



Resolution #21-03-5

RESOLUTION DENOUNCING ANTI ASIAN AMERICAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER DISCRIMINATION AND ATTACKS

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;

WHEREAS, over 21 percent of the County's population is 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 alarming rise in the number of physical attacks and hate crimes on Asian Americans, especially against the elderly and vulnerable, in Orange County, is compounding the harm that Asian American communities are experiencing from housing, health, and economic disparities. The recent incidents with the Si family in Ladera Ranch from a group of teenagers and rise in Anti-Asian sentiment throughout the county bear witness to this alarming rise. As of March 8, 2021 Orange County Human Relations Commission has filed over forty Anti-Asian hate crimes since January 2020 ten times more than previous years and the Orange County District Attorney's office has filed more hate crimes in the past year than the last 20.

WHEREAS, former 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 Orange County incidents in reported in 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 including the fetishization of Asian women; that the Democratic Party of Orange County calls on public officials in Orange County to condemn publicly any assaults against Asians, whether committed by ignorance or intended racism; 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 DPOC support the passage of H. Res. 151 sponsored by Congressman Meng which goes beyond condemning hate crimes and encourages perpetrators to be brought to justice by both local and federal law enforcement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Democratic Party of Orange County calls on officials at all levels of government, and our community partners in immigrant and all people of good conscience, to condemn anti-Asian racism and hate crimes – and to invest in community-centered programs and infrastructure for creating safe, inclusive, and healthy communities.

SUBMITTED BY:

Annie Wright
Arnel Dino
Eugene Fields

**Adopted by the Democratic Party of Orange County
Central Committee on March 22, 2021**