



Resolution #20-04-02

**RESOLUTION DENOUNCING CORONAVIRUS DISCRIMINATION AND ATTACKS  
AGAINST ASIANS AND ASIAN AMERICANS**

**WHEREAS**, the Democratic Party of Orange County recognizes that the health and safety of all, no matter their background, must be of utmost priority, particularly during a pandemic; over 21 percent of the County's population are of Asian descent; 48 percent of the County's pharmacists are Asian; a third of the County's nurse practitioners are Asian; and there are also many Asians working in supermarkets, restaurants, delivery companies, and other service industries who are essential workers on the frontlines of the COVID-19 pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, the World Health Organization (WHO) has stated that naming viruses after geographic locations or groups of people is inaccurate and inappropriate; the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services stated that "ethnicity is not what causes the novel coronavirus;" and the Chief Medical Officer of the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) said that "stigma is the enemy of public health;" and

**WHEREAS**, President Trump repeatedly used the term "Chinese virus" to foment xenophobia, perpetuate anti-Asian stigma, and incite conspiracies blaming Asians for creating, spreading and profiting off the virus; and as people express fears over the coronavirus through xenophobic and racist violence, the increased use of anti-Asian rhetoric has resulted in an alarming surge of anti-Asian bigotry and hate crimes in the U.S. and Orange County, with over 1,000 incidents reported in March of 2020 alone.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Democratic Party of Orange County stands with the Asian community and strongly denounces all manifestations of anti-Asian sentiment; that the Democratic Party of Orange County calls on public officials in Orange County to condemn publicly any ignorant or intended attacks and racist assaults against Asians resulting from misinformation about the coronavirus; and that the Democratic Party of Orange County calls on public officials to combat misinformation and discrimination that put Asian Americans at risk and to reject these ideas and those who promote them; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Democratic Party of Orange County urges local law enforcement to work with State and Federal law enforcement officials to investigate and document all reports and complaints of COVID-19 related hate crimes and threats against Asians; to hold the perpetrators of those incidents or threats accountable; to bring such perpetrators to justice; and to tally and report such crimes and threats promptly and publicly.

Submitted by Annie Wright

**Adopted by the Democratic Party of Orange County on April 27, 2020.**

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