



## **CWA Stands Firmly Against Racist and Xenophobic Attacks Amid the COVID-19 Pandemic**

The spread of the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) continues to impact workers and communities around the globe. The death toll and number of confirmed cases continue to rise. Nearly all aspects of our lives have been disrupted. In addition to fear of exposure and contracting of this virus, certain communities have the added pressure of facing xenophobic attacks. Since this outbreak began, there has been a [rise in racist, xenophobic attacks and hate crimes](#) directed particularly toward East Asians and those of East Asian heritage. Public safety officials and news media have reported an uptick in such attacks in the U.S and other nations. We have seen the evidence on social media and other platforms. This is nothing new. Historically, wherever a pandemic goes, xenophobia is never far behind. [During the SARS outbreak, which originated in China, East Asians bore the brunt.](#) [When the Ebola outbreak emerged in 2014, Africans were targeted.](#) The reality is fear mixed with underlying systemic racism and discrimination is contributing to the spike in xenophobia. Being afraid is understandable but we cannot give into flawed patterns of thinking that lead to the division and do nothing to solve the problem at hand.

CWA stands against any and all actions motivated by hate, racism, or xenophobia towards any members of our community. Workers must stand united. The only way we will get through this crisis is by following evidence-based safety protocols such as social distancing, hand washing and sharing accurate information and recognizing the threat of corporations and corrupt politicians attempting to take advantage of this situation to further exploit workers. We have to reject hateful and divisive rhetoric and instead focus on addressing the issues we face through worker solidarity.

### **Available Resources**

- [Five Ways to Fight Racism and Xenophobia](#)
- [COVID-19 Messaging Guide](#)
- [Protecting Asian American and Pacific Islander Working People](#)

### **Actions Items**

- [FLYER: Wash Away Xenophobia](#)