

March 2021

To the Asian American and Pacific Islander mothers, grandmothers, aunts, sisters, daughters, professionals, business owners and workers who fill our boardroom, our networks, and our ESOL classrooms: English for New Bostonians sends a message of love, solidarity and a commitment.

We condemn the targeted racist and misogynist violence against members of the Asian, Asian American, and Pacific Islander communities. Like you, we are horrified by last week's murders in Georgia, following too many other violent incidents targeting AAPI people across the country. Since the start of the pandemic, more than 3,800 hateful attacks have plagued the AAPI community. This trend is heartbreaking.

So, with love, we grieve and say aloud the names of Xiaojie Tan, Delaina Yaun, Daoyou Feng, Paul Andre Michels, Yong Ae Yue, Hyun Jung Grant, Soon Chung Park and Suncha Kim.

We commit to reexamining our work for new light. We also commit to raising our collective voice against the rhetoric and terrorism that haunt Asian and other communities of color and women. We have no doubt about the deep roots of this hate, or how or where it has been stoked, but we are clear that it is our shared responsibility to end it.

And, we stand in solidarity with our AAPI and many other ESOL students who are gaining the power to use their voice against hate and racism in this country. We support 18 high-quality English language learning programs within the City of Boston that provide free or low-cost instruction to 1,000 immigrants each year.

We also will stand with our long-term, nonprofit partners, leaders and allies who have organized the Massachusetts Town Hall on Anti-Asian Racism, this Thursday, March 25th from 6pm-7:30. Please join us by registering here.

Finally, to our fellow ESOL teachers, we share here a few possible teaching resources for you to consider. Thanks to Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center's and the Asian American Civic Association's ESOL teams for sharing some of these with us.

- The New York Times teacher/student page has this Lesson of the Day: "The Growing Power Of Asian Americans in Georgia Now Comes with Fear", which comes with a whole connected lesson and links to other resources supporting it.
- New Readers Press this week has an article: <u>"Attacks Against Asian Americans in the U.S. are Rising"</u>.
 To see it, use password 463462 for a free 30-day login.
- Some interesting videos and articles on anti-racism, with discussion questions rather than lesson plans: TEACHING about ANTI-ASIAN VIOLENCE [Secondary Grades] - Google Docs
- A list of resources re: Asian-Americans, from which the google doc above was selected: BU CFACCT COVID-19
 Resources for Chinese Families Google Sheets



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cont.

- New England Literacy Resource Center's Change Agent magazine's 2016 "Talking about Race" issue, which
 includes some about anti-Asian racism, is free to MA ABE teachers using the username massachusetts and
 password change agent.
- A comic for bystanders who witness anti-muslim harassment which could spark class discussion about being an ally, public harassment, etc.
- An ESOL grammar lesson using racism as the topic; the article read for the discussion is not ESOL-ized, so the English level needs to be pretty high; see the lesson plan in Appendix A of this document: View of Communicating in the Face of Racism: Infinitive v. Gerund Verbal Complements in English (georgiatesoljournal.org)

In community,

The English for New Bostonians Team