communities can become targets of bigotry and hate. That is why we at Holocaust Museum Houston, consistent with our mission to use the lessons of the Holocaust to teach the dangers of hatred, prejudice and apathy, condemn the discrimination and increasing violence towards the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) communities.

In April 2020, a poll found that 32% of Americans had witnessed someone blaming Asians for the coronavirus pandemic. Between March and June 2020, more than 2,120 hate incidents or crimes were reported by Asian Americans. That is an almost 845% increase from previous years. By September 2020, it is estimated that 1 in 4 Asian American youths had experienced racist bullying. Just in the last few weeks, there have been a string of attacks, particularly on elderly Asian Americans.

As we celebrate the Lunar New Year, what should be a time of celebration is also now a time of fear. It is up to all of us to speak out against hate-based violence and rhetoric. We stand in solidarity with the AAPI communities.

For more information:

[Report an incident to Stop AAPI Hate](#)

[Safety tips for those experiencing or witnessing hate](#)

[Resources for teachers](#)

To learn more about Holocaust Museum Houston, please visit hmh.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carl Josehart".

Carl Josehart
Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kelly J. Zúñiga".

Kelly J. Zúñiga, Ed.D.
Chief Executive Officer