

**The Asian Pacific American Bar Association of Pennsylvania and The South Asian Bar Association of Philadelphia condemn the anti-Asian racism of University of Pennsylvania Law Professor Amy Wax and call on the University of Pennsylvania to hold her accountable.**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Asian Pacific American Bar Association of Pennsylvania (APABA-PA) and the South Asian Bar Association of Philadelphia (SABA-Philly) condemn University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School professor Amy Wax's recent comments, which were aired on the December 20, 2021 episode of "The Glenn Show" podcast. Her comments were anchored in racism, primarily against Asians, Asian Pacific Americans, and Black Americans, and steeped in white supremacist ideology. We are joined in this call by the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association, the Hispanic Bar Association of Pennsylvania, and the Barristers' Association of Philadelphia, Inc.

Professor Wax's anti-Asian and white supremacist views are indefensible as scholarship and rooted in nothing more than bigotry. When such prejudiced opinions, such as the ones espoused by Professor Wax on December 20, are publicly broadcast by a tenured professor at one of the top law schools in the country, they encourage and normalize racism and white supremacy.

APABA-PA and SABA-Philly call on the University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School to take appropriate action to address Professor Wax's abhorrent comments, which have no place in any setting—let alone an academic one. We call on the Law School to heed the testimony of students directly affected by Professor Wax's comments and conduct, to recognize the harm inflicted on students, potential students, and alumni by Professor Wax's racist and white supremacist views, and to make transparent all policies used to assess her status. Moreover, we call on the broader legal community to demonstrate that Professor Wax's opinions have no place in this country.

APABA-PA and SABA-Philly also denounce those persons, such as Brown University sociology professor and podcast host Glenn Loury, who provide a platform for Professor Wax to further promote hate. Her bigoted comments serve only to feed an appetite for hatefulness and to pave the way for discrimination and violence against vulnerable and marginalized people. We call on all media outlets, including social media influencers, to use their forums responsibly and to decline to amplify messages like these that serve no purpose.

During a time when anti-Asian sentiment has been increasingly acted upon in the form of violent hate crimes against Asian Pacific Americans, Professor Wax's bigotry adds fuel to an already dangerous situation.

Her comments are part of a long line of anti-Asian hate and anti-immigrant sentiment that has resulted in tragic results for our communities. The killings of Vincent Chin in Detroit, Michigan, Ming Hai Loo in Raleigh, North Carolina, Navroze Mody in Hoboken, New Jersey, and Heng Lim in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania occurred at a time when much animosity was stirred up nationwide against Japanese automobile manufacturers and other Asian companies for challenging the market dominance of American corporations. Asian Americans were blamed for the economic decline in the labor market, just as they have been blamed for the lockdowns related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Words have consequences, and Professor Wax's reckless comments should have no refuge in our community.

*APABA-PA, an affiliate of the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association, represents the interests of the Asian Pacific American law students, lawyers, and judges and the Asian Pacific American community across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania by supporting the advancement of Asian Pacific American attorneys and promoting justice, equity, and legal access, especially for all Asian Pacific American communities.*

*SABA-Philly seeks to strengthen the rapidly growing Philadelphia South Asian American legal community with a recognized and trusted forum for professional growth and advancement, and promotes access to justice and civil rights for the South Asian American community.*