



We would like to take a moment to reflect and acknowledge the horrific murders of eight people, including six Asian American women. To say we are heartbroken and disgusted by the recent events in Atlanta would be an understatement. Words mean things and the ways in which they have been weaponized against the Asian community have been horrific. Dismissing the actions of the shooter to him having had a bad day, along with the fact that he was apprehended without incident, is yet another reminder of how entrenched racism and white supremacy are in the world.

Racism against the Asian community has always existed, but has been exacerbated since the beginning of the pandemic. To be clear, this is not unique to the United States; Canada is not exempt from this. We would be remiss to not acknowledge that these particular violent acts were perpetrated against sex workers and how this is connected to the fetishization of Asian women.

The CTYS community recognizes the importance of speaking up and out in solidarity with the Asian community. We cannot contribute to the violence by remaining silent or pretending that it does not exist. As a community, and as individuals, we must examine ourselves, do the work by educating ourselves, and speak out against racism, xenophobia, and misogyny in all forms.

