

STOP AAPI HATE

RIGHTING WRONGS

HOW CIVIL RIGHTS CAN PROTECT ASIAN AMERICANS & PACIFIC ISLANDERS AGAINST RACISM

PREPARED BY: Candice Cho and Annie Lee
Managing Directors of Policy
Stop AAPI Hate

DATE: September 2023

STOP AAPI HATE IS AN INITIATIVE BY



Who We Are

Established in 2000, the **Asian Pacific Islander (API) Caucus** provides API municipal officials and their colleagues with a forum to share ideas and develop leadership experience.

It also provides resources for city officials to discuss League priorities and issues, and offer avenues to communicate with the state's API constituency.



ABOUT THIS WORKSHOP

API Caucus Sponsored Workshop Righting Wrongs: Addressing Discrimination Against AAPIs

Over 11,000 acts of hate against Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPIs) have been reported to the nationwide coalition Stop AAPI Hate since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. Many go unreported, increasing the actual number. These acts are not just hate crimes but harassment and discrimination.

This session will describe the results of a landmark survey conducted by Stop AAPI Hate with the nonpartisan research organization NORC at the University of Chicago to understand the illegal discrimination faced by AAPIs and propose recommendations for governments to address these challenges.

This session is co-sponsored by the League of CA Cities API Caucus and Stop AAPI Hate.



Moderator:

Juslyn Manalo

Vice Mayor, City of Daly City

President, Cal Cities API Caucus

SPEAKERS



Candice Cho

Managing Director of Policy and Counsel, AAPI Equity Alliance
Managing Director of Policy, Stop AAPI Hate



Annie Lee

Managing Director of Policy, Chinese for Affirmative Action (CAA)
Managing Director of Policy, Stop AAPI Hate

OUR COALITION

Who We Are

Stop AAPI Hate is a national coalition founded in March 2020 in response to the escalation of anti-AAPI racism and discrimination during the COVID-19 pandemic.

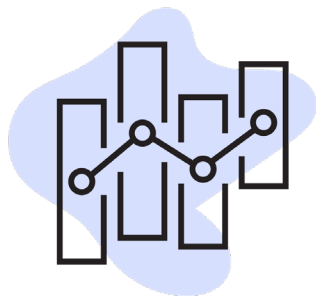
We are on a mission to advance the multiracial movement for equity and justice by building power for our communities, working in solidarity with other communities of color, and advocating for comprehensive solutions that tackle the root causes of race-based hate.



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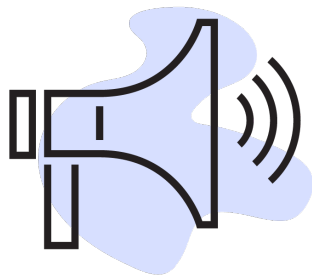


Our strategies



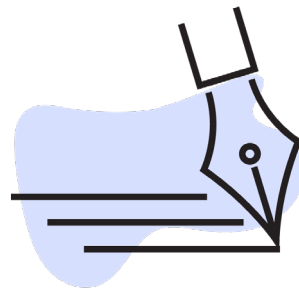
Data & Research

Conduct research in partnership with AAPI communities.



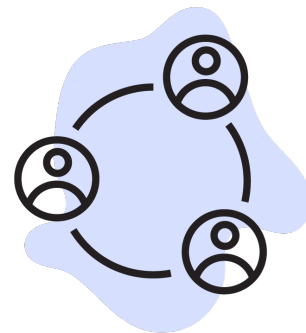
Policy & Advocacy

Lead and support state, local, and federal policy change.



Narrative Change

Shape conversations around racial justice and AAPI experiences.



Capacity Building

Resource local organizations that serve AAPI communities.

Our programs



Community Safety & Transformation

Our coalition advocates for holistic resources to address hate and harassment targeting AAPI communities, support the recovery of hate victims and survivors, and build safer, more equitable communities for all.



Civil Rights

Our coalition advocates for stronger civil rights protections to keep AAPIs informed of their civil rights, hold institutions accountable for upholding them, and end racial discrimination against our communities.



Education Equity

Our coalition advocates for ethnic studies and other programs that center AAPI histories, voices, and current events, and teach the next generation to thrive in our ever-changing world.

OUR COALITION

How we define hate

Our coalition upholds a broad definition of hate that accounts for the various ways in which racism, prejudice and discrimination show up: on the interpersonal *and* institutional levels.

Hate can include and is not limited to physical assault, verbal harassment, shunning, discrimination, and even unequal access to resources.

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AAPI
HATE

STOP
AAPI
HATE

DATA & INSIGHTS

TIME FOR
CHANGE

SILENCE
IS
VIOLENCE

FOR HIRE
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36-342-8800

What anti-**API** racism looks like in California

“A friend and I were talking in Japanese while waiting for the bus in Los Angeles. When we got on the bus, a man who was also waiting started to yell, “F—king Japanese b—h, sucking d—k.” His rant continued until the man got off at his station. He spat on my face as he got off the bus, but I was scared and couldn't do anything. On the packed bus, no one helped me.

“A supervisor at the supermarket took his face mask off while helping me, sexually harassed me by saying I am sexy in a ponytail, and he told me he did not want to help me because I am Asian and brought covid to America. He said it is my fault that everyone has to wear a face mask because I am Asian.

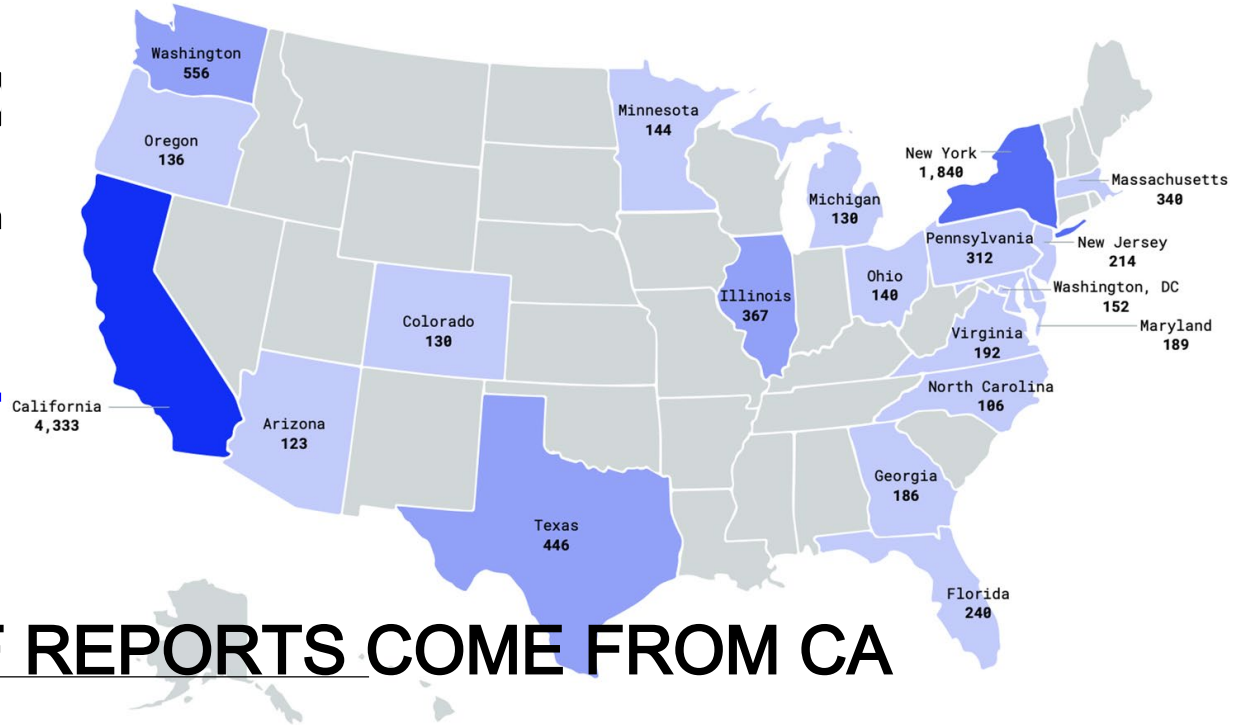
“A security guard at a big-box store targeted me as soon as I walked in the store. He was harassing me and telling me I have to leave the store in 30 min or less. Then, as I was leaving the store and walking past him he called me “Kung-flu Asian b—h.” The next time I went in the store a week later, he targeted me again and had me followed throughout the store by one of his fellow security guards, and he was intimidating me.



11,000+
REPORTS C
ANTA API HA
FROM ALL
50 STATES

20 STATES WITH LARGEST NUMBER OF REPORTED

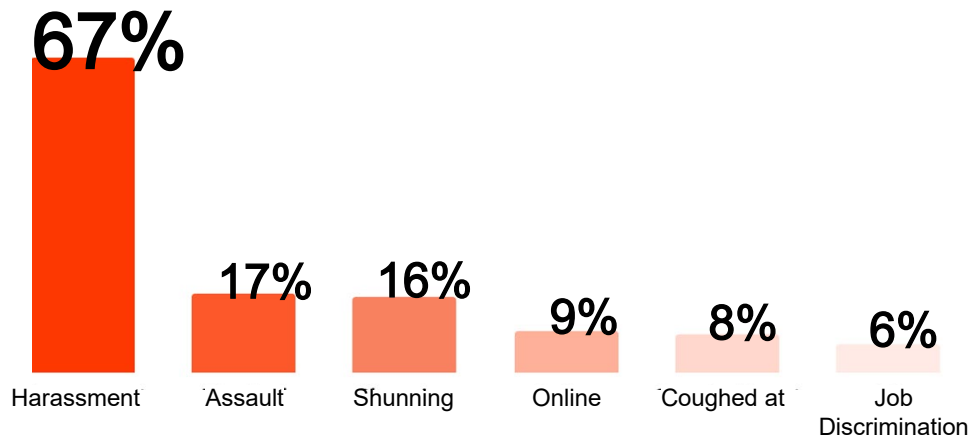
(March 19, 2020 to March 31, 2022)



ABOUT 40% OF REPORTS COME FROM CA

Hate takes on many forms

Since 2020, Stop AAPI Hate has received more than 11,000 reports of racism and other kinds of discrimination, targeting Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

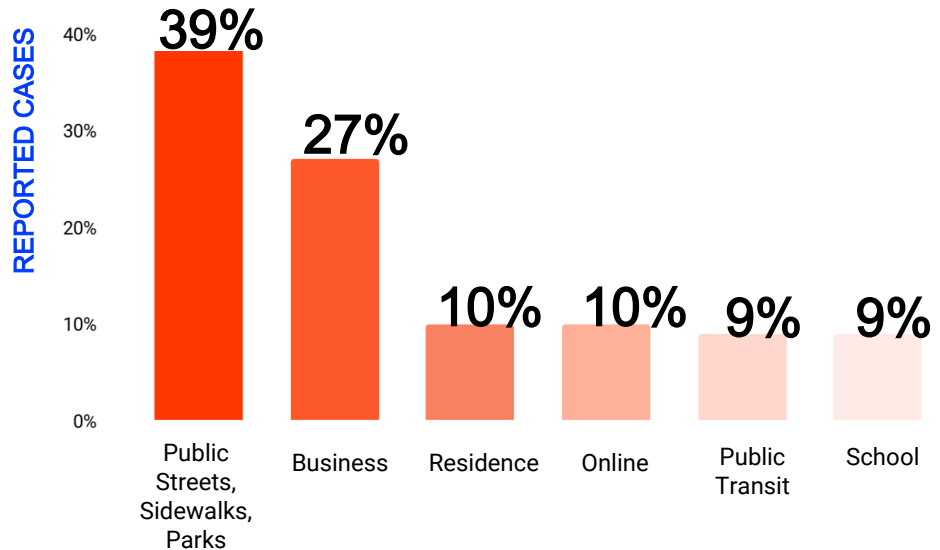


MOST COMMON FORMS OF HATE REPORTED TO STOP AAPI HATE

Source: Stop AAPI Hate National Report (2022)

Most hate occurs in public spaces

Hate incidents occur in everyday locations. **Two in five incidents took place in public spaces,** including streets, sidewalks, parks, hiking trails, or beaches.



Source: Stop AAPI Hate National Report (2022)

MOST COMMON SITES OF HATE REPORTED TO STOP AAPI HATE

CIVIL RIGHTS

Stop AAPI Hate commissioned the nonpartisan and independent research organization NORC at the University of Chicago to conduct a **nationally representative survey of Asian American and Pacific Islander adults** in November and December 2022

This landmark survey provides a **more complete picture of the discrimination that impacts AAPIs and the changes needed to uphold the civil rights that protect us all**, and state-specific insights for California

Learn more at <https://stopaapihate.org/civilrights>

Read NORC's CA report at https://www.norc.org/content/dam/norc-org/pdfs/SAH%20California%20Analysis_FINAL_April%202026.pdf



4 in 10 AAs & PIs in California have experienced illegal discrimination

More than 8 in 10 cited race, ethnicity, national origin, skin color, or language as the protected characteristic they think the discrimination was based on

More than a third reported sex, gender, or gender identity or expression

Nearly one in five said their unfair treatment was motivated by their religion or immigration status



Source: NORC at the University of Chicago, "Asian Americans & Pacific Islanders in California Want Greater Protection of their Civil Rights" (May 2023)

Where discrimination happens in California



47% were customers



41% were employees or job applicants



32% were students



26% were riders of public transit



22% were renters or buyers of housing



18% were seeking services from the government

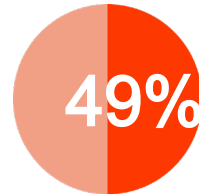
Source: NORC at the University of Chicago, *"Asian Americans & Pacific Islanders in California Want Greater Protection of their Civil Rights"* (May 2023)

Discrimination has devastating impacts

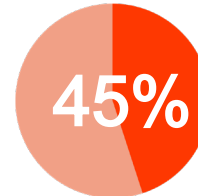
Nearly half of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders experiencing discrimination report feeling sad, stressed, anxious, or depressed as a result, or said discrimination negatively impacted their sense of belonging

Nearly a third report changing their behavior, such as switching schools, jobs, or where they shop, or feeling less safe

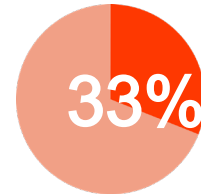
Many said the experience strained relationships



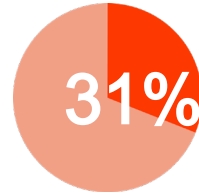
I experienced negative effects on my mental health



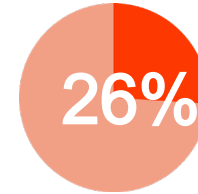
It changed my sense of belonging to my school, workplace, or other community



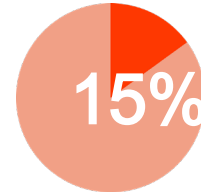
I felt less safe and/or took steps to feel safer



I changed my behavior, like changing schools, jobs, or where I shop



My personal relationships were strained



I became more civically or politically active

Source: NORC at the University of Chicago, "Asian Americans & Pacific Islanders in California Want Greater Protection of their Civil Rights" (May 2023)

Only 15% of AAs & PIs in California experiencing discrimination

Half (52%) of those who did not report thought reporting would not make a difference

Almost four in 10

- Did not know where to go or what to do (38%)
- Feared unwanted attention for themselves or their families (37%)
- Thought it would take too much effort and time (37%)

A quarter (26%) feared that the offender would take negative action against them or their family for speaking out

About a fifth did not trust the government to do anything (23%), or did not know it was a civil rights violation (19%)

AAs & PIs in California **want to know** more about

Six in ten Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders living in California **want to know more about their civil rights (63%)** and say **this would help them feel more comfortable reporting discrimination (62%)**



46%
YOUTUBE



42%
SOCIAL MEDIA
(such as Facebook,
Instagram, TikTok,
or Twitter)



38%
OTHER WEBSITES
(such as blogs)

They most want to learn via YouTube (46%), social media (42%), and websites (38%), more than TV, in-person events, newspaper, a live hotline, podcast, radio

A fifth prefer to learn more via ethnic media

AAs & PIs in California trust community groups

Community, advocacy, or civil rights organizations serving Asians, Asian Americans, or Pacific Islanders, such as Stop AAPI Hate, were most often cited as the entity to which Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders would **feel comfortable reporting a civil rights violation (52%)** and the **most trusted source for learning more about civil rights (61%)**

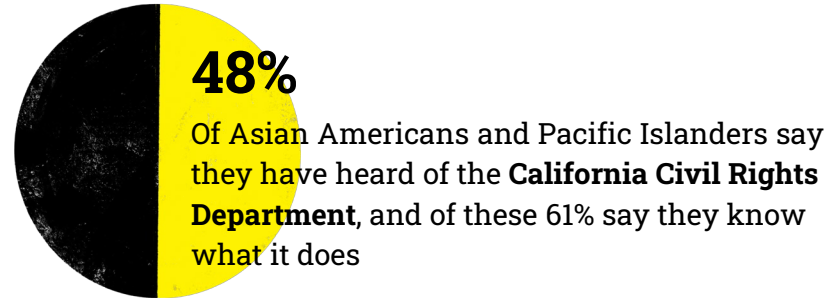
(Other choices: a government agency that enforces civil rights laws, HR department, police or prosecutor, private lawyer, school staff, religious leader)



Source: NORC at the University of Chicago, "Asian Americans & Pacific Islanders in California Want Greater Protection of their Civil Rights" (May 2023)

AAs & PIs in California know and trust gov't civil right

After community groups, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders feel most comfortable learning about their civil rights from (58%) and reporting discrimination to (42%) a government civil rights agency



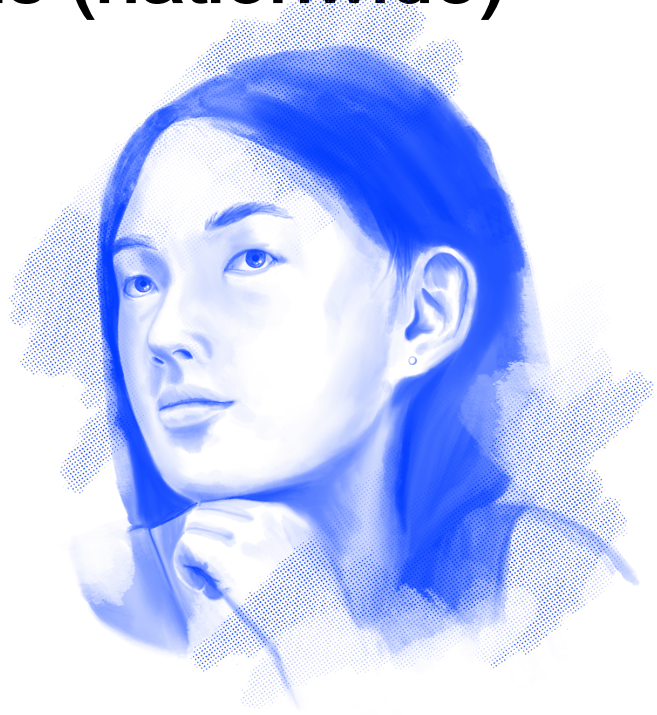
Crimes vs. civil rights violations (nationwide)

Survey takers were given four hypothetical scenarios and asked to identify whether the scenario was a hate crime, a violation of the person's civil rights, and/or a non-criminal hate incident

Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders nationwide **over-identified scenarios as hate crimes** and were **less likely to accurately identify potential civil rights violations**

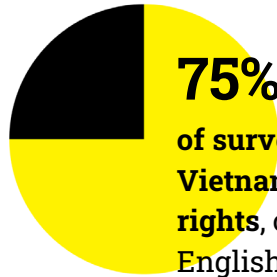
- This may lead people to seek help from the criminal legal system - when asked whom they would turn to if their civil rights were violated, the top choice was the police (78%)

Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders know that discrimination is unlawful, but the distinction between civil and criminal legal systems is confusing, and this confusion leads to an overreliance on the criminal legal system



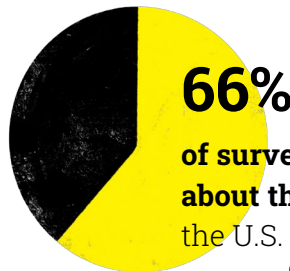
Differences by country of birth and language (nationality)

Asian Americans who took the survey in Chinese (simplified or traditional), Vietnamese, or Korean, and Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders born outside the United States, feel **more comfortable reporting to someone who speaks their language**



75%

of survey takers in Chinese (simplified and traditional), Vietnamese, or Korean want to learn more about their rights, compared to 59% of those who took the survey in English

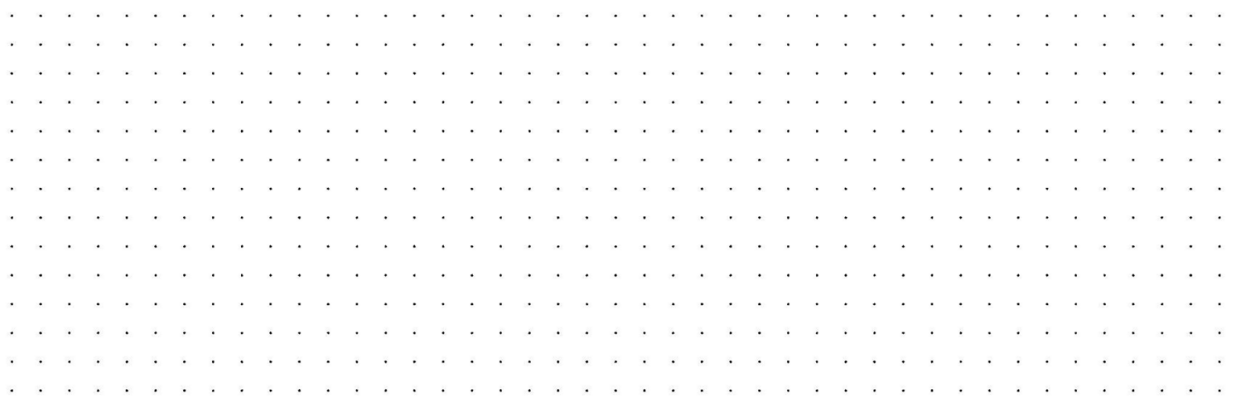


66%

of survey takers born outside the U.S. want to learn more about their rights, compared to 54% of survey takers born in the U.S. (They are also more likely to identify ethnic media as a preferred place to learn about their rights.)

Source: NORC at the University of Chicago, *"Barriers to Justice: Asian Americans & Pacific Islanders Want Greater Protection of Their Civil Rights,"* (May 2023)

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Questions about the data?

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OUR PATH FORWARD

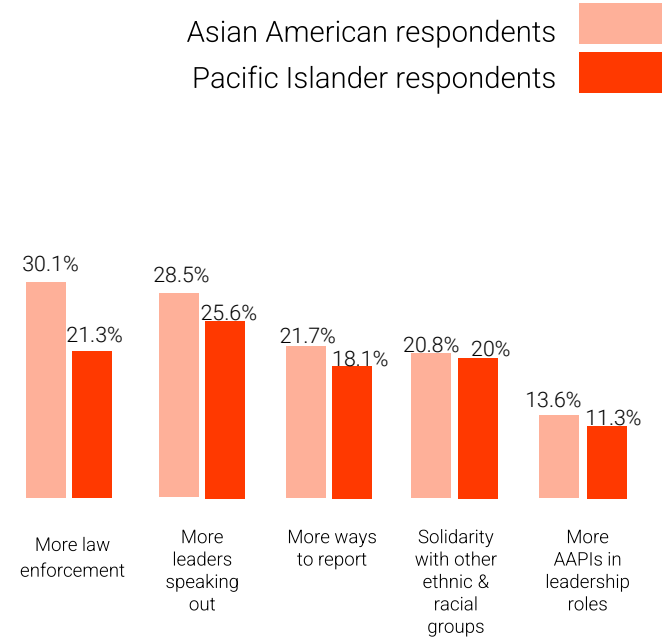
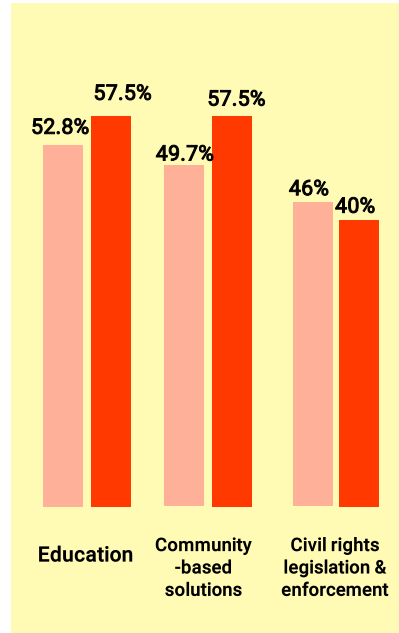
TIME FOR
CHANGE

SILENCE
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26-242-8800

How to put an end to hate

In 2021, we asked 1,000 Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in the United States what they believed was the answer to racism and discrimination affecting our communities



AAs & PIs in California want new civil rights laws



Two thirds of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders living in California say that **new civil rights laws are needed to reduce discrimination and unfair treatment against Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders**

Source: NORC at the University of Chicago, *"Asian Americans & Pacific Islanders in California Want Greater Protection of their Civil Rights"* (May 2023)

Recommendations for states and local governments

- Invest directly in **Asian American and Pacific Islander community infrastructure**
- Direct public agencies to address **bias-motivated harassment in public spaces**

API Equity Budget

In **California**, 150 organizations, including Stop AAPI Hate, and the Asian and Pacific Islander (API) Legislative Caucus successfully advocated for the **\$165.5 million API Equity Budget** in 2021

\$110 million goes directly to community-based organizations on the frontlines of providing services to victims of hate and their families, and providing prevention and intervention services

- 75 organizations provide direct, preventive, and intervention services throughout California
- 12 organizations provide deeper, transformative anti-hate work for three years

This year, Governor Newsom signed into law \$40 million more in support of the API Equity Budget

California is no place for hate

No Place for Hate California is a campaign to shift the burden of being safe from harassment away from people who are harmed and onto public agencies

In September 2022, Governor Newsom signed two bills into law:

- Increasing Safety For Public Transit Riders (Senate Bill 1161)
- Strengthening Customers' Civil Rights in Businesses (Assembly Bill 2448)

Stop AAPI Hate is back this year with **Public Transit for All: Improving Safety & Increasing Ridership** (Senate Bill 434)

To learn more, visit <https://noplaceforhateca.org/>



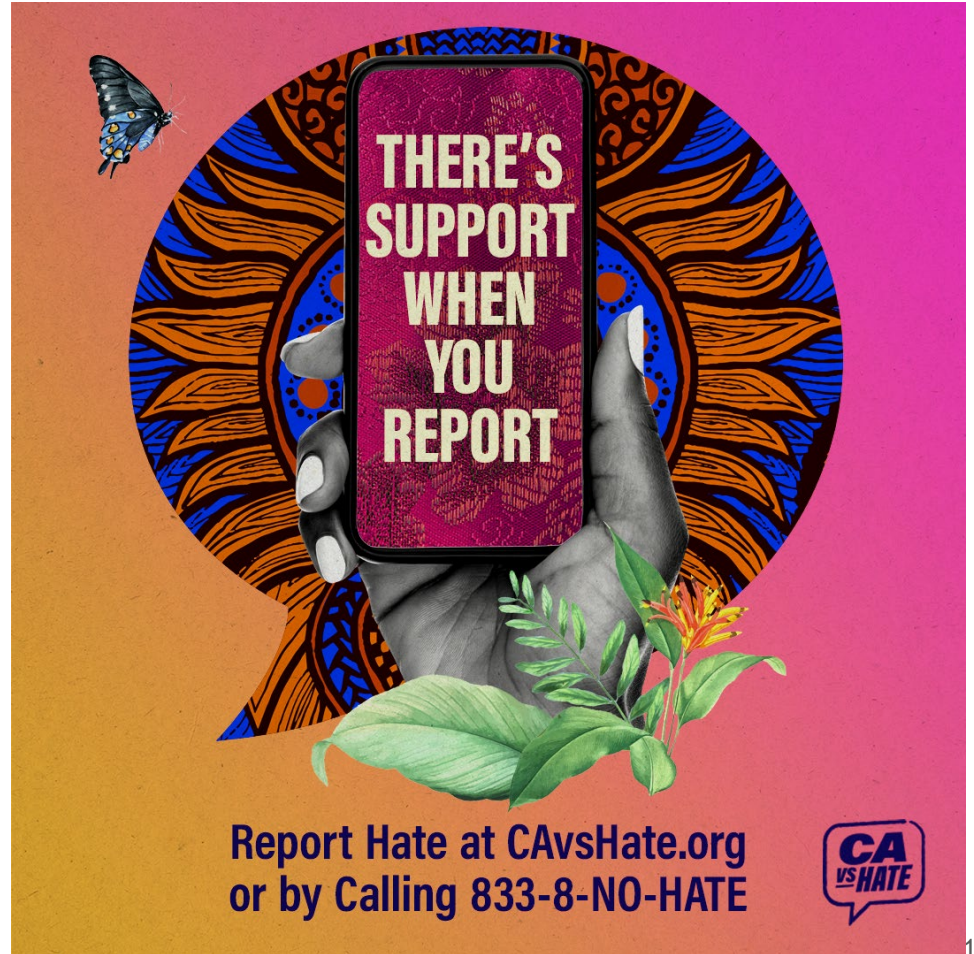
CA vs Hate

California vs Hate is a non-emergency hate incident and hate crime reporting hotline and online portal to support individuals and communities targeted for hate

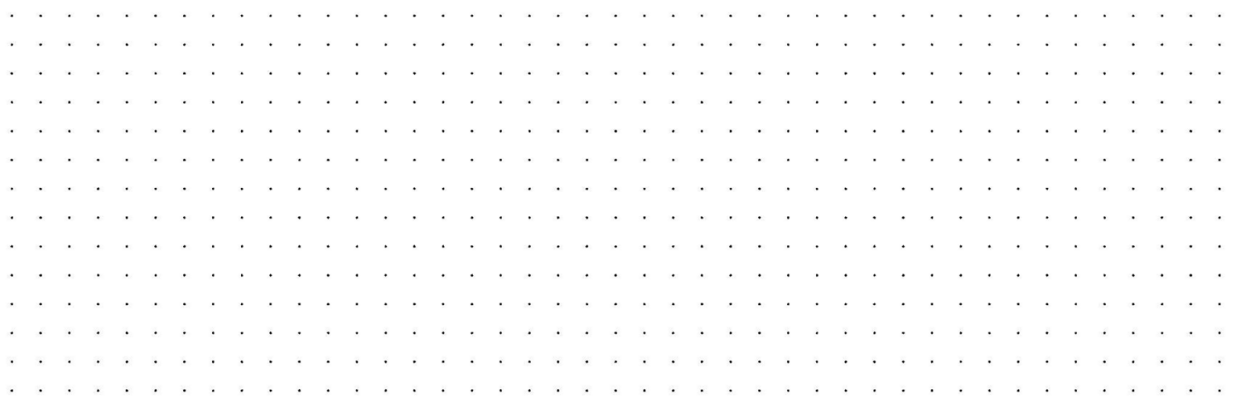
Any California resident can now report any act of hate confidentially by

- calling 833-8-NO-HATE, Monday to Friday, 9am-6pm, to talk to a trained civil rights agent in over 200 languages
- reporting online at <https://stophate.calcivilrights.ca.gov/s/>, available in 15 languages anytime

Learn more at <https://www.cavshate.org/>



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HATE**



Questions about the recommendations?

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HATE**

Thank you for listening!

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