

# We Stand Together, Not Apart!

## A Twitter Chat for Asian Pacific American Heritage Month 2020

*Please let us know if you will be joining by [RSVPing here](#)*

**When:** Thursday, May 21, 2020 | 12:00 PM – 1:00 pm (PDT)

**Where:** Join us on Twitter (<http://twitter.com/apigbv>) or find the conversation by searching for the **#StandWithAPIs** hashtag

**WHAT:** As COVID-19 transforms how we interact with each other, it is more important now than ever that we come together, not apart. We are saddened by the recent rise in anti-Asian and Pacific Islander xenophobic sentiment and concerned about the additional challenges this may add to the ability of AAPI survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and other gender-based abuses to access services. What's more troubling is that the damage to AAPI communities' safety and well-being may linger after the pandemic itself abates. There is no better time than **Asian Pacific American Heritage Month (APAHM)** to remember that racism is never founded and never okay. Join us as we say NO MORE to anti-Asian and Pacific Islander xenophobia and celebrate our diverse, resilient, and powerful communities!

**WHO:** Questions will be posted by **@apigbv**. We welcome participation of anyone who believes that racism and hate are never the answer and that survivors should never be discouraged from seeking help or services. This includes anyone impacted by COVID-19; advocates working with survivors of DV/SA; those who are committed to ending gender violence; DV/SA technical assistance or training providers; state and national coalitions; community organizations; survivors; and community members!

*We encourage you to respond in the language(s) you feel most comfortable communicating in! You are welcome to contact us to request translation or interpretation for future events.*

## Promoting the Chat

Help us spread the word by sharing [this invitation](#)! Feel free to add your own logo or text.



Please email any questions or comments to Shirley Luo at [sluo@api-gbv.org](mailto:sluo@api-gbv.org)

## Sample messages:

Help us say NO MORE to anti-AAPI xenophobia & racism. Join us and @apigbv on 5/21 at 12 PDT for a #TwitterChat celebrating #APAHM2020 #StandWithAAPIs [add image]

Help us raise awareness about the impact of anti-AAPI bias on #AAPIsurvivors of #DomesticViolence & #SexualAssault. Join us and @apigbv on 5/21 at 12 PDT for a #TwitterChat celebrating #APAHM2020 #StandWithAAPIs [add image]

Now's a time for us to stand together, not apart. Lend your voice to a #TwitterChat hosted by @apigbv on 5/21 at 12 PDT to say that racism is never OK & we cant let hate come btw survivors of #DomesticViolence & #SexualAssault and the help they need. #APAHM2020 #StandWithAAPIs [add image]

## Participating in the Chat

Find the conversation on our feed ([twitter.com/apigbv](https://twitter.com/apigbv)) or by [searching for the hashtag](#). Respond via Tweet, Retweet/quote, or comment. Remember to use #StandWithAAPIs, #APAHM2020, and #APAHM in your response. An answer can look something like this:

**A1: [Your answer] #StandWithAAPIs #APAHM #APAHM2020**

We have indicated below when each question will be posted by @apigbv. Feel free to use or adapt the sample responses provided below. You can use the chat as an opportunity to highlight some of your work or resources, share links or graphics, or interact with other participants!

## Chat Questions:

**Posted at 12:00 PM**

**Welcome to the #StandWithAAPIs Chat for #APAHM2020! Tell us about yourself or your organization! #APAHM**

**Q1 Posted at 12:03 PM**

**What is your experience of increased instances of racism, hate, xenophobia, or harassment towards Asians, Pacific Islanders, immigrants, or any other group?**

*Questions to consider for your response:*      *Sample responses:*

- Do you know an AAPI individual, immigrant, or an individual of another minority group who has been a victim of discrimination or harassment? What was their experience?
  - How are survivors you serve or work with experiencing the rise in these incidents, or how might their
- A1. Racism has always been part of the minority experience, but #COVID19 has ramped up hate towards AAPIs & immigrants as people search for a scapegoat. Sadly in hard times it's easier to cast blame than to work towards a solution. #StandWithAAPIs #APAHM2020 #APAHM

experience with abuse or help-seeking have been affected by racism or hate?

- How might these experiences impact the willingness of survivors to seek services? What changes has your organization experienced in survivors' contacting you or seeking your services?

- A1. Stressful times like #COVID19 often leads to more violence & harassment. #AAPI folks are experiencing this deeply, reporting being subjected to racial slurs; physical assault; discrimination at work, in grocery stores, etc. #StandWithAAPIs #APAHM2020 #APAHM

## Q2

Posted at 12:10 PM

**Asian women are three times more likely than Asian men to report being targets of #COVID19 related discrimination and harassment\*. Why might this be?**

*Questions to consider for your response:*

- Women and girls, especially those of marginalized communities, already face harassment every time they walk down the street. How might the recent COVID-19 related sentiment exacerbate their experiences?
- Why might women be more vulnerable to being targets of harassment?

*Sample responses:*

- A2. It's always been our fight to call out the sentiment that others have a right to do or say what they want to women & girls. This has never been okay and will not stop until we end misogyny & patriarchy. #APAHM #APAHM2020 #StandWithAAPIs #StopAAPIHate
- A2. Unfortunately women's safety has often been overlooked & not taken seriously. In times of crisis, it's unsurprising that it's one of the first things to slip away. #APAHM #APAHM2020 #StandWithAAPIs #StopAAPIHate

## Q3

Posted at 12:17 PM

**Why are racism, hate, and anti-immigrant attitudes harmful, not only to members of the targeted group, but to all of us?**

*Questions to consider for your response:*

- The pandemic will pass, but its effects may linger. How might effects of the racism continue to negatively impact our communities?

*Sample responses:*

- A3. Terms like "kung flu" & "Chinese virus" to describe #COVID19 contributes to the "forever foreigner" line of thinking, which "others" certain groups and divides us in a time we should be coming together: <https://www.vox.com/identities/202>

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\*Source: <https://www.napawf.org/press-releases/033020>

- How do racism and hate towards immigrants or other minority groups negatively affect our society as a whole?
  - How do racism and anti-immigrant attitudes harm our ability to educate the public and advance prevention of domestic violence, sexual assault, and other gender-based abuses?
- [0/4/21/21221007/anti-asian-racism-coronavirus](https://www.facebook.com/anti-asian-racism-coronavirus) #StandWithAAPIs #APAHM2020 #APAHM
- A3. The more we practice racism, the more racism (of any type) is normalized – today, and in future crises. That’s why we need to #StopAAPIHate TODAY. #StandWithAAPIs #APAHM2020 #APAHM
  - A3. In order to put an end to #DomesticViolence & #SexualAssault, we must engage ALL communities, including minority & immigrant communities. Racism & anti-immigrant views only makes education & prevention of violence more difficult. #StandWithAAPIs #APAHM2020 #APAHM

Q4

Posted at 12:24 PM

How has the #COVID19 pandemic impacted #AAPI survivors of domestic violence or sexual assault or the larger AAPI community?

Questions to consider for your response:

- There have been reports of increased frequency and intensity of domestic violence and sexual assault during the pandemic. Describe any changes regarding the experiences of survivors you serve.
- As diverse communities, AAPIs face unique barriers and needs, especially survivors who live at the intersections of other marginalized identities, such as immigrants or those living with disabilities. What challenges have you seen in your interactions with AAPI survivors or communities?

Sample responses:

- A4. #AAPI survivors of #DomesticViolence, like many other survivors, are stuck at home w/their abusers for longer periods. This prevents survivors from having opportunities to seek help or leave the relationship. #StandWithAAPIs #APAHM2020 #APAHM
- A4. Stress, anxiety & isolation caused by #COVID19 have led to a rise in #DomesticViolence & #SexualAssault. Immigrant #AAPI survivors are particularly vulnerable as abusers prey on those who fear being deported if they seek help. #StandWithAAPIs #APAHM2020 #APAHM
- A4. As daily comms moving to digital mediums, many AAPI survivors are being restricted because of English-only materials. Many programs don’t

have the funds/capacity for remote interpreters & in some places it's not treated like a priority.  
#StandWithAPIs #APAHM2020  
#APAHM

**Q5**

**Posted at 12:31 PM**

**What are some different practices or operations your program has adopted in the services you provide to survivors or to engage communities?**

*Questions to consider for your response:*

- Are there any programs, trainings, technologies, or resources you would like to share?
- What are some challenges your program has faced in providing services or managing the workplace due to COVID-19?
- What strategies are you using to connect with AAPI survivors or communities?

*Sample responses:*

- A5. @NNEDV's Tech Safety portal has so many good resources on safety & consent for working w/survivors and for workplaces: techsafety.net  
#StandWithAPIs #StopAAPIHate

**Q6**

**Posted at 12:38 PM**

**What are some ways to push back against #AAPI hate, as a bystander, community member, or advocate?**

*Questions to consider for your response:*

- What are some strategies for calling out witnessed harassment as a bystander, or for showing up to support a friend who has experienced harassment?
- With many of us now practicing social distancing and digital communications, what are some we can stand against hate virtually or from home?

*Sample responses:*

- A6. If you have a harassment incident to report or want to read about experiences of others, @AAAJ\_AAJC has created a Stop the Hate tracker collecting cases across the country: [standagainsthate.org/](https://standagainsthate.org/)  
#StandWithAPIs #APAHM2020
- A6. #AAPI direct service agencies have been hit especially hard by the confluence of #COVID19 and AAPI hate. We can help by donating, offering virtual services like design or web management, or helping w/outreach. #StandWithAPIs #APAHM2020

Q7

Posted at 12:45 PM

Reports have shown that many Asian & Pacific Islander businesses & orgs are struggling to stay afloat due to rise in racism. What are some ways to support AAPIs & programs serving #AAPI survivors of violence in your community?

Questions to consider for your response:

- AAPI businesses or organizations: what would be helpful to you during this time, in small ways or in big ways?
- What are some AAPI businesses local to you, how have they been impacted by the pandemic, and how have community members responded?
- Are there any local campaigns or movements you know of that are helping to push back against racism?

Sample responses:

- A7. Though #COVID19 limits how we do business, we can still show AAPI small businesses they are valued parts of our community by ordering online, buying giftcards, or spreading the word. #APAHM2020 #APAHM #StandWithAAPIs #StopAAPIHate
- A7. If you can't be there in person or donate money to support an #AAPI #DomesticViolence or #SexualAssault org, offer a digital service like design, social media mgmnt, or website writing! #APAHM2020 #APAHM #StandWithAAPIs

Q8

Posted at 12:52 PM

Let's appreciate AAPIs! Shoutout someone you know – a historic figure, celebrity, survivor, advocate, family member, friend – who you want to recognize!

Questions to consider for your response:

- Who is someone who has made an impact in your life, whether you personally know them or not?
- From the resistance to Japanese internment to the fight for justice for Vincent Chin, AAPI activists have spearheaded many of our country's most powerful social movements. Who are some AAPI activists who've made a splash in the fight for justice?
- Is there an AAPI survivor or advocate who has inspired you in your work or who makes you love doing what you do?

Sample responses:

- A8. So much awe & admiration for all the AAPIs worldwide who've taken to social media to stand against #AAPI hate:  
<https://www.nbcnews.com/news/asi-an-america/asians-worldwide-share-examples-coronavirus-related-xenophobia-social-media-n1132036>  
#StandWithAAPIs #APAHM2020

Posted at 12:59 PM

Thank you for chatting with us and for raising your voice against AAPI hate!