

# We Are Not Silent

BY LUCY  
FELDMAN

CONFRONTING AMERICA'S LEGACY OF ANTI-ASIAN VIOLENCE BY CADY LANG



Artwork by Amanda Phingbodhipakkiya



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▲  
Puppet builder Anney Ozar works on Elijah, a new Sesame Workshop Muppet, in New York City

Photograph by  
TIME Studios

ON THE COVER:



Photograph by  
Wynne Neilly  
for TIME

# Conversation



## WHAT YOU SAID ABOUT...

**WOMEN AND THE PANDEMIC** The March 15/ March 22 special report on the challenges women face amid the COVID-19 pandemic was eye-opening for many readers. “Women have come far but #Covid has been the great magnifier,” @LauraDistin360 wrote on Twitter. “[It] has shed some serious light on how we view women, child care & the workforce.” Pritish De of Waukesha, Wis., applauded the issue for centering female role models. “Your coverage on ‘Women and the Pandemic’ exemplified the remarkable spirit of women from different strata of society during the worst nightmare we are all facing,” De wrote. “It’s their undying resilience that has powered them to navigate this humanitarian crisis and reaffirms how formidable they are in terms of grit and gumption.”

**‘The cracks in our system have become chasms.’**

KIRSTEN GILLIBRAND, U.S. Senator (D., N.Y.), on Twitter

**ON THE HUNT FOR HATE** In the same issue, Vera Bergengruen and W.J. Hennigan detailed the Biden Administration’s effort to combat domestic terrorism. Readers agreed that the issue is a pressing one: “the most critical battle,” as @jon\_quijano put it on Twitter; Jonathan Reiber, a cybersecurity expert quoted in the piece, tweeted that a “national commission” should “explore the digital aspects of life that are making us more extreme.” But as Twitter user @tlouishargon noted, when it comes to cracking down on far-right extremists, “the unequal application of justice in this country is the biggest problem.”

**‘It has to be fought & overcome using all the tools we’ve amassed to keep the country safe.’**

@REISSALEIGH1, on Twitter



**THE COST** On TIME.com, browse a photo timeline of the COVID-19 pandemic’s impact across the U.S. over the past year. With millions of Americans now getting their vaccines, TIME’s Karl Vick reflects: “Finally, in the year that defied optimism so stubbornly for so long, a dose of it, delivered by syringe.” View at [time.com/covid-year](https://time.com/covid-year)



## Behind the cover

“My hope is to see the beauty of our people reflected in the colors of our communities in a dignified and respectful way,” Amanda Phingbodhipakkiya, an artist based in Brooklyn, says of the image on the new TIME cover, at left. Her artwork, which she sees as a portrait of the Asian-American community’s “beauty and resilience” amid a rise in anti-Asian attacks during the COVID-19 pandemic, was initially created for the New York City Commission on Human Rights’ 2020 public art series “I Still Believe in Our City.”



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**'In authoritarian states, the Olympics has more often been a tool of propaganda than a lever of reform.'**

**MITT ROMNEY,**  
U.S. Senator, in a March 15 *New York Times* op-ed calling for the U.S. to enact an "economic and diplomatic boycott" of the 2022 Winter Olympics in Beijing, while still sending athletes to compete

*'The whole family is saddened to learn the full extent of how challenging the last few years have been for Harry and Meghan.'*

**BUCKINGHAM PALACE,**  
in a statement issued on behalf of Queen Elizabeth II on March 9 in response to the couple's interview with Oprah Winfrey

## 12,155

Number of "cold-stunned" sea turtles found off the coast of Texas during February's record-breaking snowstorms, per NPR; more than 4,000 have been safely released back into the wild



# 'EVERY DAY HAS BEEN MARCH THE 13TH SINCE IT HAPPENED.'

**TAMIKA PALMER,**  
Breonna Taylor's mother, in an interview with the *Cut* published on March 12 to mark the first anniversary of her daughter's killing by Louisville, Ky., police officers

**'The military put you in prison because they are afraid of you. They can arrest your body. They cannot arrest your spirit.'**

**BO KYI,** co-founder of a Myanmar human-rights organization, in a March 11 interview with *TIME* discussing protesters who were beaten, arrested and—in many instances—killed during crackdowns since a military coup

*'My legs were shaking because it's been so long.'*

**BENEDICT GARCIA,**  
85-year-old resident of a Spanish care home, on the first time in months he and a group of seniors took a trip outside after receiving COVID vaccinations, in a March 15 interview with the AP



## 28

Total number of Grammys won by Beyoncé after she took home four at the 2021 ceremony on March 14, becoming the most decorated woman in the history of the award

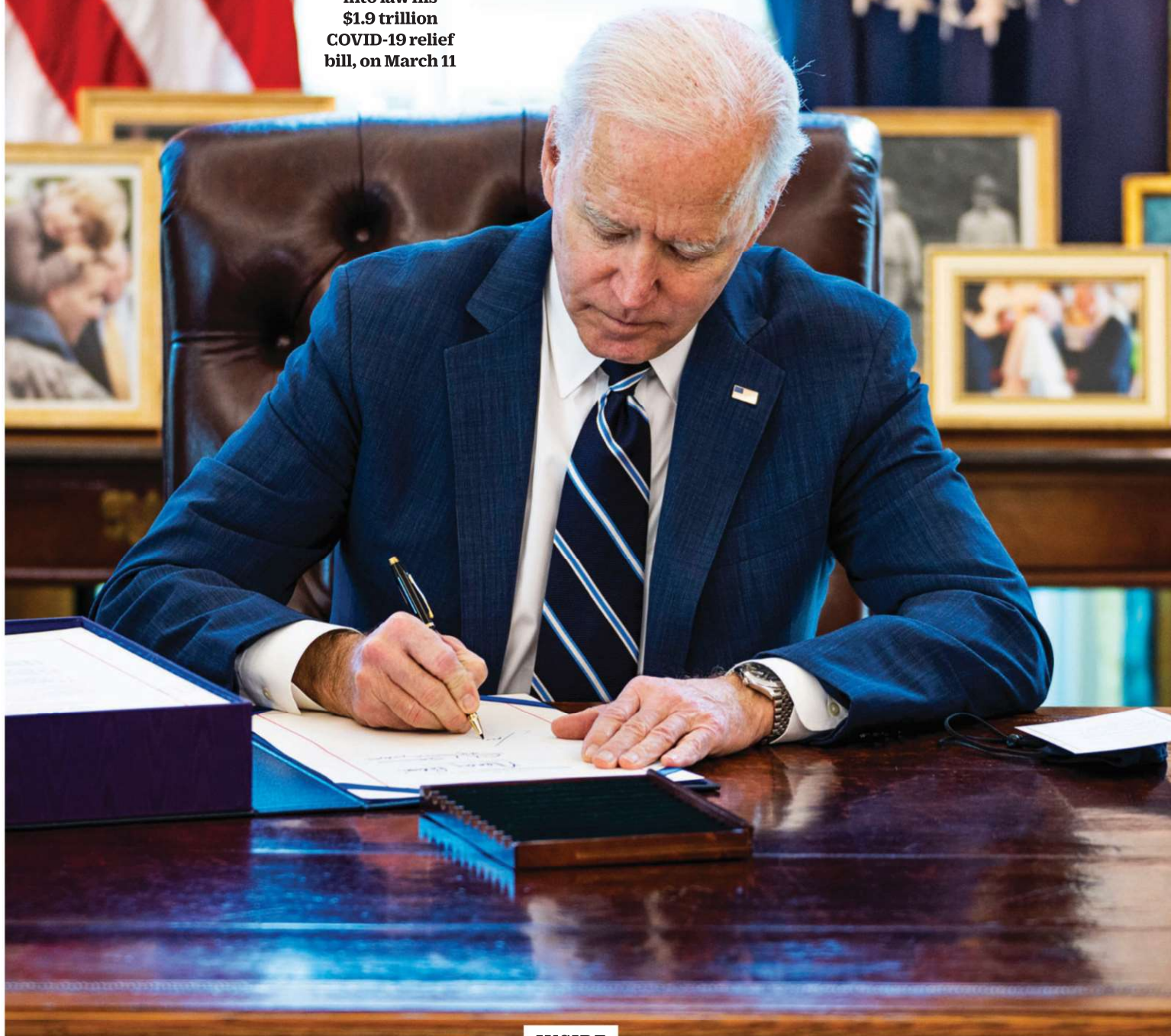


**GOOD NEWS**  
of the week

**On March 16, Israeli archaeologists revealed dozens of new Dead Sea Scroll fragments, containing nearly 2,000-year-old biblical text; the discovery will help researchers further understand the history of Judaism and early Christianity**

# The Brief

**A START**  
**President Joe**  
**Biden signs**  
**into law his**  
**\$1.9 trillion**  
**COVID-19 relief**  
**bill, on March 11**



## INSIDE

RAPE ALLEGATIONS MOBILIZE  
AUSTRALIAN WOMEN

MINNEAPOLIS BRACES FOR  
DEREK CHAUVIN TRIAL

WHAT TO KNOW ABOUT THE  
ASTRAZENECA VACCINE

PHOTOGRAPH BY DOUG MILLS

*The Brief is reported by Madeleine Carlisle, Leslie Dickstein, Jamie Ducharme, Amy Gunia, Suyin Haynes, Sanya Mansoor, Ciara Nugent, Billy Perrigo, Madeline Roache and Olivia B. Waxman*

## POLITICS

# Biden's huge wager

By Alana Abramson

**A**FTER ONE OF THE ROCKIEST TRANSITIONS IN U.S. history, Joe Biden's term has gotten off to a brisk start. In his first 50 days, the President has muscled a massive relief bill through Congress, sending stimulus checks to millions of Americans and easing housing costs, student loans and health-insurance premiums. His team of government veterans has also executed a series of less visible but consequential moves, from increasing vaccine production to approving loans for multitudes of struggling small businesses.

Now Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris are traveling the country, hoping to capitalize on the popularity of the plan. Biden has a 60% approval rating, according to a poll released March 5 by the AP-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research, compared with about 41% for Donald Trump around this time in his presidency. "It's going to bring immediate relief," Biden said of the stimulus bill during a visit to a floor installation-and-supply business in Chester, Pa., on March 16.

The Administration will need all the public support it can muster. The \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan squeaked through Congress without a single Republican vote, casting doubt on Biden's campaign pledge to build bipartisanship, which his detractors are weaponizing. To his allies, Biden's Hill win shows his political savvy. But the slim margin of passage on a broadly popular bill doesn't necessarily bode well for his coming battles.

**DEMOCRATS ARE HERALDING** the COVID-19 relief bill as the biggest expansion to the social safety net in at least half a century. It delivers \$1,400 stimulus checks, extends \$300 weekly unemployment-insurance payments and gives many families an expanded \$3,000 child tax credit. Nonpartisan experts say these provisions will bolster lower- and middle-income Americans who have suffered disproportionately from the economic effects of the pandemic. An analysis from the nonpartisan Tax Policy Center found that the bill will boost income for Americans in the lowest quintile by 20% in 2021. (Most of the bill's most generous measures last only a year or two.)

The Administration's moves to increase vaccine production and prop up small businesses will help too. When

Biden took office, the seven-day average of shots administered had not yet cracked 1 million; by the beginning of March, it had surpassed 2 million. Some 72 million Americans, including almost 65% of those over 65, had received at least one dose of the vaccine as of March 16, and 2,200 military staff have mobilized to support community vaccine sites, according to the White House. "The Administration's actions around vaccinations have increased the vaccination rate," says Eric Toner, a senior scholar with the Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security.

On the economic front, Biden modified the Trump Administration's Paycheck Protection Program to prioritize the smallest businesses, which had struggled to access potentially forgivable loans as larger companies jumped to the front of the line. On Feb. 24, Biden set a 14-day period when only businesses and nonprofits with fewer than 20 employees could apply for relief. More than 400,000 businesses had been approved for aid as of March 7, according to the Small Business Administration, which runs the program, with loans to minority-owned businesses up 20% from the previous 10-day period and women-owned businesses up 14%.

Biden's allies say he's done as much as he could as fast as he could, but that raises questions about the tough road ahead. In the short term, he faces a surge of migrants at the U.S.-Mexico border that critics say has been fueled in part by Biden's reversal of some of Trump's controversial immigration policies. Border crossings have spiked since Biden took office: U.S. Customs and Border Protection said it encountered 100,441 individuals attempting to cross the southern border in February 2021, a 28% increase from January. While the Administration says the vast majority of adult migrants are being turned away, it is declining to expel children arriving without parents, and officials at the border are running out of resources to house them.

Already, Hill Democrats are skeptical they have the votes for an ambitious immigration proposal to fix the underlying causes of the periodic border crises. And Biden's campaign promises to fix climate change and address systemic racism may be even tougher to achieve. But the President's aides and allies

say the political boost from his relief bill and the increased pace of vaccinations give him momentum to deliver on his agenda. "It's a big accomplishment that I think will set the tone for his Administration," says Delaware Senator Chris Coons, a Biden protégé who occupies the President's former Senate seat. "This is a very popular bill nationally, and I think it will only become more popular once Americans start feeling its impact." — *With reporting by* JASMINE AGUILERA/LOS ANGELES and BRIAN BENNETT and W.J. HENNIGAN/WASHINGTON

### PILLARS OF THE STIMULUS PACKAGE

#### \$1,400 CHECKS

Individuals making up to \$75,000 and couples making up to \$150,000 will get full checks. Those earning \$5,000 to \$10,000 more will get smaller ones.

#### EXTENDED UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

An additional \$300 per week in federal unemployment will be paid through Sept. 6. Households earning under \$150,000 get the first \$10,200 tax-free.

#### EXPANDED TAX CREDITS

The child tax credit for many families will jump \$1,000 to \$3,000 per child in 2021. Families with children under the age of 6 get a little more: \$3,600 per child.

#### STATE AND LOCAL AID

\$350 billion will go to state and local governments facing massive pandemic budget shortfalls. A Democratic provision restricts states from using their aid for tax breaks.





Police detain a woman at a vigil for Sarah Everard on March 13 in London; Everard's death fueled national conversations in the U.K. about the threats women face and the role of the police

## UNITED KINGDOM

### A woman's killing ignites fury across the U.K.

"SHE WAS JUST WALKING HOME." THOSE five words trended widely on social media and appeared on many tributes at a vigil for Sarah Everard, 33, a marketing executive who disappeared from a London street on March 3. A week later, Everard's body was found in woodlands in nearby Kent, and on March 12, an officer with London's Metropolitan Police was charged with Everard's kidnaping and murder.

**WOMEN'S SAFETY** Everard's disappearance prompted an outpouring from women in Britain sharing their own experiences of harassment on social media and assault. Everard's body was discovered on the same day that a new survey by U.N. Women U.K. revealed that more than 70% of women of all ages in the country said they had experienced sexual harassment in a public space. Some 95% of respondents said they had not reported incidents of sexual harassment, with 45% saying it would not change anything.

**POLICE BEHAVIOR** At what started as a peaceful vigil for Everard on March 13, eyewitnesses observed police brutality, as several women were pushed to the ground and manhandled by officers. The Metropolitan Police said four people were arrested. Combined with the existing lack of trust and the fact that the person charged with Everard's murder is a police officer, the events sparked further fury toward police authorities.



Sarah Everard pictured on search posters displayed in London on March 9

**CONTROVERSIAL BILL** Campaigners say officers' actions at the vigil are emblematic of a much longer history of overpolicing at protests. Images and videos of the heavy-handed policing drew attention to a controversial bill that U.K. lawmakers voted to pass on March 16, which will expand policing powers and increase restrictions on protests. Human-rights groups called the legislation "an attack on some of the most fundamental rights of citizens." —SUYIN HAYNES

## NEWS TICKER

### Japan's gay-marriage ban challenged

A Japanese court ruled for the first time, on March 17, that the **country's same-sex marriage ban violates Japan's constitution**. While the ruling did not overturn the law, advocates hope the moral victory will help pave the way for legalization.

### FEMA agents sent to U.S.-Mexico border

The Biden Administration directed the Federal Emergency Management Agency on March 14 to help **"safely receive, shelter, and transfer" unaccompanied minors** crossing the U.S.-Mexico border. CBS News reported on March 16 that "more than 13,000" migrant children are currently in U.S. custody.

### Brazil's Health Minister replaced again

As COVID-19 deaths in Brazil again reached record-breaking levels, President Jair Bolsonaro said March 15 he would **replace the country's Health Minister**, an army general with no health care experience, with Marcelo Queiroga, head of the Brazilian Society of Cardiology. Queiroga will be the fourth person in the role since last April.

## CULTURE

### Notable noms

On March 15, six years after #OscarsSoWhite called out the award show's lack of representation, the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences released its most racially diverse set of acting nominations. Here, some of the Oscar firsts. —*Madeleine Carlisle*



#### LEADING MEN

**Steven Yeun** is the first Asian American nominated for Best Actor, for his role in *Minari*; British actor Riz Ahmed is the first Muslim to appear in the category, for his role in *Sound of Metal*, as well as the first person of Pakistani descent to be nominated in an acting category.



#### HISTORIC NODS

*Judas and the Black Messiah* is the first film with an all-Black producing team nominated for Best Picture, and the Best Supporting Actor nominations for its stars **Daniel Kaluuya** and **LaKeith Stanfield** mark the first time two male Black actors are nominated for the same film.



#### LEADING WOMEN

The Best Director nominations for *Nomadland*'s **Chloé Zhao** and *Promising Young Woman*'s Emerald Fennell represent the first time two women have appeared in the category at the same time. Zhao is also the first woman of color to be nominated in the directing category.

## GOOD QUESTION

### Why are women taking to the streets across Australia?

WHEN JANINE HENDRY BEGAN ORGANIZING a protest against reported sexual violence in Australia's parliament, she thought just a few of her friends would turn up. But on March 15, tens of thousands of protesters—mostly women—gathered in more than 40 towns and cities across the country. Black-clad demonstrators held signs reading **WOMEN DESERVE BETTER** and **ENOUGH IS ENOUGH**.

The catalyst was the allegation by former political staffer Brittany Higgins that she was raped in government minister Linda Reynolds' office by a male co-worker in 2019. Higgins said she reported the alleged attack to her bosses but decided not to make a formal police complaint because she feared losing her job. On Feb. 15, she went public in a TV interview.

Prime Minister Scott Morrison apologized for Higgins' treatment but also sparked anger when he said that it had taken a conversation with his wife to find clarity on the situation. Reynolds, now the Defense Minister, admitted calling Higgins a "lying cow" in front of staff after the allegations became public.

Morrison's center-right government is also under pressure to investigate a woman's

allegation that Attorney General Christian Porter raped her in 1988. Porter has denied the assault, and the woman died by suicide in June 2020. Police dropped the investigation because of "insufficient admissible evidence," and Morrison has rejected calls for an independent inquiry.

Hendry, 58, says the groundswell of anger from women is driven not only by the government's response but also by their personal experiences with sexism and inequality. Although Australia is one of the wealthiest countries in the world, it ranks 44th out of 153 nations in the World Economic Forum's Global Gender Gap Index.

"We fundamentally recognize the system is broken, the glass ceiling is still in place, and there are significant failings in the power structures within our institutions," Higgins told a crowd in the capital, Canberra, during the protest.

Organizers delivered a petition with more than 90,000 signatures to parliament, demanding accountability for

the alleged misconduct in the halls of power and calling for structural changes to address gender inequality. Many women hope that the protests will mark a watershed moment. "I have not seen the women of Australia this angry before," says Hendry, 58. "But ... that anger is actually being harnessed into something, which is going to create real change." —*AMY GUNIA*

**I have not seen the women of Australia this angry before.**

**JANINE HENDRY,**  
Australian protest organizer

## NEWS TICKER

### France returns art sold under Nazi rule

France's Culture Minister said March 15 that the country would **return a "masterpiece" by Austrian artist Gustav Klimt** from its national collection to the heirs of Nora Stiasny. Stiasny, an Austrian Jewish woman, was forced to sell the painting to survive Nazi rule in 1938. She later died in the Holocaust.

### Biden backs filibuster reform

Amid increased calls to end the Senate's filibuster rule, President Biden said in an ABC News interview on March 16 **that he supports returning to the "talking filibuster,"** which requires Senators to speak continuously on the floor to delay a bill, halting all other business in the chamber.

### Vatican: No same-sex union blessings

While calling for LGBTQ people to be treated "with respect and sensitivity," the Vatican's doctrinal watchdog said on March 15 that **Catholic priests cannot bless same-sex unions.** Priests have asked for clarity on the issue in recent years, after a push by Pope Francis for "assistance" for LGBTQ Catholics.