



Kimberly Ellis  
Director

City and County of San Francisco  
**Department on the Status of Women**



London N. Breed  
Mayor

**PRESS RELEASE:** Department on the Status of Women's Statement on the Deaths of Eight Women in Georgia and the Growing Violence Against AAPI Community

**San Francisco, CALIF.** (March 17, 2021): Yesterday, eight women, six of whom were of Asian descent, were violently murdered in Georgia amidst the growing acts of terror being waged upon members of our Asian American and Pacific Islander community across this country. These tragic murders in Atlanta are painful reminders of America's abhorrent legacy of violence against women and racism and anti-Asian sentiments, and we must immediately begin to combat these deplorable acts.

While law enforcement has stressed that we do not yet know if these actions were motivated by race, we have confirming evidence from the suspect that they were targeted for their gender. Whether intimate partner violence or acts of aggression from an unknown perpetrator, women continue to suffer at the hands of violent men.

Condolences and denunciations will not bring back the loss of these women. We owe it to them and to all our AAPI neighbors, friends and loved ones to stand in solidarity at a time when prejudice and accompanying violence are on the rise. We applaud Mayor Breed's commitment to increasing patrols and ensuring our whole community feels safe and protected, irrespective of their gender and/or race.

It is in these moments of grief and outrage that bring forth the bright lines of the intersectional struggles that communities of color and women share. We do not yet know all these women's names but let us mourn their loss and honor their lives by working to end this type of unspeakable violence.

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