



# APAPA

Asian Pacific Islander American Public Affairs Association  
Community Education Foundation (APAPA-CEF)

*Empowering and Engaging Asian Pacific Islander Americans*

## An Open Letter to President Donald J. Trump

Dear President Trump,

We, leaders of the Asian American, Chinese American, and Jewish American communities, are writing to you to request that you and your Administration immediately cease referring to the COVID-19 coronavirus as the “Chinese Virus.”

We recognize that your administration may have legitimate concerns about how the government of the People’s Republic of China has handled the outbreak of this novel virus. We also recognize that many long standing bilateral issues are sources of tension between the two countries.

We are concerned, however, that your reference to the COVID-19 coronavirus as the “Chinese Virus” has been used by racists to inflame hatred and xenophobia and to encourage physical violence directed against Chinese and Asian Americans. Indeed, expressions of such hatred are frequent and spreading on social media. Such sentiments appear to be motivating actual physical violence against Chinese and Asian Americans.

We urge you to adhere to the CDC’s guidelines on the urgent importance of Reducing Stigma as an essential part of our nation’s response to the current global health crisis.

Mr. President, your choice of words matters. You can signal to the American people—indeed, to people everywhere—that you respect our communities. Or you can use words that embolden, however unintentionally, others to employ bigoted language, and to engage in bigoted behavior. We believe that respect for other people is an American value, and trust that you share this value with us.

In the meantime, please consider us allies in the effort to contain and eradicate the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic.

We would welcome the opportunity to meet with you or anyone in your Administration to discuss our concerns. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Asian Pacific Islander American Public Affairs (APAPA)

Jewish Council for Public Affairs (JCPA)



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## Public Officials

Betty Yee, California State Controller

Fiona Ma, California State Treasurer

California Asian & Pacific Islander Legislative Caucus

## Organizations

80-20 Educational Foundation

80-20 United

America China Public Affairs Institute

American Alliance of Acupuncture (AAOA)

America Society of Chinese medicine (ASCM)

Asian & Pacific Islander Community Leaders Coalition of Oregon (APICO)

Asian American Business Development Center

Asian American Unity Coalition (AAUC)

Asian Pacific American Leadership Institute (APALI)

Asian Real Estate Association of America (AREAA)

Association of Asian Pacific Community Health Organizations (AAPCHO)

California Acupuncture and Traditional Medicine Association

California Asian Chamber of Commerce

Central Conference of American Rabbis

Chinese American Citizens Alliance (C.A.C.A)



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Chinese Community Relations Council NJ

Chinese Community Relations Council NY

Chinese Community Relations Council PA

Chinese for Affirmative Action (CAA)

Civic Leadership USA (CLUSA)

Council of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine Associations (CAOMA)

Council on American–Islamic Relations (CAIR)

Ding Ding TV

Hindu American Foundation (HAF)

Hmong National Development (HND)

Humanity Forward, Andrew Yang

Japanese American Citizens League (JAACL)

Jewish Women International (JWI)

National Asian Pacific American Families against Substance Abuse (NAPAFASA)

National Asian Pacific American Women’s Forum (NAPAWF)

National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) CA HI

National Council of Chinese Americans (NCCA)

National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW)

National Federation of Filipino American Associations (NaFFAA)



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OCA – Asian Pacific American Advocates

Russian American Media (RAM)

Sacramento Chinese of Indochina Friendship Association

Sikh American Legal Defense and Education Fund (SALDEF)

Slavic American Chamber of Commerce

The 1882 Foundation

The 1990 Institute

The Council on Asian Pacific Minnesotans

Tsinghua Alumni Academia Club (TAAC)

Union for Reform Judaism (URJ)

United Chinese Americans (UCA)