NOW CONDEMS ALL FORMS OF ANTI-ASIAN HATE
AND COMMITS TO CENTERING APA VOICES

WHEREAS, Asian and Pacific American (APA) or Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) refers to
descendants “of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, South Asia, or the Pacific Islands”; and

WHEREAS, the grouping encompasses an extremely diverse population of ethnicities and cultures from
countries such as China, Japan, Philippines, Samoa, India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Nepal, and
Bhutan; and

WHEREAS, aggregating these diverse groups for the purposes of study and funding can lead to harmful
perpetuation of stereotypes such as the ‘model minority myth,’ which can lead to underfunding of
resources in minority communities in need; and

WHEREAS, AAPI persons often face discrimination as ‘perpetual foreigners,’ and Anti-Asian sentiment
is not a recent development; and

WHEREAS, racial discrimination and violence are pervasive and persisting challenges for country and
society as a whole, rooted deeply at an interpersonal and institutional level; and

WHEREAS, the existence of anti-Asian legislation and anti-Asian sentiment from government leaders
has been historically prevalent in the United States, from the Chinese Exclusion Act in the 1880s to
Japanese Internment in the 1940s, and leaders calling the COVID-19 virus a “Chinese virus” in 2020; and

WHEREAS, there have been over 6,600 reports of anti-Asian incidents, which include both hate crimes
and incidents of violence or discrimination, collected between March 2020 and March 2021 by Stop AAPI
Hate, a nationwide reporting site; and

WHEREAS, AAPI women and girls report these hate incidents 2.2 times as often as AAPI men, and AAPI
non-binary people have also reported experiencing heightened incidents of hate; and

WHEREAS, tropes such as Geishas and stories of American GIs from the Far East have led to the hyper
sexualization, fetishization, and stereotyping of Asian women and may have contributed to the horrific
incident in Atlanta where on March 16, 2021, eight people, six of whom were Asian women, were killed in
a shooting spree at three spas or massage; and

WHEREAS, a study conducted by the Stop AAPI Hate Youth Campaign found that 1 in 4 young Asian
Americans under 20 years old have personally experienced anti-Asian hate amid the COVID-19 pandemic;
and

WHEREAS, intersection anti-racism work is not transactional, and allyship with Black people and
other communities of color should not divert attention from also aiding Asian communities;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that National Organization for Women (NOW) condemns all
racially motivated attacks and incidents of discrimination against the Asian community, nationally and
globally; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that NOW commits to raising awareness both inside and outside its
organization of the unique challenges faced by APA communities and their women in particular; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that NOW will call for disaggregation of Census, health and other data
so that differences among subgroups may be realized and those communities may be better served; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that NOW members, local and state chapters, will ALL work together
towards our collective liberation by dismantling systems that uphold white supremacy; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that NOW will commit to uplifting and centering APA voices within its
organization and ensure use of language that is inclusive and that does not erase or deem preference for
one minority group over another; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that NOW will create sustained programming and outreach to the APA
community through membership recruitment and collaborative partnership with APA-focused
organizations such as National Asian Pacific American Women’s Forum (NAPAWF).

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