

## **SDPA Board Response to the Tree of Life Synagogue Shooting**

Our hearts are broken to hear about the victims and survivors of Saturday's shooting at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh, PA. We are horrified to hear the news of yet another hate crime committed against members of a vulnerable group, the loss of life, and the injury to the officers who rushed to their aid. Sadly, hate crimes and anti-Semitism have a long and terrible history in our country and around the world. We have recently experienced too many in rapid successions.

As clinicians and scholars, we are aware of the terrible sequelae for survivors of hate crimes-PTSD, depression, and anxiety. In addition to those individually affected by crimes such as these, the health and wellbeing of the members of their communities and other marginalized communities are disrupted by these deplorable acts. Feelings of insecurity, powerlessness, and anger are common. We want you to know, you are not alone.

We support all people affected by this and other hate crimes/bias incidents and support efforts in our profession and in our communities to reduce their frequency and to meet the needs of those affected by them. We encourage any of you who might be experiencing difficulties, to reach out to others and take loving and respectful care of yourself and your families at this time of National Mourning. You can find resources to do so at:

**<https://www.apa.org/helpcenter/index.aspx>**

When you have rested and are ready, you can find helpful resources to empower yourself and your communities to stand up against anti-Semitism and other forms of hate/bias here:

**[https://www.splcenter.org/20170814/ten-ways-fight-hate-community-response-guide?fbclid=IwAR1P4h9ujYNqw7ZATgN2VHbQgxjPKnh9OprriVcG5G5PnM5nT\\_gT9YEICvo#support%20the%20victims](https://www.splcenter.org/20170814/ten-ways-fight-hate-community-response-guide?fbclid=IwAR1P4h9ujYNqw7ZATgN2VHbQgxjPKnh9OprriVcG5G5PnM5nT_gT9YEICvo#support%20the%20victims)**

**<https://www.adl.org/education-and-resources/resources-for-educators-parents-families>**