



Racial Violence Statement from the Dean: March 21, 2021

Dear Members of the CEHD Family,

Last week, the US experienced a violent action against Asian and Asian American women that has brought the rising tide of anti-Asian hatred to the forefront of our national conversation about race and racial inequity. We must also acknowledge the anti-woman sentiments that are emerging in the apparent motivation for the shootings in Atlanta. Two days later, two older Asian-American adults were assaulted on the street – both survived with injuries – in an incident that gained attention because one woman fought back with a stick. Yet this is another piece of evidence that hatred and animosity toward Asians and Asian-Americans is emerging across the country, every day, in many incidents that do not receive this kind of national news coverage.

This is not an easy time to be an educator, a student, or an active member of society, but it is an incredibly important time to engage. Violence and inequity threaten Black, Indigenous, and all People of Color across the country. As a College, we can continue to take actions to affirm justice and equity for all students, all faculty and staff, and all people in our broader community. As individuals, we can reach out and offer support and care to those who are concerned or who are targeted in our current social milieu. As educators and people who support students, we can reach out to students and provide them a safe environment to give voice to their worries and fears. And each of us can take action, and encourage others to take action, to make our College and campus a welcoming place.

For any student who needs support, please know that you can reach out to CEHD faculty and staff, and we will listen. Or please contact the Dean at cl.juntunen@UND.edu

For each of you who feels threatened or at increased risk due to racial violence in our country, I stand at your side.

Sincerely,

Cindy Juntunen
Dean of the College of Education & Human Development