



HABONIM DROR NORTH AMERICA

הבונים דרור צפון אמריקה

The Labor Zionist Youth Movement

As most of you already know, 8 people, the majority of whom were Asian women, were tragically murdered on Tuesday in a horrific anti-Asian shooting spree in Atlanta. We are incredibly heartbroken and infuriated by this immense loss suffered at the hands of a racist murderer, and we cannot pretend that this is an unprecedented occurrence. This violent act is one of many to bring to light the everpresent white supremacy that is threaded into our society. Authorities ignorantly continue to claim that they are unable to establish a motive, when to us, the motive is blatantly clear.

In the last year, racist rhetoric about the origins and cause of the COVID-19 pandemic has been consistently spewed and prejudice has been perpetuated as fact by many prominent public figures. Many major cities across the United States have seen triple-digit percentage increases in anti-Asian hate crimes. Asian communities in Canada have also seen a massive spike in hate crimes and racist incidents since the beginning of the pandemic. All of this being said, this anti-Asian sentiment was not born out of the pandemic: it is deeply and directly connected to the climate of white supremacy, bigotry, and xenophobia that is becoming more and more prevalent to the point of being welcomed in with open arms.

As Jews, we are far too familiar with the scapegoating and prejudice that has characterized the relationship between many non-Asian Americans and Canadians, and Asian communities. We stand strongly in solidarity with the Asian community, and send love and healing to our Asian community members. We all suffer at the hands of white supremacy, and only through radical social change rooted in antiracism can we build a world founded on *Shivyon Erech Ha'adam* (Equality of Human Value).

If you are infuriated and horrified and looking to take action, here are some ways to do so:

- **SHARE RESOURCES** → [This is a comprehensive resource](#) that has been gathered to allow others to educate themselves, find ways to take action, find organizations to donate to, and more. Share this or other resources with friends and family to encourage them to get involved in this conversation.
- **DONATE:** If you have the means, donate to one of these organizations or find ways to redistribute your wealth.
 - [Hate Is A Virus](#) → Their mission is to combat xenophobia and racism through awareness and education initiatives and philanthropy.
 - [Asian Americans Advancing Justice](#) → Their mission is to protect our democracy through advocacy and litigation, and to equip Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders to take action across the country.

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- **EDUCATE:** Read, watch, learn about white supremacy and anti-Asian racism.
 - [“Minor Feelings: An Asian American Reckoning”](#) → collection of essays published in 2020 about the nuances of the Asian American experience
 - [“Yellow: Race in America Beyond Black and White”](#) → a book that examines stereotypes, such as the perpetual foreigner and model minority myth, and ticles issues including affirmative action and interracial marriage.
 - [“Self Evident: Asian American’s Stories”](#) → podcast that aims to challenge assumptions about Asian Americans.
 - [PBS’ Asian Americans](#) → five-part documentary series on the history of Asians in America
 - [#AsianAmCovidStories](#) → YouTube documentary series exploring Asian American’s experiences and challenges during the Covid-19 pandemic
 - [LUNAR: The Asian American Jewish Film Project, Episode 4](#): YouTube episode with about anti-Asian racism, antisemitism, and the model minority myth (featuring the current Rakezet Chinuch at Tavor, Hannah Chonkan-Urow, and the former Rakezet Tochniot on the Mazkirut Artzit, Naomi Tamura)
- **INTERRUPT** → Learn how to interrupt incidents of hate violence, support survivors, and keep yourself and others safe.
 - Attend [this training by Jews for Racial and Economic Justice](#) on March 29 at 5:30-7:30pm EST/2:30-4:30pm PST and learn how to interrupt incidents of hate violence, support survivors, and keep yourself and others safe. JFREJ, the Center for Anti-Violence Education, and NYC Against Hate are offering an upstander training for all JFREJ members.

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