

# Asian American Students' Association Statement of Solidarity with the Black Community and the Black Lives Matter Movement



Dear Broader Community,

We hope you and your loved ones are healthy and staying safe during these times. We, the Stanford Asian American Students' Association, want to take this moment to express our solidarity with the Black community and deepest sorrow for those who have been affected by the recent murder of George Floyd by the Minneapolis police department. George Floyd's death is just one of many Black lives that have been ruthlessly taken by the police - we demand justice for George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Tony McDade, Ahmaud Arbery, and the numerous individuals whose lives have been horrifically ended by the hands of the police.

As Asian Americans it is imperative for us to recognize how our own community has perpetuated anti-Blackness and continues to benefit from our proximity to whiteness. Since the 1960s, Asian Americans have been used as a racial wedge by white supremacy to pit minorities against each other and to discredit the struggles of other communities of color - specifically the Black community. As a community we need to not only express our condemnation of racism, but to also take active steps to be anti-racist, to confront anti-Blackness head on, and to center the Black community. Some examples of this include:

- donating to mutual aid networks or local bail funds
- educating yourself and your family
- signing petitions
- using your privilege properly during protests to protect Black organizers when conflict arises
- voting

It is more important now than ever to not be silent and actively support the Black community - in the fight for liberation there are many roles to be played. We urge our community to challenge the existing systems of white supremacy in order to end systemic injustices and police brutality. AASA has committed to donating \$800 to be split evenly between the following organizations:

- [Anti-Repression Committee Bail Fund](#)
- [Black Visions Collective](#)
- [Reclaim the Block](#)
- [San Francisco National Lawyers Guild](#)

If you are unsure where to start, below is a non-exhaustive list of educational resources and donation funds to support those doing much needed and meaningful work:

- Translated + Culturally competent resource on how to start talking about anti-Blackness with family
  - [Letters for Black Lives](#) (Website)
  - [Letters for Black Lives](#) (Video)
- Asian American complacency in anti-Blackness (specifically with regards to Officer Thao and George Floyd's death)
  - [The officer who stood by as George Floyd died is Asian American. We need to talk about that.](#)
- How the Model Minority Myth harms both Asian and Black communities
  - ["Model Minority" Myth Again Used As A Racial Wedge Between Asians and Blacks](#)
- Ways to support liberation movements if physically protesting is not an option
  - [26 Ways to be in the Struggle Beyond the Streets](#)
- Imagining an abolitionist future
  - ["Are Prisons Obsolete?" by Dr. Angela Davis](#)
- Other Guides and Resources
  - [Asians4RacialJustice Resource Guide](#)
  - [A Guide to Allyship](#)
  - [BLM/Indigenous Resources and Funds](#)
  - [Black and Asian-American Feminist Solidarities: A Reading List](#)

In strength and solidarity,  
The Stanford Asian American Students' Association

*"For resistance and power. Our communities are born from violence. Our peoples and our neighbors have suffered through and resisted racialized colonial wars - in Vietnam, Philippines, Laos, Cambodia, including Hawaii and the Pacific Islands and more - against the French, United States, British, Spain, Dutch and more. The violence against us and the contingent privileges many of us have embodied are made possible through an anti-Black world. Solidarity looks like struggle. It looks like being enraged and it looks like joining forces. It looks like being accountable and protecting one another. We don't only have each other's backs because our struggles are connected, we have each other's backs because that's a way of life. Change is overdue. It is our responsibility to be a part of it. We must imagine differently and take care of one another. Lives depend on it."*

- Dr. Connie Wun, Co-founder of AAPIWomenLead