

# A BOLD VISION FOR REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE FOR ASIAN AMERICANS & PACIFIC ISLANDERS

The experiences of Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) women have gone unacknowledged and unaddressed by mainstream U.S. culture throughout our history in this country. Our intersecting identities and the impact of racism, sexism, and hypersexualization have become more visible as AAPI women have refused to be silent. We have marched; we have forged bonds of solidarity; and we are now moving forward collectively to create a safer, more just world for ourselves and our communities.

**THE NATIONAL ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN WOMEN'S FORUM (NAPAWF)**, the leading organization building power with AAPI women and girls, and 10 other organizations serving AAPI women came together to create the AAPI Reproductive Justice Agenda. Those organizations are Apna Ghar, Asian Pacific Institute on Gender-Based Violence (API-GBV), Asian/Pacific Islander Domestic Violence Resource Project (DVRP), Daya Houston, Empowering Pacific Islander Communities (EPIC), HEART Women and Girls, KAN-WIN, National Coalition for Asian Pacific Americans Community Development (National CAPACD), Pilipino Worker Center (PWC), and Southeast Asia Resource Action Center (SEARAC).

**AAPI WOMEN DEMAND TO BE SEEN AND HEARD.** We envision a future in which AAPI communities can realize Reproductive Justice and reject the racism and misogyny that too often define what it means to be an AAPI woman in America.

## WE DEMAND:

**IMMIGRATION REFORM THAT CENTERS FAMILIES:** AAPI women and their families want an accessible pathway to immigration for all without fear or intimidation.

**ACCESSIBLE AND AFFORDABLE HEALTH CARE:** Affordable, culturally competent, and linguistically accessible health care is a human right and critical to ensuring AAPI women can care for themselves and their families.

**DECRIMINALIZATION OF AAPI WOMEN'S BODIES:** AAPI women were the first group of people to be barred from entering the United States with the Page Act of 1875, and our bodies continue to be hyper-policed today. We must shift our approach from criminalization towards supporting communities in defining safety for themselves.

**ERADICATING A CULTURE OF GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE:** For many AAPI women and girls, gender-based violence is an all-too-common reality and is reinforced by cultural and religious traditions and patriarchy.

**ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY AND ACCESS:** AAPI women are over-represented in some of the lowest-paid industries. We demand equal opportunity and access to economic programs and resources so that AAPI women and girls have the tools they need to thrive.

**ENDING US MILITARISM AND SUPPORTING AAPI COMMUNITIES IMPACTED BY IT:** Militarism, colonialism, and U.S. imperialism abroad continue to make their mark on our lives. It is the responsibility of the US government to acknowledge and make reparations for this devastating impact.

**HONORING AND PROTECTING AAPI NEIGHBORHOODS, COMMUNITIES, AND HOMELANDS:** AAPI neighborhoods are where generations have come together and built networks of solidarity and care, and Pacific Islanders in particular are on the front lines of climate change. Protecting these neighborhoods from encroaching gentrification and increasing access to affordable housing is critical to protecting these community centers, while we must also care for our planet and mitigate the effects of climate change through an environmental justice lens.

**RACIAL JUSTICE:** AAPI women face intertwined racism and sexism, fueled by a perception of AAPI communities as "perpetual foreigners" and "model minorities." Treating AAPI communities as a monolith further denies our individual identities and lived experiences.

**LANGUAGE ACCESS:** It is a human right to communicate in and be understood in one's language. We want to create a future in which AAPIs have ready access to services in their language, a critical component of realizing our constitutional rights.

**DATA DISAGGREGATION IN ALL AGENCIES:** AAPIs are among the most understudied racial groups in the country. It is critical to collect, analyze and disseminate granular data on our racial and ethnic subgroups.

[napawf.org/aapireprojustice](https://napawf.org/aapireprojustice)

*A note on the term AAPI: We recognize that the term AAPI has been a historical and often continued site of erasure for many marginalized groups under the broader umbrella, especially for the Pacific Islander, Southeast Asian, and South Asian communities. The Agenda's co-creating organizations were invited with the intention of attempting to get as close to representing the full breadth and depth of the diversity of the AAPI community. However, native Hawaiian voices are not included. AAPI is used here in the spirit of solidarity and shared liberation.*