



equal not other | égal, pas autre

March 23rd, 2021

Statement on Anti-Asian Racism following the Atlanta Shootings

Egale Canada is saddened and outraged by the murder of 8 individuals in Atlanta on March 16, 2021, almost all of whom were Asian women. We mourn for and honour the lives of Asian women working in massage parlours and Asian and migrant sex workers who experience high levels of hate, discrimination, racism, misogyny and violence. We call on everyone, in particular those in 2SLGBTQI communities across Canada, to raise our voices in response to the rise in anti-Asian violence across North America.

Those living at the intersection of being 2SLGBTQI, Asian Canadian and an immigrant, while confronting a surge in anti-Asian hate and violence are facing a battle on many fronts to live their lives openly and safely. Egale's research on the [impact of COVID-19 on Canada's 2SLGBTQI](#) has demonstrated the ways in which the physical and mental well-being of BIPOC communities, in particular, has been acutely affected. Hate, violence, harassment and bullying contributes immensely to this well-being, and while the recent shootings took place in the United States, there have been over 1000 cases of anti-Asian racism reported in Canada to sites such as www.covidr racism.ca and www.elimin8hate.org since the beginning of the pandemic.

Egale has joined statements issued by the Chinese Canadian National Council (CNCC)-Toronto Chapter and Butterfly: Asian and migrant sex workers support network and encourages everyone to consult the [CNCC report](#) (launched today) documenting a year of anti-Asian racism across Canada.