We, the Asian Descent Presidents and Deans, of the Association of Theological Schools (ATS) condemn and denounce every form of attack against Asians and Asian Americans in the strongest possible terms. As a minoritized group, Asian Americans have been historically subject to harassment, discrimination, violence, and mass incarceration. The recent targeted violent and brutal attacks on the members of our community are abhorrent manifestations of perennial racism against the Americans of Asian descent in our country. The targeted violence unto killing of the most vulnerable—women and the elderly—is especially deplorable. It is a direct assault on our community that honors and values family deeply. We reject white supremacy and xenophobia and urge an end to the scapegoating of Asian and Asian Americans for the pandemic.

The Asian and Asian American community is an ethnically and culturally diverse group that has made valuable contributions to our society—particularly so during this pandemic. We claim our rightful place in our country and demand to be treated equally and with dignity. We ask all of us to respect and protect the life of every member of our community.

We call upon all members of ATS to speak against anti-Asian racism in our institution and nation. We ask you to join in our fight for justice and the equal rights of people of Asian descent, as each and every one of us is called to bear witness to God's justice and mercy for all people.

The members and friends of the Asian Descent Presidents and Deans Affinity Group at the Association of Theological Schools listed below do hereby stand in solidarity as the signatories of the Statement:

Dr. Susan Abraham, VP of Academic Affairs and Dean of the Faculty, Pacific School of Religion | Vice-Chair, ATS Asian Descent Presidents and Deans Group
Dr. Efrain Agosto, Professor of New Testament Studies, New York Theological Seminary | Member, ATS Board of Directors
Dr. Kenton C. Anderson, President Elect, Providence University College and Theological Seminary | Member, ATS Board of Directors
Dr. Ellen T. Armour, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs, Vanderbilt Divinity School
Dr. Brian K. Blount, President, Union Presbyterian Seminary | Past President, ATS Board of Directors
Dr. Valerie Bridgeman, Dean & VP of Academic Affairs, Methodist Theological School in Ohio
Dr. Fernando A. Cascante, Executive Director, AETH (Asociación para la Educación Teológica Latina)
Dr. Jo Ann Deasy, Director of Institutional Initiatives and Student Research, The ATS | The COA
Dr. Ann Garrido, Associate Professor of Homiletics, Aquinas Institute of Theology | Member, ATS Board of Directors
Dr. Deborah Kim, Professor of Practical Theology, Ambrose Seminary of Ambrose University | ATS Commission on Accrediting
Rev. Dr. Deborah Fleming, Columbia Theological Seminary | Past Co-Convenor of the ATS African American Presidents and Deans Group
Dr. Jennifer A. Herdt, Senior Associate Dean of Academic Affairs, Yale Divinity School
Rev. Dr. Jin K. Hwang, Associate Professor of New Testament, The School of Divinity, Georgia Central University
Ms. Amy Kardash, President, In Trust for Theological Schools
Dr. Hyunwan Kim, Academic Dean of the Graduate School, Grace Mission University
Dr. Uriah Y. Kim, President, Graduate Theological Union
Dr. Deborah Krause, President, Eden Theological Seminary
Rev. Dr. Kah-Jin Jeffrey Kuan, President, Claremont School of Theology
Rev. Dr. Sheryl Kujawa-Holbrook, VP for Academic Affairs and Dean of Faculty, Claremont School of Theology
Dr. Amir Hussain, Chair of Theological Studies, Loyola Marymount University
Rev. Dr. Boyung Lee, Senior VP for Academic Affairs and Dean of the Faculty, Iliff School of Theology
Rev. Dr. James Seung-Hyun Lee, President, International Theological Seminary | Steering Committee Member, Asian Descent Presidents and Deans Group
Rev. Dr. John Y. Lee, Academic Dean, John Leland Center for Theological Studies
Dr. Sanghoon Lee, President, Asia Theological Seminary
Rev. Dr. Dr. Sanghoon Lee, President, Logos Evangelical Seminary
Dr. Vanessa Lovelace, VP of Academic Affairs and Dean of the Seminary, Lancaster Theological Seminary
Rev. Dr. Wonsuk Ma, Dean of the College of Theology and Ministry, Oral Roberts University
Rev. Dr. David Mellott, President, Christian Theological Seminary
Dr. Esther Menn, Dean of Academic Affairs, Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago
Dr. Christine Mitchell, Professor of Hebrew Scriptures, St. Andrew’s College | ATS Commission on Accrediting
Rev. Dr. Deborah Flemister Mullen, Columbia Theological Seminary | Past Co-Convenor of the ATS African American Presidents and Deans Group
Dr. Beth Tanner, Vice President and Dean of Academic Affairs, New Brunswick Theological Seminary
Rev. Christopher M. The, PhD Cand., Director of Commission Information Services, The ATS | The COA
Dr. Felix Theonugraha, President, Western Theological Seminary
Dr. Emilie Maureen Townes, Academic Dean, Emmanuel Christian Seminary at Milligan
Dr. Lester Edwin J. Ruiz, Director of Accreditation and Global Engagement, The ATS | The COA
Rev. Dr. J. Jayakiran Sebastian, Dean of the Seminary, United Lutheran Seminary
Rev. Dr. Seon Moo Shin, Vice President, World Mission University School of Theology
Rev. Dr. Chloe Sun, Academic Dean, Logos Evangelical Seminary | Steering Committee Member, Asian Descent Presidents and Deans Affinity Group
Dr. Mary H. Young, Director of Leadership Education, The ATS | The COA
Dr. Amos Yong, Dean of the School of Theology and the School of Intercultural Studies, Fuller Theological Seminary
Dr. Frank Yamada, Executive Director, The ATS | The COA
Dr. David Vasquez-Levy, President, Pacific School of Religion | Convener of the ATS Latinx Presidents and Deans Group
Dr. Maria Liu Wong, Professor of Practical Theology, Ambrose Seminary of Ambrose University | ATS Commission on Accrediting
Dr. Arch Wong, Professor of Practical Theology, Ambrose Seminary of Ambrose University | ATS Commission on Accrediting
Dr. Scott Woodard, President, Oblate School of Theology