

La Nueva

RAZA

Espanol / English

Spring 2009



Drawing by jailed child at the T. Don Hutto Family Prison near Austin, Tx.



Hutto: America's Family Prison

Shut Down the T. Don Hutto Family Prison!.....page 7

Photo of jailed children at the Hutto Family Prison.

Inside:

Border Walls and Immigration Raids: Symptomatic of all the Failed Bush Policies / Inmigración y la Economía / Operativo Endgame: ¿El juego final de la Migra? / Bohemio's Bringing Music, Art and Culture to Houston's East End / Historical Memory and Mexicanos in the U.S. : Setting the Record Straight / Our Streets Will Not Be Silenced! ¡Las Calles No Se Callan! / Boycott Wells Fargo! ¡Boicotea Wells Fargo! / PIÑATA PROTEST: Keeping the Acordión Roots Alive with Tejano Punk / Patzin: Grandfather Tobacco / Shut Down the T. Don Hutto Family Prison! / FIRE Raids ICE Managment Meeting, Delivers Notice of Deportation to ICE / Familias Unidas Por La Esperanza: Luchando por Nuestras Familias / America's Soul Sickness & Permanent War: Obama's Rude Awakening / Relocate the Pure Casting Industrial Facility! / Poesía del Pueblo / LOOK INSIDE FOR MORE...

BOYCOTT

WELLS FARGO

BOICOTEA

Boycott Wells Fargo!.....page 5

About LNR

Through its articles, commentaries, editorials, and other writings, **La Nueva Raza** encourages discussion, dialogue, and debate over the issues, events, politics, culture, and conditions relevant to the Xican@ community. The purpose of **La Nueva Raza** is to convey an independent and progressive discourse and to offer solutions for the challenges facing this community. **La Nueva Raza** is committed to expressing the voice of the people through its analysis, reporting, interviews, and other coverage.

You can contact **La Nueva Raza** at:
www.LaNuevaRaza.org

Views expressed in this publication are not necessarily the views of the staff and other agents associated with **La Nueva Raza**, a project of the New School for Metropolitan Studies, a 501(c)3 non-profit organization.

Founders	Iris Rodriguez Lorenzo Cano Michael Espinoza Tacho Medellin
Special Shout Out	Madre Tierra San Quilmas, La Loma aka Ostin, Tejaztlan, las Mujeres Xingonas (you know who you are) y todas las comunidades que han sostenido este proyecto desde 2004
Managing Editors of Print Publication	Iris Rodriguez Lorenzo Cano
Editor-In-Chief of Print and Web	Iris Rodriguez
Contributors	Lorenzo Cano Iris Rodriguez Josefina Castillo Raul Alcaraz Connie Falcon Davis San Anto Free Speech Coalition Luissana Santibañez Madelein Santibañez Patrisia Gonzales Grassroots Leadership Matthew Gossage Jane Chamberlin Flagstaff Immigrant Rights Enforcement (FIRE) Familias Unidas Por La Esperanza Roberto Rodriguez Jose Orta Nephtali

Border Walls and Immigration Raids: Symptomatic of all the Failed Bush Policies

By Lorenzo Cano
 La Nueva Raza News Staff

Editor's Note: Although Obama is now President, the walls are still being planned, raids are still terrorizing our families, and it remains to be seen what changes will come about with the new administration.

The building of physical walls along the Mexican – United States border (including borders of some Native American nations) is **symptomatic of the failed policies** of President George W. Bush, the Republican Party in the Congress and their neo-con collaborators throughout the country. President George W. Bush's unwillingness to call an **immediate moratorium** on immigration raids within the interior of the United States is wrong in light of the failure of the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives to pass a fair and comprehensive immigration reform bill that supports and defends human and family rights. It fails to recognize the demands of the U.S. global economy and the unique structure of labor markets in the United States. And in their attempt to carry this out by the building of several Berlin-type walls, they have waived over 30 federal laws meant to protect you and I such as those that provide protection to our environment, the protection of private property, access to water for Texas ranchers, protection for our natural wildlife and much more. In addition, it negates the reality that border communities are inextricably linked by economic, familial and cultural ties. The current and proposed border fences represent the worst of government policy and are an embarrassment vis-à-vis U.S. leadership within the community of nations. In spite of this, Chicanos, Mexicans and a growing coalition of diverse Americans will ultimately tear down these walls with the exception of intermittent sections that will be allowed to remain as a historical reminder of the bigotry, xenophobia, racism and ignorance prevailing in the early 21st century.

Who are the Real Aliens?

Our country has not been taken over by undocumented aliens. Instead, it has been taken over by a relatively small number of domestic born politicians and irresponsible talk radio and television hosts that are behaving **like invading aliens from outer space** (not to insinuate that any possible aliens from outer space would be so barbaric but just a figure of speech) that are out of sync with the positive virtues in the American experience. They simply don't have the national interest in mind. They are mostly concerned about being re-elected and therefore are deliberately scaring Americans of diverse backgrounds into voting for them by beating up on **some of the most defenseless individuals** in our society—the ones that clean our hotel rooms, prepare our food in restaurants, baby-sit our children, pick the crops so that we can enjoy our meals, landscape our lawns, press our suits and other garments, wash our automobiles, cook our meals, build and remodel our homes, construct our swimming pools, stock the groceries at the local markets, clean our offices and the buildings where we work, construct our streets, freeways and highways, care for our children and in many instances fight our wars. These are not aliens but are our neighbors. Most are fellow Christians, and the future members of many of our families. The **real aliens** are sitting in their pompous chairs in the West wing of the White House, U.S. Senate and in the House of Representatives and on radio and television programs; or they are playing hide and seek along the border spewing out *misinformation* about who we should despise and hate just as others attempted to convince the American people during earlier eras to hate the Irish, the Italians, the Polish, the Jews, the Native Americans, the Chinese, the Cherokees, the Hunkpapa Sioux and **once again, the Mexicans.**

The real American patriot is the individual that works hard in a minute to help our economy grow and prosper and be willing to work hard *in a minute* for the betterment of their families. **Would we really like these individuals more if they chose not to work and allowed their children to starve?** Would we really like them more if they just sat around and did nothing for themselves? There is no immigration problem in our country but only a problem of ignorance, unscrupulous politicians, media misfits and their unethical corporate sponsors that have in essence embraced the ideology of White supremacy and bigotry. We, as a civilized society, cannot allow them to continue misinforming the American people and spending our tax dollars on dead-end policies based on ignorance, greed, and hatred. **The fences must go and a moratorium on the worksite immigration raids must stop immediately.**

The United States currently does not have an immigration problem but it does have a problem with the lack of leadership.

In spite of all of the rhetoric and sensationalism in the mass media the presence of undocumented workers does not pose a problem for society in the United States as a whole. The United States needs the “manpower (and women power)” represented by the millions of undocumented workers in our country and we will need these and future foreign laborers well into the year 2050. The fact is undocumented workers in the United States should have the opportunity to become permanent residents and citizens for without their labor our country would suffer tremendously.

Not Enough Women or Teens

For the U.S. economy to grow and prosper it needs willing and able workers at all different levels of the employment totem pole. With more domestically born women seeking full-time employment instead of seasonal or part-time work a void is left for others to do. Teenagers are still able to do some of these jobs but we are not producing them at the same level as when the baby-boomers were born. Many potential teenage workers born in the U.S. are opting *not to work* in that they would rather use their free time in other ways such as sports and other youth extracurricular activities. Consequently, there are not enough women or teenagers to do many of the jobs that are in great demand at the lower end of the pay scale. Many of these jobs (washing cars, cutting yards, dishwashers, stocking store shelves, etc.) are left for others to do. Those “others” happen to be undocumented workers that simply find it impossible to enter the U.S. legally due to a **stranglehold** in the immigration system, thanks to the **neglect of the U.S. Congress.** That's right. Past laws have had the effect of making someone wait for over 8-10 years if they petition to enter legally from Mexico. Yet, you and I want our meals cooked *now* and need our children baby-sat *now*—not when they're old enough to stay home by themselves. Businesses like hotels, poultry plants, landscaping companies, the fishing industry, agriculture, restaurants, road construction crews, the housing construction industry, plumbers and other crafts, the beef industry, the garment industry, and many others cannot wait 8-10 or 12 years for workers. **The needs of the American people are now.**

The Real Minute “Men”

The real culprits are not undocumented workers for they are **the real minute men and minute women.** When the United States economy is in real dire straits for workers and U.S. domestic workers are unwilling, unable, or simply not there to do the job Mexican and other foreign workers are there *in a minute.* They are helping fill the labor void produced by a growing and sophisticated global economy and they are willing to do the backbreaking jobs that many are not going to do. The most recent and best example is the rebuilding of New Orleans and surrounding areas. Undocumented workers are the latest American heroes. They were the first wave of workers that began the clean up and begin the re-building of New Orleans and other communities devastated by Hurricane Katrina; not like those that would rather sit on their laurels with a pair of binoculars playing hide and seek along the border trying to feel important because they have nothing better, interesting or productive to do with their lives. It was Mexican and other undocumented labor that withstood living in deplorable conditions and engaged in dirty work like cleaning out the thousands of abandoned refrigerators of spoiled, moldy and stinky food, often in hot and humid conditions as well as cleaning out moldy sheetrock in thousands of homes after Hurricane Katrina.

Walls of Hatred

The U.S. federal government is currently building more walls of hatred even though the walls have been protested by a wide coalition of individuals from all backgrounds and walks of life. We, the American people, will use small sections of these walls in the future as evidence of how hatred, ignorance and xenophobia were practiced during the early phases of the 21st century. **The entire U.S. Mexican border will become transformed into a series of museums depicting failed U.S. policies and the violation of human, family, property and children's rights.** Sections of fencing allowed to remain will have murals painted on each side by members of the surrounding neighborhoods in Mexico and the United States, hailing people's victory over hatred once again.

4th LATIN AMERICAN & CARIBBEAN FILM FESTIVAL

June 11-14
 Junio 11-14
 Atlanta, Georgia
 2009

FESTIVAL
 4to DE CINE
 & LATINO AMERICANO
 DEL CARIBE

www.lacfilmfest.org



Inmigración y la Economía

“¡Los inmigrantes nos invaden!”
 “¡Son criminales!”
 “¡Debemos cerrar la frontera!”
 “¡Vienen a quitar el trabajo a los ciudadanos!”

... estas son algunas frases que escuchamos o leemos constantemente en muchos medios de comunicación.

Pareciera como si la inmigración aparece de repente, es nociva y debemos detenerla a como dé lugar, sin reflexionar sobre las verdaderas causas de esa situación. La mayoría de la gente y sobre todo de aquellos que tienen el poder de decisión en Washington, perciben el problema migratorio como un evento aislado sin considerar las razones concretas que hay detrás de este fenómeno, ni reconocer que la inmigración está íntimamente ligada a la economía.

A través del trabajo que desempeño como Coordinadora del Programa de Austin del Comité de Servicio de los Amigos Americanos (AFSC por sus siglas en inglés), he tenido la oportunidad de escuchar infinidad de testimonios de inmigran-

tes que llegan a este país en condiciones deplorables sin saber el idioma, enfrentando toda clase de riesgos personales y debiendo cantidades exorbitantes (de 2 a 5 mil dólares) a los coyotes que los “ayudan a cruzar.” Cuando les he preguntado ¿qué los empujó a venir a este país? La mayoría contestan que la falta de empleos, los bajísimos salarios, la necesidad de sobrevivencia de sus familias y la pobreza en general que impera en sus países de origen.

Estos son hechos concretos que se deben a razones económicas estructurales, tales como la implementación de acuerdos comerciales como el Tratado de Libre Comercio (NAFTA) o el Tratado de Libre Comercio para Centro América (CAFTA). Según el periódico La Jornada (1 marzo 08) “... como parte de los saldos negativos de NAFTA en el periodo 1994-2007 se perdieron más de 2 millones de empleos en el campo y se produjo la migración anual de más de 400 mil mexicanos del sector rural.” Si consideramos que el salario mínimo en México cayó en un 23% durante la primera

década de NAFTA y que 19 millones más de mexicanos viven en la pobreza en comparación con 20 años antes, entonces podemos entender la relación que hay entre el fenómeno de la migración y las políticas económicas de libre comercio.

Debemos apoyar iniciativas más efectivas que en vez de fomentar muros y divisiones, encaucen políticas económicas más justas. Por ejemplo, el Rep. Michael Michaud (D-ME) y el Senador Sherrod Brown (D-OH) han introducido una propuesta al Congreso de un tratado comercial (Trade Act of 2008) basado en el documento “Alternativas para las Américas” que es un paso hacia la revisión y renegociación de los actuales tratados comerciales entre países, con el fin de sentar las bases hacia relaciones más equitativas en futuros acuerdos comerciales. De esta forma los líderes y autoridades podrán reconocer las causas reales de la migración y quitar la imagen del migrante como una amenaza al bienestar de este país.

Por otro lado, es necesario que los inmigrantes que

vienen a este país, conozcan sus derechos y responsabilidades, de manera que puedan defenderse del abuso de patrones y autoridades que los explotan por el simple hecho de ser indocumentados. Nuestra sugerencia, en este caso, es que atiendan a organizaciones que se dedican a defender sus derechos tales como Inmigrantes Latinos en Acción, una organización de inmigrantes para inmigrantes que organiza periódicamente talleres sobre “Conoce tus Derechos”. Si necesita más información, favor de comunicarse al (512) 474-2399.

Estas dos sugerencias harán que por un lado se desarrollen más oportunidades de trabajo capaces de atraer a las comunidades migrantes y mantener unidas a las familias y por otro se fomente el desarrollo humano, dando a conocer los derechos básicos de aquellos que por motivos económicos tienen que migrar a este país.

Josefina M. Castillo
 Coordinadora de Programa American Friends Service Committee (AFSC-Austin)
 (512) 474-2399
jcastillo@afsc.org

Operativo Endgame: ¿El juego final de la Migra?

Por Raúl Alcaraz / Arizona
nomoreborders@gmail.com

Imagínese a un ejército de más de 300 agentes armados circulando un edificio para capturar a los sujetos; imagínese retenes donde autoridades federales paran, cuestionan y detienen a personas sospechosas de ser “criminales” o “terroristas”. Niños y niñas llegan a sus casas de la escuela con el temor de que sus padres hayan sido detenidos o expulsados del país; las comunidades bajo zonas de conflicto temen ser las víctimas del próximo ataque.

Esto no es una escena de la guerra en Irak. Esto está sucediendo aquí mismo en Arizona y a lo largo de los Estados Unidos de América.

La pregunta del millón es ¿por qué las redadas y deportaciones de inmigración siguen aumentando? ¿Aspirará el gobierno federal a deportar a los más de 12 millones de personas

indocumentadas que viven en el país?

Incrementan las redadas y deportaciones

Hay que examinar la situación actual. A nivel nacional, el Servicio de Inmigración y Control de Aduanas (o I.C.E. por sus siglas en Inglés) sigue rompiendo records en el número de redadas de inmigración en los sitios de trabajo. Según documentos federales, las redadas en los sitios de trabajo han incrementado de 845 en el año 2004 a más de 4,000 en el 2007. Una de las redadas más grandes en la historia del país, ocurrió en un día sagrado para la mayoría de los mexicanos—el 12 de Diciembre del 2006 (Día de La Virgen de Guadalupe). Más de 1,000 agentes de inmigración I.C.E. realizaron redadas sumamente coordinadas a través de seis estados de la república contra trabajadores de la planta *Swift & Company* donde deportaron a más de 1,200 personas—mamas,

papas, tíos, tías, hijos, primas y sobrinas incluidas entre ellas.

Una investigación hecha por la Red Nacional por los Derechos de los Inmigrantes y Refugiados documenta el testimonio de una señora afectada por la redada en *Swift*: “Como a las 7:30a.m., notamos que el supervisor le estaba diciendo a todos los trabajadores que se quiten sus herramientas, cuchillos, etc. Nadie sabía que estaba sucediendo hasta que alguien dijo que inmigración estaba circulando la planta. Me puse nerviosa y fui a buscar a mi esposo y tres sobrinas... ellas estaban asustadas y llorando... los agentes de I.C.E. nos llevaron a sus oficinas en grupos para revisarnos, pero nomás revisaban a la gente de aspecto Latino; a los anglosajones les daban una tarjeta azul y los dejaban ir... Nos gritaban y nos insultaban... Es muy difícil hablar de esto, nunca lo voy a olvidar.”

Calendario

Sun Feb 1	MCALLEN	<u>Union Organizer Training - IWW</u>
Mon Feb 2	AUSTIN	<u>Just Immigration Speakers Series: Border Issues</u>
	AUSTIN	<u>Screening of border wall film at UT Austin</u>
Mon Feb 9	AUSTIN	<u>Just Immigration Speakers Series: Immigrant Detention</u>
Mon Feb 16	AUSTIN	<u>Just Immigration Speakers Series: Border Issues</u>
	SAN ANTO	<u>11th Annual United San Antonio Powwow</u>
Tue Feb 17	SAN ANTO	<u>11th Annual United San Antonio Powwow</u>
Sat Feb 21	AUSTIN	<u>Tx Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty 2009 Conference</u>
Mon Feb 23	AUSTIN	<u>Just Immigration Speakers Series: ICE/Local law enforcement</u>
Sun Mar 8	WACO	<u>Waco Intertribal Powwow</u>
	MCALLEN	<u>Nde Daa Powwow Lark Community Center</u>
Sun Mar 15	SAN ANTO	<u>Honoring the Animals Paw Wow</u>
Sun Apr 5	BIG SPRING	<u>Big Spring Contest Powwow</u>
Mon Apr 6	BIG SPRING	<u>Big Spring Contest Powwow</u>
Sun Apr 26	SAN ANTO	<u>San Antonio Fiesta Powwow</u>

¡Conozca sus derechos!
COMO PROTEGER A USTED Y A SU FAMILIA DURANTE LAS REDADAS MIGRATORIAS

El gobierno de los EEUU ha arrestado o detenido a personas que no son ciudadanos estadounidenses.

¡Infórmese sobre cómo se puede proteger si eso le llega a suceder!

*El contenido de este folleto no es un consejo legal. Sírvase consultar a un abogado de inmigración para asesoría legal.

Bohemeo's Bringing Music, Art and Culture to Houston's East End

By Connie Falcon Davis

Once upon a time there was a couple who was tired of having to travel far for an aesthetically pleasing atmosphere and good, healthy food to match. So they decided to start a business of their own that would do just that in the area they knew best, their home. To get to this cultured grace land one must follow an alluring path that leads through East End Houston to the hidden Tlaquepaque Plaza. There you will find a brightly painted building with the word Bohemeo's on it.

Bohemeo's is a cultural coffee house that is foreign to this side of town where rasperias and taquerias dominate the local business scene. It offers a wide variety of local talent through different forms of visual art including music and poetry.

"We wanted to operate a business that would spark a flame in the community. Events like art shows and poetry readings allow residents to experience art that they would never really have a chance to be exposed to," Lupe Olivares, owner of Boehme's, said.

Lupe, as he prefers to be called, owns and operates the restaurant with his wife, Sidonie Olivares, both of whom have a passion for the arts with Lupe having strong ties in music and theatre and Sidonie in painting. Customers are able to see and hear the talents of these artistic owners on any given day with many of Sidonie's pieces hanging up throughout the coffeehouse and Lupe playing his music on the small stage that is visible upon entrance.

"I love to paint so I figured that I can work doing what I love to do, providing a comfortable atmosphere for customers with coffee, good food and art," Sidonie said.

Speaking of food, in last Bohemeo's opened up a kitchen that offers a healthy alternative to the area with different foods such as Asian salads, sandwiches and wheat

pizza.

With food, music and art what else does Bohemeo's have to offer? Well besides Sidonie's art being featured throughout the coffeehouse, other up and coming artists have the chance to expose their work there as well.

Local artists Christian Navarrete and Cutthroat recently showed off some of their artwork back in October for a Dia De Los Muertos show and since then Bohemeo's has had numerous artistic presentations including music, art, film, poetry and spoken word.

"We feel privileged to have been offered the chance to showcase our art there and reach out to new audiences that have not seen our craft," Navarrete said.

Navarrete and Cutthroat agree that when it comes to giving back to the community Boehme's contributes in more ways than one by allowing struggling artists to show off their skills at the coffeehouse and providing an alternative environment where youngsters can hang out and feel relief from the pressures of living in the barrio.

Activities such as First Friday Cinema, for which customers can pay to see a movie in 3-D and a live musical performance for only \$5, are the norm for the coffeehouse where venues vary on different artistic levels.

Poetry night is held every week, and many writers have gone onstage to read their work out loud. There also is open mic night when people can go on stage and perform any kind of tasteful interlude they wish.

"We get all types of performers in here, hip-hop, rock, alternative, Spanish-rock and anything else you can think of. We don't stick to just one genre. We have an open door policy with mostly everything," Lupe said

University of Houston students have even held events at Boehmeo's including one earlier in the year at

which students from the Center for Mexican American Studies or CMAS showed documentaries on a small town from Mexico and had a fundraiser that helped kids with school supplies from the impoverished area in the state of Chiapas.

Photographers have also shown off much of their work at the coffeehouse including one young photographer who attends the local charter school, Eastwood Academy. Lupe and Sidonie believe in encouraging art in the community. They feel if someone from the neighborhood is able to show off some talent at their business then maybe others from the area would feel more inclined to come and support them.

Art shows like the Dia De Los Muertos celebration was just one of many opportunities that Bohemeo's has held for artists from the east end community. Cutthroat, who chooses to remain anonymous under his street art name, is all for returning the favor.

"I want to make art that is meaningful not only to myself but to the generation growing up right now. We live in times where children's idols are rappers and actors that are in and out of rehab. What I am trying to do is show them that there is more than that," Cutthroat said.

With so much to offer besides being your average coffeehouse or art gallery, which ever you decide, Bohemeo's can be seen as one of the many dynamic changes occurring in this Mexican/Latino community. "Bohemeo's will be around for a while in a sense of community support and conserving Mexican and Latino heritage for years to come. There is a new rebirth in the predominantly Chicano and Mexican historic East End area and Bohemeo's is one of them," Navarrete said.

Historical Memory and Mexicanos in the U.S. : Setting the Record Straight

By Lorenzo Cano
La Nueva Raza Staff

Mexican Americans are often perceived as foreigners in the United States even though they were born in one of the fifty states (or U.S. territories). Mexican nationals, regardless of their immigration status are often perceived as immigrants and alien to the United States, *even in the southwestern portion of the United States*. Nothing could be further from the truth, particularly as it relates to the American Southwest. The fact is people of Spanish- Mexican descent pre-dated the immigration of Anglo Americans to Texas and the rest of the southwestern portion of the United States. Los Angeles was established by 1781, Laredo by 1755, and San Antonio between 1718 and 1731. It is **common knowledge** that the United States government had plans to acquire Texas and the rest of the American Southwest away from Spain by the early 1800's and later from the Republic of Mexico. If this could not have been done through persuasion unscrupulous United States politicians were prepared to accomplish this through military aggression; first through the assistance it gave to pro-slavery Anglo colonists during the Texas Revolution and then several years later in the War of Aggression against Mexico, 1846-1848. With the signing of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo (1848) Mexico was forced to give up much of its northwestern territory which now makes up much of the southwestern portion of the United States including California, New Mexico, Arizona, Colorado, and much of modern day Utah and Nevada.

Why is this Important?

Many individuals respond to these statements by suggesting that it was long ago and that Mexican Americans should forget these facts of history and move forward by assimilating into U.S. society. Many accuse Mexican Americans of being unpatriotic if they verbalize these historical facts; facts that are often forgotten within the historical memory in the United States.

When the U.S. War of Aggression against Mexico is remembered, Mexico is blamed as having started the war even though award winning historians Howard Zinn, David Weber, Lorenzo Meyer, Josefina Vasquez, Rodolfo Acuna, and many other reputable scholars have proven otherwise. What is more, public educational institutions continue to perpetuate the myth that Mexicans (of all backgrounds) and their language and culture are foreign to the United States. In fact, the public school system in generally

continues to function with the goal of assimilating youth of Mexican descent including the loss of historical memory. In spite of some progress in the area of multiculturalism, people of Mexican descent are still expected to assimilate into U.S. mono-lingual society by forgetting or by never ever learning about U.S. imperialism against Mexico and the subsequent discrimination and repression against people of Mexican descent throughout the 19th and 20th centuries within the stolen territories. This is done consciously or unconsciously in order to maintain the domination and control of Mexican Americans and their community. By acquiescing to Anglo American culture and their myths in the United States, people of Mexican descent will not readily recognize the subtle forms of exploitation and manipulation invoked upon them. By assimilating into Anglo American society youth of Mexican descent will more willingly believe that they are inferior culturally (and at times racially) and that they and their culture, including the Spanish language, are foreign to society in the U.S.? Again, nothing could be further from the truth.

The Current Immigration Debate

The worse of United States xenophobic and racist repression and domination can be witnessed in the current effort to kidnap, incarcerate, and deport Mexican undocumented residents in the United States. These individuals are being accused as being "illegal aliens" in the United States when in fact many are simply living in the territory stolen from Mexico during the Texas Revolution (1836) and the U.S. War of Aggression against Mexico (1846-1848). In fact, the U.S. War of Aggression against Mexico was the first imperialistic war by the United States against a country that had a European type of governmental structure (let us not forget the United States holocaust against Native Americans in the U.S.). Non-Hispanic Whites continue to benefit from the spoils of an imperialistic and illegal war against Mexico. For example, political scientists Dr. Jose Angel Gutierrez has pointed to the great amounts of money that the University of Texas and Texas A & M University have historically received from profits of State of Texas oil land leases. Dr. Gutierrez has pointed out that "Anglo" students at these campuses have received the benefits from the Public University Fund since these funds come from state government leased land. This is wealth that belonged to Mexico but has been used to educate great numbers of Anglo students since the 19th century, particularly those attending the University of Texas and Texas A & M University. Fifty years after the signing of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo Texas Anglo students were directly benefiting from stolen Mexican land and resources. This fact is lost within their historical memory since it is avoided within most of our educational systems throughout the state of Texas. The oil itself that is being pumped from state of Texas land are riches that some say rightfully belongs to Mexico since the United States was complicit in the Texas Revolution and provoked war against Mexico **led by corrupt and xenophobic politicians under the**

(Continued on page 9)

Jose A Medrano
Medrano Insurance Agency



FARMERS

Auto • Home • Life • Annuities
5225 Katy Freeway, Suite 202
Houston, TX 77007
Bus: 713-554-9104 281-446-5404 Humble
Fax: 713-493-2390 713-922-0778 Cell
josemedrano@medranoinsurance.com

Raul Rodriguez, P.C.
Attorney At Law

3801 Barnett
Houston, Texas 77017

(713) 641-4477
Fax (713) 644-0215
rrod1959@aol.com

Ismael Trevino
Attorney At Law



Criminal Defense
Auto Accidents
Traffic Tickets

713-641-3200
7634 Gulf Fwy
Bldg B
Houston, TX
77017-1564



CALL US TODAY

Not Specialized By Texas Board of Specialization


Our Streets Will Not Be Silenced! ¡Las Calles No Se Callan!

San Antonio Free Speech Coalition

Our Streets Will Not Be Silenced!

¡Las Calles No Se Callan!

210.228.0201



WHAT ARE THESE STREET SIGNS and bumper stickers all about?

These yard signs and bumper stickers are made by the **International Woman's Day March Committee** and the **San Antonio Free Speech Coalition** to spread the word about our community lawsuit against the City of San Antonio and to get more people talking about repression of political speech. Stickers & signs can be found at the Esperanza Peace & Justice Center at 922 San Pedro Avenue. Call (210) 228-0201 for more info from 10am to 7pm.

The city wants to charge us to march in our own streets

On November 29, 2007, City Council voted to charge thousands of dollars for a permit to march on city streets. Fees are waived only if city officials decide to "sponsor" the applicant's message.

Costs will range from about \$2,000 to upwards of \$30,000, even with a discount given by the City for "First Amendment" events. If you don't have thousands of dollars, you can't march!

The City says it has to charge for police to provide traffic control, but assigns more officers than needed. A third of the City budget already goes to the SAPD, meaning the people get charged twice.

The City also requires marchers to rent an excessive number of barricades from private companies, even though the TX Traffic Manual says that barricades should not be used for most street marches.

The City claims that sidewalk marches are a "free alternative," but there are few wheelchair accessible sidewalks in San Antonio. Many streets don't even have sidewalks. Sidewalk marchers risk arrest for spilling over into the streets or impeding the "normal flow of pedestrian traffic" on the sidewalks.

SOME people have to pay and some don't

The Free Speech Coalition and Int'l Woman's Day March Committee believe that NO ONE should have to pay to march. **We should ALL have access to the streets!**

Records of the last five years show that how much you pay has everything to do with who you know. Groups that have connections to city officials are able to get their marches free or for less, while groups without these connections must pay prohibitive costs.

This will silence political protests as well as cultural traditions

Recent marches that will be effectively barred from the streets include Anti-War Marches, Domestic Violence Marches, Immigrant Rights Marches, Marches for Environmental Preservation, Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Transgender/Queer Marches, Labor Organizing Marches, and many others. Traditional cultural processions like the Posadas that take place in neighborhoods at Christmas time, Good Friday processions, Dia de los Muertos processions, and funeral marches will also have to pay.

Of the ten largest us cities only San Antonio charges people to march

The success or failure of this ordinance will set a precedent for cities all over the US.

Our communities depend on street marches

Traditionally, the streets have been a "public forum" for communal speech, with

entire communities coming out to demand better wages, healthcare, education, and peace, and to express our views.

With over 90% of mainstream media owned by only five or six wealthy, right-wing corporations, marches are the only way for poor people, people of color, women, queer people, immigrants, politically progressive people, and other disenfranchised groups to get our messages out.

The streets have been built & maintained by poor/working class people and people of color throughout history. This ordinance privileges the wealthy and well-connected at the expense of these communities.

This issue is connected to many local – national – international issues

One of the goals of the SA Free Speech Coalition is to raise awareness about the connections between this local ordinance and other issues, like police brutality, gentrification, and privatization.

This ordinance is a part of the local, national and international movement to silence dissent and protest. From the Olympics in Beijing to the US Democratic National Convention, where protesters have been caged, arrested, and beaten, those who speak out against injustice are being punished.

With the passage of the Patriot Act after 9/11, those who challenge the government are seen as suspect. Funding to military and law enforcement has increased and protest and demonstration are seen as criminal activities rather than examples of our democratic civil duties or basic human rights.

This ordinance also represents the privatization of things that were once public, like natural resources, education, parks,

healthcare, etc. – all integral to our survival and well-being. Minimizing the role of government and encouraging corporate control, this neoliberal trend prioritizes profits over people.

You can do something about it - Join the coalition today!

The **SA Free Speech Coalition**, formed in November 2007 to challenge the ordinance and lead a community education campaign. Our members include over 1500 individuals and 23 San Antonio organizations that plan, participate in, and/or support political marches and cultural processions.

Cafecitos (House Parties) are one way that we are building a large base of community support. To host a cafecito in your home, contact the Esperanza, set a date, send out invitations, make copies of information packets, prepare snacks, and host an in-depth conversation about the issues. We can help by sending an info packet, a short video, and a Coalition representative to your party. **Let us know if your organization, workplace, church, or community center would like to host a talk.**

The **Teatro Callejero Committee** creates and performs street theater in public places, educating and engaging community on the issues, and is open to anyone who would like to participate.

You can also help by attending **Monthly Meetings, Gathering Signatures**, making a **Donation**, or scheduling time to help with **Data Entry**. Call (210)228-0201 for monthly meeting dates & times.

FOR MORE INFO:
www.esperanzacenter.org/freespeech

Boycott Wells Fargo! ¡Boicotéa Wells Fargo!

Four months ago, Puente Arizona began a campaña to urge Wells Fargo Bank to evict Maricopa County Sheriff Joe Arpaio from their corporate tower. It is a battle that ended the year with daily protests outside the Bank, solidarity demonstrations in major cities throughout the country, a divestment campaign, and an economic boycott.

"Coincidentally" during this esfuerzo, Puente Arizona discovered that Wells Fargo is also a heavy investor of GEO Group Inc., the second largest for-profit prison in the country.

Formerly known as Wackenhut Corrections Corporation, this company stretches its business all across the globe generating billions of dollars in yearly profits. Widespread scandals of sexual assault and violence in all of its juvenile and adult facilities forced the company to change its name, but six years later, this company continues to remain at the center of controversy:

October 07' - the Texas Youth Commission a.k.a. the Juvenile

Prison System decided to shut down the GEO owned and operated Coke County Juvenile [In]Justice Center for its deliberate negligence of health and safety at the jail.

October 08' - GEO Group Inc., was indicted for the murder of Gregorio de la Rosa Jr., el Hermano who was killed by other inmates with padlock-stuffed-socks in the Raymondville Prison.

Los derechos humanos de las personas no se negocia!

Why should Wells Fargo evict Sheriff Joe Arpaio?

- Cruel abuse of power in local community. He raids elementary schools and taco truck stands and calls the press to announce his next movida

- Has a team of 160 Deputized Sheriff officers trained to enforce a brutally violent immigration policy and an additional 3,000 volunteer officers he can draw upon, 500 of whom carry weapons.

- Costs taxpayers of Maricopa County thousands of dollars to give

Arpaio a private floor in the Wells Fargo building while office space is already paid for and available in several other county buildings.

- Sheriff Arpaio is the united states' most sued sheriff with over 2,700 lawsuits and over millions of dollars spent in lawsuits, settlements, and an entire public relations team to help him look good on camera now that he has his own reality t.v. show on FOX and has made celebrity appearances on late night shows. *Sinberguenza!*

- In a recent interview with CNN's Lou Dobbs, Sheriff Joe Arpaio said, "They call you a KKK, they did me, I think it's an honor."

For more information contact:
PUENTE Arizona; (602) 254-5230;
puentaz.org


For a list of GEO Group Inc. lawsuits and scandals visit
texasprisonbidness.org

**BOYCOTT
WELLS FARGO
BOICOTEA**


**DEMAND
Wells Fargo
EVICT
Sheriff Arpaio
and
DIVEST
from GEO!**

**WELLS FARGO
supports
Domestic Terrorism
and
Legalized Slavery!**

SAN ANTONIO BROWN BERETS



**I
WANT
YOU TO
JOIN THE
BROWN
BERETS**



We are the San Antonio Brown Berets. Our mission is to serve our community, to serve as the voice of the voiceless. We are your San Antonio Chapter of the Brown Berets and we are here to serve you. Our raza, our community, our family, our city. We want you to join us to improve the conditions of our barrios.

Contact us: www.sanantoniobrownberets.com
Call us at: 210-452-6543

PIÑATA PROTEST: Keeping the Acordión Roots Alive with Tejano Punk

By Iris Rodriguez
La Nueva Raza News Staff
and
Álvaro Salas of Piñata Protest

GENRE:
Punk / Hardcore / Acordión / Latin

BAND MEMBERS:
Álvaro Salas / vocals, acordion, pocket trumpet
JJ Martínez / drums
Omar Nambo / bass, vocals
Manuel García / guitar

How/when did the band form and where is it based?

We are based in San Antonio or as San Quilmas as the old pachuco's call it.

Each one of us has our own varied taste in music that we bring into the band but **hard-core, norteño, blues, punk, tex-mex, indie, conjunto, ska, & polka** are usually what can be heard directly influencing our style.

So far we only have our 10 song self-titled CD to our name but we do plan to get put out a full length album soon.

Can you elaborate a little more on the importance of Tejano roots/acordión music? Why/how was the band influenced by it?

As chamacos we all grew up listening to (and many times not liking) the Tejano roots/acordión music our families played around the house, car, or at every quinceñera. It was at many times torture when we

would have much rather been listening to Jay-Z, Boys II Men, or the Ninja Turtles soundtrack. Later on we somehow grew to like all that music we grew up listening to. Now it lives in our blood, minds, and hearts and the only way we can try and get it out is by playing it.

Can you explain a bit about the political/conscious messaging in your music? Why does PP engage in those subjects?

Well we like to think we are social commentators, expressing our views on issues of social awareness and or injustice. Our songs are reflections of our reality and the way we see the world and we engage in those subjects because those are things important to us, things we know, things we want to be heard.

Outside of PP, what types of work and/or orgs are the members involved in?

We are involved with several organizations and protests (no pun intended) such as Local 782 (<http://www.myspace.com/local782>), the closing of the Hutto Family Detention Center, the Free Speech Coalition, and we work & volunteer at local community centers and/or what-

ever place pays the bills.

How does your style of music fit into the bigger punk scene?

To us punk rock is about rebellion, having fun, and about letting go. Our songs, especially our faster ones, reflect all that nonsense. Punk rock is so diverse representing all sorts of backgrounds and influences and ours is ours.

Can you talk some about the punk scene in San Anto?



The punk scene in San Anto is best described as the villain in a B horror movie: it's coming after you, it's dead, it comes back to life for a bit, comes after you again, its dead again...

Can you talk some about using music as a tool for organizing/movement?

You can always use music as means of sending a message or bringing about awareness on issues of race, political injustice, social and economical struggles, life. Music has the power to bring people together and is great for getting people more willing to participate in protests for example (again, no pun intended). Plus, if someone agrees with what you're yapping

about, the music can help move them, cause action!

Future goals for PP

Touring, releasing albums, more touring, collaborating with other musicians, jammin...

Where can folks get more info? Buy a CD?

Our myspace page has more info on us & tracks for download. We always sell cd's at shows and also have some available at our local San Anto punk rock store called **Dirt Cheap Distro** (dirtcheapdistro.com) and at **Arte Y Loqueras** based in San Diego (arteyloqueras.com).

Upcoming Shows

Jan 17 2009 8:00P
[@ LOGAN'S w/ ONE LAST SHOT San anto, Texas](#)

Jan 23 2009 8:00P
[@ THE WARHOL w/ PRE-VAIL WITHIN. GLUE. MOD-ERN DAY REDEMPTION SAN ANTO, Texas](#)

Feb 21 2009 8:00P
[@ LIMELIGHT w/ LOS MESCALEROS & DE LOS MUERTOS SAN ANTO, Texas](#)

Feb 25 2009 8:00P
[@ THE MOHAWK w/ GIRL IN A COMA AUSTIN](#)

Apr 18 2009 8:00P
[@ EMO'S w/ THE HICKOIDS AUSTIN, Texas](#)

May 5 2009 8:00P
[@ EMO'S AUSTIN](#)

Patzin: Grandfather Tobacco

By Patrisia Gonzales / Column of the Americas
© Sept. 3, 2007

Patzin (Nahuatl for Respect-worthy Medicine): a monthly feature on Indigenous medicine

Several years ago, I was asked to give a prayer for a gathering of tobacco researchers. In my hand I held ceremonial tobacco that friend Lawrence Shorty had gifted me. For years, Lawrence has grown Native ceremonial tobacco and offered this sacred plant for free to Native communities in hopes that Indigenous people will stop using commercial nicotine products for prayers.

The researchers were surprised that I would pray with a plant that in its altered form is so poisonous. The many varieties of tobacco grown by Indigenous peoples across the Americas attest to a shared regard for the plant. While many nations have heirloom seeds, many of us also will use a commercial cigarette for a prayer when sacred tobacco is unavailable. Though it grows wild even in the desert, growing tobacco takes a certain mastery and relationship with the plant.

Tobacco is a sacred granddaddy for many Indigenous peoples across the Americas. This Grandfather's smoke is used in ceremonies and purification rites. The tobacco leaf also has great medicinal power. In Mexican Traditional Medicine, tobacco is used to address both spiritual and physical ailments. Precisely because it is so powerful, tobacco is treated with great care in these rites. Stories abound of a granny curandera smoking over someone with her puro.

While tobacco is often associated with American Indian peoples, tobacco also has a long ancestral use in various parts of the Americas. Tobacco flowers are depicted in numerous Mesoamerican symbols and pottery. Colonial friars recorded how Nahua people presented large bundles and gourds stuffed with tobacco as part of greetings and ceremonies. The painted picture books, thousands of years old, depict various ceremonial offerings with tobacco. Inquisitorial reports record incantations to tobacco in its Nahua ceremonial name as "Nine Times Beaten One," referring to its journey across nine spiritual levels of existence as the smoke carried prayers. In keeping with ancient practices, it is snuffed in the Andes and drunk in the Amazons. Peoples in the Caribbean and Mexico continue to use tobacco in the spiritual cleansing known as limpias, for protection rites or to introduce male energy.

A common tobacco remedy known by many peoples in the Americas is the use of tobacco and saliva or water for an insect or snake bite. It is also blown on crops as an insecticide as well as for blessings. The tobacco leaf is hot in nature, and soaked in oil or rubbing alcohol it becomes a pomade or liniment for muscle aches, including as a rub to assist women afterbirth during the lying in period. Tobacco provides heat and warmth for a cold condition, such as the period following birth. It is also used for burns, diarrhea, cuts, afflictions of the uterus, incision, headaches, inflammation of the spleen, toothaches, syphilis, asthma and dropsy and to alleviate pain. It is used for protection or rubbed on the body for fatigue or as a form of prayer. Friars attempting to irradicate Indigenous spiritual ways recorded a recipe for tenexiyetl-lime-tobacco in a 1:10 ratio for mal de frio (illness caused by cold), or to be used with tomato for swollen throats and for cysts.

Tobacco reminds me of how Indigenous people share what Native scholar Inez Hernandez-Avila calls "correspondences." Though they are distinct peoples they can also share similar values and approaches. Some Native midwives have commented that among their tribal traditions in the North, they also employ tobacco or peyote when there is a difficult labor or to diagnose causes and actions. In the 1600s, Hernando Ruiz de Alarcón noted that in order to facilitate labor, midwives in Mexico "pick up the piciete in the hand and crush it, and then they move the hand with the piciete over the belly of the pregnant woman especially over the fetus." Iyetl -- is tobacco in Nahuatl or Piciyetl -- "tiny tobacco." This tiny tobacco is known in Western botanical terms as *Nicotiana rustica* and is used to cure afflictions of the uterus.

When I shared that story with the Nahua midwife Doña Filo, she commented, "Fijate que si. You wouldn't believe it but it works. You just blow like this." She showed me how to lightly blow tobacco near the womb. Tobacco used in this physical and energetic manner is a technology of birthing because it is employed to move the labor, and therefore energy. However there are nurses, who upon hearing this story, were incredulous that tobacco would be burned near a fetus. Like the tobacco researchers, these health care professionals are unaware of the ceremonial heirloom seeds still available to Indigenous peoples, or how tobacco is used in sacred or ritual forms. And, again midwives thousands of miles from each other knew to use the plant toward the same ends. Lawrence Shorty, who is Navajo and Choctaw, argues that Native reliance on commercial tobacco for ceremonies impedes tobacco prevention/cessation programs in Indian country. Let us persevere to strengthen our original relationships to this powerful relative.

© Column of the Americas 2007
Gonzales can be reached at Patzin@gmail.com

I.C.E. out of Travis County

The Travis County Sheriff's Office is expanding its collaboration with U.S. Immigration & Customs Enforcement (ICE) by offering an investigative office.



Tell Sheriff Greg Hamilton that you want I.C.E. out of Travis County
Mail: Travis County Sheriff's Office Attn: ICE Comments P.O. Box 1748 Austin, Texas 78767
Email: roger.wade@co.travis.tx.us Phone: (512) 854-9770

ORALE

Support this Raza project!

the paper and the website are made possible through volunteers and your donations!

How can I help?

1. Advertise! Purchase an ad
2. Make a tax-exempt donation

CONTACT: editor@lanuevaraza.org

www.LaNuevaRaza.org

Shut Down the T. Don Hutto Family Prison!

Across the tracks from downtown Taylor, Texas, is a privately operated, medium-security prison that holds asylum-seeking and other immigrant families (as many as 500 from 41 countries, about half children) in prison cells without guaranteed legal counsel or charge. Immigration and Customs Enforcement claims they entered the country illegally. This is true for some; however, many residents on visas are arrested because of bureaucratic and legal slip-ups. We hear of the brutality other families, who *did* enter illegally and requested asylum, have fled in their own countries: homes burned, torture and interrogations, religious persecution (Hutto holds Iraqi Christians), mothers fleeing with children following the assassination of their husbands and/or other relatives.

We oppose these detentions on grounds of 1) illegality, 2) human rights violations, 3) wrongful expenditure of tax money, and 4) Hutto's role in a chilling, nationwide assault on the rights of every citizen as well as every immigrant.

Hutto is illegal. A 1993 Supreme Court decree required ICE to keep children and parents together if possible and hold minors in a nonrestrictive setting. The only other facility where immigrant families are detained, the Berks County Youth Center in Pennsylvania, is an ex-nursing home where penal conditions are not imposed. International Law forbids the incarceration of children in circumstances which, as shown by testimonies filed in a recent lawsuit (www.aclu.org/immigrants/detention/hutto.html), are clearly traumatic and damaging.

Hutto is immoral. Human rights abuses of detainees include inappropriate sexual contact, arrest of families in commando-style night raids, families broken up, fathers sent to separate institutions, children separated from their mothers, guards denying food and medical care, extreme cold with few blankets (sometimes used as punishment), pregnant mothers taken to outside medical care in chains despite an in-house health care allowance of \$125,000 per month. There are no bathrooms for detainees, only open commodes in cells. Detained children are threatened with separation from their mothers if they misbehave or play loudly. Many become ill from the food.

Hutto is a misappropriation of taxpayer funds. The prison is managed by a corporation that in 2006 swept into the Forbes 400 "best" companies with earnings up 130 percent over 2005. Corrections Corporation of America operates about 70 detention centers, jails, juvenile facilities, and prisons in 20 states — 15 in Texas, more than twice the number in any other state. The company receives \$2.8 million per month no matter how many detainees Hutto holds. (We could economize by locking these families into suites in the Hilton!) More humane and cost

-effective solutions exist. According to studies conducted by the Vera Institute, alternatives to detention programs are up to 50 percent more cost effective. A vast majority of immigrants attend their hearings when enrolled in alternative supervisory programs.

Hutto is part of a nationwide pattern of intimidation. Since 1996, and increasingly in the wake of Patriot Act and other post-9/11 legislation, we've seen our government converted into an immense dragnet that denies our constitutionally guaranteed right of habeas corpus, incarcerates immigrants and American citizens alike secretly and indefinitely, without charge or legal counsel, for no offense other than their name, national origin, or beliefs. Now we have *Endgame: Office of Detention and Removal Strategic Plan, 2003-2012*, our government's official plan to capture and deport twelve million non-citizens.

Hutto is about money. The Taylor prison was nearly empty, threatened with shutdown, when DHS offered Williamson County a contract to use it as a detention center, operated by CCA, for undocumented immigrants awaiting deportation. The detention center opened in May 2006 and now nets the county over \$246,000 per year. Many budget-strapped counties nationwide have jumped at such an opportunity. Furthermore CCA is a big campaign contributor: we know one governor and many representatives who have basked in their largesse. Hutto is a result of the

lucrative collusion between the private prison industry and elected officials with campaign chests to build.

WHAT THEY'RE SAYING ABOUT HUTTO AND PRIVATE PRISONS

To tell you the truth, I was really scared. I would say "Dear God what am I going to do with a newborn here? . . . It was so cold, and the worst thing was they wouldn't give us enough blankets. And how could I get enough rest, since rest was prohibited here? I wouldn't be able to take care of myself the way one should after giving birth." — *Former detainee Denia from Honduras, then pregnant, incarcerated with her two girls*

Every night I dreamed they were scolding my mom and taking her to another jail. And they told us that moms that misbehave and hide cookies in their pockets would be sent somewhere else and leave the children here, that they would separate the children from their moms." — *Angie, Denia's eldest daughter*

How are we letting this happen inside our borders? Your religion and mine teach us to protect the rights of women, children, orphans, widows and anyone who cannot speak for themselves. I have been working with families who have been imprisoned at Hutto and Haskell. Is it a crime to have a dream for a better life? It is not right that in the middle of the night these families' houses have been raided with machine guns and their children have been handcuffed.

We Americans are the most lovable and the most proud nation in the whole world. Do not let ICE destroy the image of our country." — *Dr. Asma Salam of Dallas to the Williamson County Commissioners' Court*

Education here is very low level. The teacher only gives out packets of work but does not explain anything. . . There's no pediatrician. Nurses don't care if babies are sick or not. . . I miss my stepdad, my friends, and even school. . . I am terrified of being separated from my mother. . . We have been through enough already; we need each other to stay sane." — *Detainee Egle, 16, Lithuanian whose stepfather is an American citizen*

My daughter is four years old. . . Running away from a situation in Guyana where my husband was kidnapped and murdered and me and my daughter were threatened, we got trapped in a world that is not for children. My daughter is being beaten by other children. She's not eating, crying a lot, and she has lost a lot of weight. The nights are cold, and they keep turning on and off the lights all night. She would tell me, "Mama, it's cold, can you make me some soup tomorrow?" — *Former detainee Raouitee*

As a country that supports family values, we should not be treating immigrant families who have not committed a crime like criminals, particularly children." — *Ralston H. Deffenbaugh Jr., president of Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service*

Taylor, Texas is a lovely, quiet town filled with kind, hardworking families. It has seen more prosperous times, but we're making great strides to improve our little town, to restore our historic Main Street district, courting new industry, building a great new library and fire station. . . . And in the midst, a giant prison for families, families who want nothing more than our parents, grandparents or great-grandparents wanted. They are here with the hope of becoming part of the great experiment that is the United States. . . . This facility is not good for Taylor, Williamson County, or the United States of America. It is definitely not good for the children living inside it. The only entity that wins here is a corporation that makes obscene profits preying on fears and anti-immigrant rhetoric. We need to put a stop to this family prison." — *Neal and Angela Kopit, Taylor residents who can see the lights of Hutto from their street*

When I'm free from this place, I want to learn how to be a nurse so I can buy a house for me and my mother on the beach and never go hungry!" — *Detainee Sherona, 13, who fled Haiti with her mother after her father was kidnapped and killed*

(Continued on page 11)



Center from top: 1. Chalk figure drawn by a child participant at Christmas 2008 vigil at the Hutto facility. 2. and 3. Figures drawn by children imprisoned at Hutto. Bottom: 1. and 3. Families speaking out at a Hutto vigil in 2007. 2. Photo of imprisoned children in uniforms at the Hutto family prison.

CALL OUT

to all U.S. Representatives
Supporting the SAVE Act

Border Walls:

- Do nothing to solve our national security concerns
- Equal more deaths and desperation
- Displace cross-border communities, ways of life, and lands
- Are unnecessarily expensive & wasteful (\$49 billion)

Family Detention:

- Criminalizes migrants for attempting to escape political, religious, and global economic issues beyond their control
- Wrongly detains infants, children & their families behind bars
- Is part of a nationwide policy of intimidation
- Is part of a larger initiative to disrupt, destroy, and dehumanize our communities for profit

Join us in demanding justice and freedom
for our communities

For a list of Representatives on the SAVE Act go to:

<http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/bdquery/z?d110:HR04088:@@P>



Why target a U.S. Representative like Ciro Rodriguez?

Because he is one of many Co-Sponsors of the SAVE Act, a bill that calls for more family detention centers and increased funding for the hyper-militarization of our border and policing of our communities. He has not denounced border walls as inhumane.

FIRE Raids ICE Management Meeting, Delivers Notice of Deportation to ICE

LINK TO ARTICLE and PICS:
<http://arizona.indymedia.org/news/2008/12/73613.php>

Flagstaff Immigrant Rights Enforcement Communique
Contact: Agent Del Fuego
Email: fire.az@hushmail.com
Thursday, December 4th, 2008
FIRE Raids ICE Management Meeting, Delivers Notice of Deportation to ICE from Flagstaff

Flagstaff, AZ -- At approximately 10AM on Thursday December 4th, Flagstaff Immigrant Rights Enforcement (FIRE) confronted Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) in a daring raid, serving a notice of deportation to ICE representatives at an ICE Management meeting. FIRE agents pinpointed the location of the ICE management meeting at the Flagstaff Radisson Hotel in the Kaibab Meeting Room and staged the raid. FIRE agent Del Fuego read the notice of deportation to more than 15 ICE associated criminals, some of whom appeared to possibly be illegal immigrants themselves, as they were not Indigenous People.

Agent Del Fuego called for the immediate withdrawal of ICE from the Flagstaff community and notified ICE of the cease and desist order for all future raids.

FIRE will continue supporting and enforcing immigrant rights where they are violated with the exception of established immigrant "settlers" or "colonizers" who have been benefitting from the exploitation of Indigenous People's lands. In addition, locations believed to be harboring ICE criminals, associates, and illegal settlers on indigenous lands can expect future FIRE raids. FIRE has credible intelligence that ICE absconders use condominiums, country clubs, law enforcement facilities, steakhouses, stretch limousines, luxury hotels, beach resorts, ski resorts, martini bars, intelligence facilities, etc., as bases of operation. These settlers will be brought to justice. No human is illegal.

NOTICE OF DEPORTATION:

Notice served on this, the 4th day of December, 2008 by Flag-

staff Immigrant Rights Enforcement (FIRE) for the immediate deportation from the Flagstaff area of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) officers and officials.

FIRE charges ICE with the following activities deemed criminal and in violation of human rights. These activities include but are not limited to:

- Terrorizing entire communities resulting in the destruction of over 34,000 families within the last year alone, including most recently, 16 persons within the immediate Flagstaff area. - Causing fear that has extended into the hearts of our community's children, who, due to your presence, live in constant trauma of returning to an empty home.

- Taking no meaningful measures to ensure the well-being of those impacted by family members' deportation.

- Perpetuating institutionalized racism and practicing racial profiling.

- Aiding and abetting border militarization on both sides of the US-Mexico border.

- Creating and upholding the myth of "illegal human beings". - Enforcing and benefitting from a global economic system that criminalizes labor and creates deathly low wages.

- Enforcing immigration policies on borders drawn on indigenous lands.

- Misappropriation of taxpayer funds for aforementioned terrorist activity while education, health care, and housing services collapse.

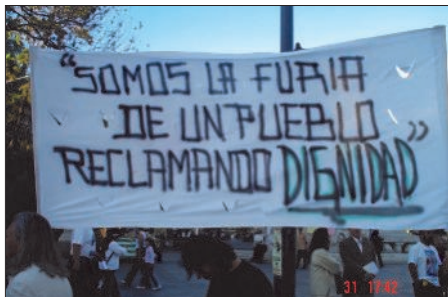
About FIRE - Flagstaff Immigrant Rights Enforcement is established to take direct action in solidarity with communities impacted by ICE raids. We do not represent anyone or any groups other than ourselves and our actions. FIRE is an independent agency and can be made up of anyone fighting for human rights and the abolition of ICE terrorism. LET'S TURN UP THE HEAT ON ICE!

Familias Unidas Por La Esperanza: Luchando por Nuestras Familias

Familias Unidas por la Esperanza



Luchando por Nuestras Familias Inmigrantes en
Centros de Detención
Defendiendo Nuestra Dignidad
Y
Demandando JUSTICIA!



¿Quiénes somos?

Familias Unidas por la Esperanza es una red de inmigrantes detenidos, ex-detenidos, deportados, y sus familias. Defendemos la libertad de nuestros seres queridos y luchamos por la reunificación de nuestras familias. Nos apoyamos entre tod@s y juntos buscamos la manera de encontrar esperanza para nuestras familias.

¿Quiénes son los detenidos?

Entre l@s detenidos se encuentran personas con residencia legal, migrantes indocumentados, niñ@s, y refugiad@s que llegan a este país escapando guerra y conflicto.

¿Que Queremos?

Una reforma de las leyes de inmigración y del sistema de gobierno que criminaliza al inmigrante y a su familia por el simple hecho de migrar a esta parte de la tierra. Demandamos un fin a la detención, deportación, y separación de nuestras familias!

¿Porque detienen a los inmigrantes?

En 1996, el ex-presidente Bill Clinton aprobó una reforma de inmigración que:

- Expandió los términos de deportación para personas con historial de arresto, inclusive delitos menores
- Convirtió la detención y deportación en un castigo obligatorio donde muchos inmigrantes, incluyendo personas con residencia legal, pierden el derecho a rehabilitarse, quedarse en el país con su familia e hij@s ciudadanos, y recibir perdón por el juez de inmigración.

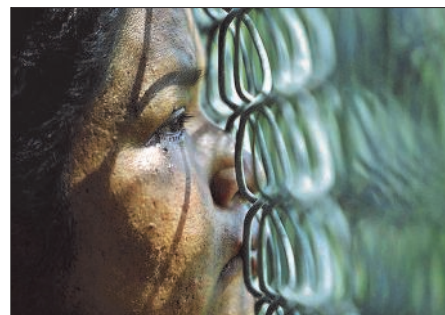
En 2003, la Oficina de Operaciones de Detención y Deportación bajo el Departamento de Inmigración (ICE) aprobó un plan estratégico de diez años llamado **Operación Endgame (2003-2012)**. Este plan de gobierno intenta deportar a todo inmigrante indocumentado que vive en el país.

En 2005, ICE autorizó **Operación Streamline** donde el inmigrante es condenado criminalmente entre 15 a 180 días de cárcel si es agarrado por primera vez en la frontera de Arizona y en ciertos distritos de Sur TX, y a más de 5 años si es agarrado después de haber sido deportado.

En 2006, ICE inicio la practica de detener a todo inmigrante que no sea de México mientras se procede su caso de asilo o deportación; un proceso que puede durar meses o años!

¿Que han sido las consecuencias?

Desde que pasaron estas leyes, la comunidad inmigrante ha sufrido el mayor aumento de encarcelamiento en cárceles de todo nivel (ciudad, condado, estatal, y federal). Mas de 32,000 inmigrantes son detenidos a diario en los Estados Unidos, y por si esto no fuera poco desde el inicio de Enero 2008, otros mas de 70,000 inmigrantes fueron condenados por la corte federal bajo el Dept. de Justicia - penalizándolos con felonías



No nos engañemos!

Estos "centros de detención" son cárceles de inmigración que por la mayoría son adueñadas y operadas por compañías privadas. Es un negocio que depende del continuo encarcelamiento de nuestro pueblo. Cada preso es negocio que eleva el monto de ganancias de la corporación encargada por operar la prisión.

¿Como localizar alguien detenido?

Tenga el nombre completo de la persona, la fecha de nacimiento, y el numero "A" (el numero en la visa o cualquier otro documento provisto por inmigración).

Llame a la Oficina de Operaciones de Detención y Deportación (DRO):

San Antonio (Central South TX)
(210) 967-7175;7012;7015; 7055

Dallas (North TX, Oklahoma)
(214) 905-5860

Houston (Southeast TX)
(281) 774-4968

El Paso (West TX, New Mexico)
(915) 225-1901

Llame a todas las cárceles de inmigración. Por una lista extensa visita la pagina:
www.detentionwatchnetwork.org

Contacte a los Consulados y Embajadas
(512) 478-2866 ext.105;109



Centro de Detención en Raymondville, TX
Capacidad: 3,000 detenidos

ALERTA! No tire este folleto. Guárdelo, péguelo a la puerta de su refrigerador, y póngalo al alcance de su mano

Únase a Nostr@s
Llame 512-968-8738

America's Soul Sickness & Permanent War: Obama's Rude Awakening

Roberto Rodriguez
COLUMN OF THE AMERICAS
JAN. 1. 2009

Obama's first challenge will not be the unresolved Middle East crisis. Nor will it be Iraq, Afghanistan, Guantanamo or the economy. His primary challenge will come in coming face to face with the Bush/Cheney doctrine of permanent worldwide war. Unless Obama renounces it on inauguration day, this doctrine will continue to be U.S. policy.

Beyond that, an even larger challenge - one which he may not ever be able to meet - is healing a nation that for too long has been sickened by what American Indian historian, Jack Forbes terms in Columbus and other Cannibals: soul-sickness. It is a disease that historically has allowed a majority of Euro Americans to believe that God has chosen them lead the rest of the world into the light, permitting the United States to employ massive military might in achieving that so-called mandate.

Over the past eight years, it is the Bush-Cheney doctrine that has drawn the particular ire of the entire world - because it permits the United States to unilaterally attack any nation with massive force or to attack any target within any nation, regardless of civilian casualties. This doctrine has also permitted this outgoing administration to assert and amass extraordinary powers that have virtually

rendered the U.S. Constitution meaningless. This doctrine includes the assertion that the executive branch and its extraordinary powers cannot be questioned or hindered by Congress or the courts during times of war, thus the assertion of permanent war (the war on terror).

Yet, even if Obama were to reject this Bush-Cheney doctrine, the soul sickness would remain.

That notwithstanding, the president's first order of business has to be the rejection of the Bush-Cheney doctrine. Failure to do so immediately, will cause the promise of change [to the United States, the world and the future] to fall on deaf ears.

It will not be enough to wind down the Iraq War if it means that the president will simply shift resources to broaden the war in Afghanistan and to also continue the Bush-Cheney endless worldwide war against undefined enemies into the foreseeable future.

Eradicating that soul-sickness is probably not possible; it is what sustains the myths of this nation. It is what defines this nation. The secular equivalent of believing that God has chosen the United States for a special mission is the belief that being a superpower is an elected position and that with that title, the United States and its allies are entitled to invade, topple or occupy any nation they see

fit. And it is not something that began with Bush and Cheney.

It can be no irony that those that initiated the invasion and occupation of Iraq - in defiance of the UN - were the United States, Britain & Spain... on Portuguese territory. In the past 500 years, these are the world's leading imperialists and colonialist nations.

Essentially, they have been the world's architects of the policies of dehumanization - feeling entitled by God and blinded by greed to trample over the lands, bodies and rights of peoples [of color] worldwide.

Despite this imperial club, there's a reason the U.S. government is particularly despised by most of the world. It isn't just the Bush-Cheney regime, though they have certainly put a face to the "ugly American." It's that smug soul-sickness that permits Americans to believe that they indeed know what's best for the rest of the world.

When Obama was elected president, it was the hope of the world - evidenced by massive celebrations worldwide - that he would indeed reverse the arrogance of the Bush/Cheney doctrine. Though for those expecting president-elect Obama to bring about radical change to the world, all signs indicate that we are all in for a very rude awakening.

But it's a sleep or dream that many Americans

don't want to wake from.

To be sure, being elected U.S. president is not the same thing as being elected high commissioner for human rights or prince of peace.

Since WWII, the United States has become the most powerful military empire in the history of the planet. In the path of this machine, millions of casualties are strewn about in Asia, Africa and Central America. Some have been the result of secret, proxy, unnecessary, foolish and illegal wars - such as Iraq - but truly, which war or military action by the United States since WWII has been necessary and legal and not foolish?

This is what Obama is inheriting; not just a permanent war and a soul sickness, but also the reins to a voracious military-industrial complex that needs to be constantly fed. There's little indication that he will starve this machine. But there is always hope.

(c) Column of the Americas 2009
Rodriguez can be reached at:
XCcolumn@gmail.com
Column of the Americas
PO BOX 85476
Tucson, AZ 85754
<http://web.mac.com/columnoftheamericas/iWeb/Site/Welcome.html>

(Continued from page 4)

racist ideology of manifest destiny. Anti Mexican immigrant organizations tend to forget these facts when discussing the current debate over undocumented immigration. They are in denial about the unscrupulous politicians such as then President James Polk; a well-known pro-slavery xenophobe and racist that advocated for slavery AND war with Mexico in order to increase the number of slave states and to acquire additional land and other natural resources for U.S. commercial interests. **Also, to openly admit these atrocities would undermine the legitimacy of U.S. occupation of Mexican land and would deny any moral authority the U.S. may still claim over war with Mexico.**

In spite of these immoral and illegal acts committed by the United States government, Mexican undocumented residents from Texas to California are considered "illegal" by the mainstream media. These workers are not illegal. They are strategically and necessary workers in great demand and willingly hired by a wide variety of patriotic (U.S.) companies and individuals. These so called "illegal workers" are in fact on historical Mexican land that is being occupied by the United States. Any one that is so committed to the rule of law should be appalled by the theft of Mexican land by unscrupulous U.S. politicians whether it occurred last year or in 1846. People of Mexican descent have been in the territory stolen by the United States before and since then. Those that are adamant against illegal acts should be in the forefront of getting the U.S. government to apologize for the atrocities committed against the then fledgling Mexican nation and the discrimination, repression,

and theft of Mexican owned land as a consequence of the U.S. War of Aggression against Mexico.

Finally, most Chicanos and Mexicans in the United States are indigenous (the true Native Americans); the descendants of North American Native Americans (Navajo, Maya, Mexica, Apache, Zapotec, etc.). Although DNA testing has proven this time and time again it is obvious in the physical characteristics of the majority of the Mexican people. Thus, Chicanos and the Mexican foreign born in the U.S. have ancestors that go back over 20,000 years. **It is ironic how policy makers in the Congress, whose ancestors committed genocide against the "Indians", stole their land, and unjustly invaded Mexico and whose families have been here less than 250 years, are claiming that Mexican undocumented residents are "foreigners" and should be deported.**

Forgetting the past should not be a practice in any civilized and educated society for only by understanding and knowing history can we develop the capacity to work out our differences now, and into the future. The loss of historical memory among people of Mexican descent is a sure road to their continued economic, cultural and political manipulation and domination. **Maintaining and recapturing historical memory will help Mexicans/Chicanos in the United States to recognize political and cultural forms of domination which can lead to the establishment of a long term plan towards a more empowered, secure and just place for them throughout Mexican America.**



For more information contact: Priselda Perez (713)205-3999



(Continued from page 3)

El número de investigaciones en los sitios de trabajo ha multiplicado lo doble en solo el año pasado. En la página oficial de I.C.E, dicha institución del gobierno federal orgullosamente documenta como logro la deportación de "casi 195,000 ilegales del país en el año fiscal 2006". En total, mas de 1.6 millones migrantes han sido deportados desde 1994. I.C.E. por igual incrementó el número de equipos dedicados a capturar a personas identificadas como fugitivas: hubo 35 equipos en abril del 2006, para finales de septiembre del mismo año subió a 50, y para finales del año fiscal 2007 habían 75 equipos en la nación—todos dedicados a perseguir y deportar a gente trabajadora indocumentada.

También ha incrementado el número de detenidos en los centros de detención de 5,532 en el año 1994 a más de 27,500 detenidos hoy en día. Los centros de detención son una industria muy lucrativa. Compañías privadas y condados locales tienen ganancias de un promedio de \$95 por cada detenido bajo custodia. Según *Detention Watch Network*—coalición nacional dedicada a reformar los centros de detención—el espacio en los centros de detención esta por aumentar el triple durante los próximos años. En el 2004, el Congreso estadounidense autorizó el aumento de 40,000 nuevas camas para el año 2010. Lo que significa que mientras que el número de camas en los centros de detención incrementen, operativos de redadas, detenciones y deportaciones igualmente aumentaran.

El plan gubernamental

¿Que significa todo esto? ¿Porque estamos viendo el aumento de operativos persiguiendo a familias trabajadoras?

La situación es alarmante. Cada redada que se reporta es parte de un plan aterrador del gobierno federal. El Departamento de Seguridad Nacional, I.C.E., y la Oficina de Retiro y Detención (D.R.O. por sus siglas en Ingles) se reunieron para desarrollar un documento titulado *Endgame* (o Juego Final). *Endgame* es un plan estratégico de 10 años que comenzó en el año 2003 para perseguir, detener y deportar a cada persona indocumentada del país para el año 2012. En la edición del 26 de marzo de 2007 del periódico "Boston Globe", La Unión Americana de Libertades Civiles (ACLU) escribió una opinión criticando el operativo *Endgame*. Al siguiente día, I.C.E. retiro ese documento de su página de internet www.ice.gov.

Sin duda alguna, la intención de I.C.E y el gobierno federal es de incrementar sus recursos para tener la capacidad de masivamente deportar a los más de 12 millones de personas indocumentadas del país. Hasta la fecha, el Congreso ha reservado más de \$204 millones para fundar estos esfuerzos.

Para cumplir este plan tan ambicioso, I.C.E. tendrá que seguir aumentando el número de redadas en los próximos cuatro años. Según Isabel García, copresidente de La Coalición de Derechos Humanos, con el plan *Endgame*, la comunidad migrante será sometida a la continua violación sistemática de sus derechos humanos: "vamos a ver un sufrimiento increíble con más familias separadas, y la militarización de nuestras

comunidades bajo la política del control policia-co." Isabel aclaró que esto es lo que le espera a nuestra comunidad a menos que movilizemos un movimiento fuerte por nuestra humanidad.

¡Unir para Organizar!

A la abuelita Doña Rita Aguirre de la comunidad de Barrio Chicano en Tucson, Arizona no le sorprende tal plan gubernamental porque ella recuerda como el gobierno ha deportado masivamente a mexicanos en el pasado. Con Operativo Mojado (Operation Wetback) en 1954, el gobierno estadounidense lanzó una campaña masiva expulsando a mas de 1.1 millones de mexicanos—con y sin papeles—del país. Es por eso que Doña Rita considera que "lo que tenemos que hacer es defender nuestros derechos porque tengas papeles o no, todos tenemos derechos civiles." También agregó que ante tales operativos agrediendo a la comunidad migrante "todos deberiamos de unirnos porque la unión hace la fuerza."

Las redadas son actos premeditados por parte del gobierno para inculcar temor en las familias y desestabilizar los sitios de trabajo y nuestras comunidades. Es por eso que son de mayor importancia los consejos de Doña Rita.

Militante de la campaña "Alto a las Redadas", Eglá Gutiérrez, 20, comparte las demandas que promueve dicha organización juvenil de Tucson:

Hacemos un llamado exigiendo:
—un alto inmediato a todas las redadas, secuestros, deportaciones, y asesinatos de nuestra gente.
—la libertad inmediata de todos los migrantes detenidos y el cierre de cada centro de detención.

—un alto a la militarización de la frontera. Exigimos el retiro de la migra, la seguridad nacional, y las fuerzas armadas de la frontera de México-EEUU.

La situación requiere que nos unamos, organicemos y que desarrollemos un análisis profundo. No es posible recibir justicia ni una reforma migratoria verdaderamente justa del mismo gobierno que nos persigue, detiene y deporta.

¿Hacia donde marchamos? Conclusión

El gobierno tiene la meta de deportar a los 12 millones de personas indocumentadas del país porque nos consideran "ilegales" y "criminales". Pero al violar nuestros derechos humanos, la migra y el gobierno federal son los verdaderos ilegales y criminales. Entonces mejor me pregunto ¿será posible organizarnos para deportar a la migra y al gobierno federal para el año 2012?

Las redadas y deportaciones no son ataques aislados, pero sino parte de una estrategia sistemática y coordinada para aterrorizar a nuestras familias. Ante dicha crisis humanitaria, represión creciente y violencia en contra de las comunidades compuestas por personas de perfil oscuro, la concienciación y la unión de nuestra comunidad es esencial. Tenemos una potencia increíble para construir un movimiento masivo y comunitario por los derechos de los migrantes con el liderazgo de los jóvenes, familias y la comunidad entera.

Nuestra lucha es por una comunidad sana, pacífica y organizada donde el pueblo manda y el gobierno obedece. Queremos vivir en un mundo sin fronteras, libre de injusticias y opresión.



International Woman's Day
March 7, 2009

10am @ Travis Park
 Rally @ Plaza Del Zacate
 speakers + music

Women interested in planning of the march call or write to us:

Esperanza Peace + Justice Center	228-0201
Peace Initiative	533-2729
Martinez Street Women's Center	534-6638
Fuerza Unida	927-2294

www.myspace.com/sa_womensdaymarch

Did you know that you can advertise in La Nueva Raza?

Advertising is available for purchase in our printed newspaper and at www.LaNuevaRaza.org

Our newspaper is distributed throughout the US and Mexico and our website averages 1/4 million + hits a month!

Contact editor@lanuevaraza.org for rates!

Your contributions keep us alive!

Relocate the Pure Casting Industrial Facility!

On Wednesday, June 18th at 11:00am People Organized in Defense of Earth and Her Resources (PODER) held a Protest and Press Conference in front of Pure Casting, an industrial facility located across the street from Zavala Elementary, to address Environmental Racism in East Austin.

Austin needs your support in protecting the health of our families! Call the Austin City Council members and Mayor Will Wynn to demand that they relocate Pure Castings. (512) 974-2250.

La Industria de Pure Casting emite contaminación en el medio ambiente y dentro de nuestra comunidad. El Barrio del Este de Austin necesita tu apoyo para proteger la salud de nuestras familias! Llámale a los miembros del Cónsul de la Cuidad de Austin y al Alcalde Will Wynn para demandar que remuevan Pure Casting.

Para mas información comunicarse con PODER: (512) 472-9922 www.poder-texas.org

El día Miércoles, 18 de Julio a las 11am, Pueblo Organizado en Defensa de Nuestra Madre Tierra y sus Recursos (PODER) organizo una protesta en frente de la Industria Pure Casting. También le llamo a la prensa para informales del daño que esta bodega de moldes de hierro le hacia a nuestros hijos pequeños y a la comunidad.

The Pure Casting facility (2110 E. 4th Street) is an emitter of heavy metals and uses hazardous chemicals in our neighborhood. The Barrio of East

(Continued from page 7)

We believe that private prisons confront us with serious moral issues demanding a gospel response. To deprive other persons of their freedom, to restrict them from contact with other human beings, to use force against them up to and including deadly force, are the most serious of acts. To delegate such acts to institutions whose success depends on the amount of profit they generate is to invite abuse and to abdicate our responsibility to care for our sisters and brothers.” — *Southern Catholic Bishops Statement on For-Profit Prisons*

This isn't just a local or a state issue, it's an international issue. . . . Forty-one countries have been detained in that facility. We've had the United Nations barred from entering. This has an international scope that doesn't easily go away.” — *José Orta, Taylor resident and president, LULAC Council 471*

We believe that the ultimate goal of the criminal justice system should be “restorative justice”: “addressing the hurts and the needs of the victim, the offender, and the community in such a way that all—victim, offender, and community—might be healed. . . . We have, along with other citizens, trusted the oversight of this responsibility to our governmental leaders. This must continue to be their

responsibility; it cannot be delegated from the public to the private sector. However, the shortage of funds that many governments are experiencing makes them receptive to offers from the private sector to build and/or operate prisons. Since the goal of for-profit private prisons is earning a profit for their shareholders, there is a basic and fundamental conflict with the concept of rehabilitation as the ultimate goal of the prison system. We believe that this is a glaring and significant flaw in our justice system and that for-profit private prisons should be abolished.” — *Resolution Calling for the Abolition of For-Profit Private Prisons, 215th General Assembly, Presbyterian Church in America (2003)*

ARE THERE WORKABLE ALTERNATIVES TO HUTTO?

Here are the less drastic and more economical alternatives Congress has directed ICE to use in place of criminal detention:

Release on an Order of Recognizance (ROR): An alien in immigration proceedings is released from detention under certain restrictions. These restrictions include regular reporting to Detention and Removal officers and appearing at all immigration court proceedings. Usually used when an alien does not possess the financial

resources to post a bond, but do not pose a threat to the community or national security.

Appearance bond: A more restrictive alternative than ROR, the alien posts a bond of not less than \$1,500, which the alien forfeits if he or she fails to appear in court as required, or upon any other demand by ICE.

Electronic Monitoring Devices: A new program to ensure compliance with appearance at court and removal orders. Under this program aliens awaiting immigration court hearings or removal wear either a monitoring ankle bracelet or report by telephone to a case manager.

Intensive Supervision Appearance Program (ISAP): A pilot program only available to aliens who are not subject to mandatory detention; who are pending immigration court proceedings or awaiting removal from the United States; are residing within the managed area; and are not deemed a threat by the Department of Homeland Security. *From an ICE fact sheet, “Detention and Removal Operations: Alternatives to Detention,” March 2003*

For more information and links:

www.afscme.org/workers/6845.cfm
www.stoppcoalition.org/resources.php
www.texasprisonbidness.org

www.detentionwatchnetwork.org

What can one person do about Hutto?

1. Attend vigils. We hold one each month; check the schedule and download this brochure for printing at <http://tdonhutto.blogspot.com/> or call 512 971 0487.
2. Write and call your congressional representative.
3. Organize a discussion based around the screening of *Hutto: America's Family Prison* to a community group, student organization, or congregation. Contact Matthew Gossage, <matthewgossage@hotmail.com>.
4. Sign and distribute a faith statement by Texans United for Families calling for more humane alternatives to detention. For information or copies of the statement, please email faith@texansunited4families.com.

GRASSROOTS LEADERSHIP
AUSTIN, TEXAS
512.971.0487

Poesía del Pueblo

Like Me

By Jose Orta

Dedicated to the children at Hutto Family Prison

Like you...

I love love,
life,
the sweet smell of things,
and touching the faces
of those that are near and dear to me.

Like you...

I dream in rainbow colors.
I laugh through eyes
that have known the buds of tears.

Like you...

I believe the world is beautiful
and that freedom,
like bread,
is for everyone.

I see can see you through the wire,
I can see your flickering candles.

I can hear your voices....
your songs of unity....
and my heart keeps beat with yours.

I can see you through the wire and
I can see that you....

You...
are...
like me.

You too struggle for life,
for love,
for bread,
for freedom.

I want to reach out and touch your faces.

The wire is the only thing that separates us.

Change

by Nephtali

*a poem in honor of the ICE protest
in San Anto on Jan 21, 2009*

promises promises
change we can believe in

change for whom?
the raids are getting worse
the wall of hate and shame
the wall of border death
the iron curtain falls
like a guillotine
splitting our family ties

your talk is full of lies
family detention
operation streamline
you got a name for everything
you call it freedom
we call it obscene!
our homeland is still occupied
invaded under apartheid
we who self-sacrifice
every day worry we gotta survive
green sapos gestapos
ratas who scurry like mice
the government demons
we all know as ICE!

government trust?
confidence in politicians?
chale! government thieves

draculas! vampire raids
take all our best
put us to the test
we're great for foreign wars
great and building, rebuilding
shaping making faking
the American dream
nightmare source of our nights
who turned off the lights?
take our quiras take our dollars
pay vigilantes to haunt and detain
terrorize our barrios no matter the
pain
tear away our children
tear away our parents
land of the free and the home of
the brave
arresting the kids like little brown
slaves!

we feed we bleed
we've waited 500 years
to ask you new comers
to our
native homeland
think of where you are,
think of where you stand
our sacred trail-ways
our sacred homeland
who documented
who rubber stamped
your un-authorized
plastic card
when you were illegally
trampling

it's about your trespassing acts
and these are just the facts!

promises of change?
stop the raids, the terrorist acts
stop breaking up our families
close your detention centers
get all the ICE raids, all the vatos
kool-aid
throw 'em in a blender
feed 'em to the pigs
the big fat wigs -
just you save the heads
give 'em to the raza so we can all
go home
make tamales in our casa
that would be change
we can believe in
oh and bring some jalapenos
from the corner drive in!



END

Family Detention
Immigration Raids
Operation Streamline
Construction of Border Wall
ICE-local law enforcement collaboration

**SHOUT OUT TO OBAMA DURING
THE FIRST 100 DAYS ...**

100 DAYS OF ACTION DURING HIS FIRST 100 DAYS
TO REMIND OBAMA THAT
WE'RE STILL HOPING FOR

CHANGE
WE CAN BELIEVE IN



Photo taken at a recent vigil at the Hutto Family Prison.

For more information see page 7
or visit tdonhutto.blogspot.com





Houston Community College NE

PROYECTO REVIVE HOUSTON

Información Y servicios

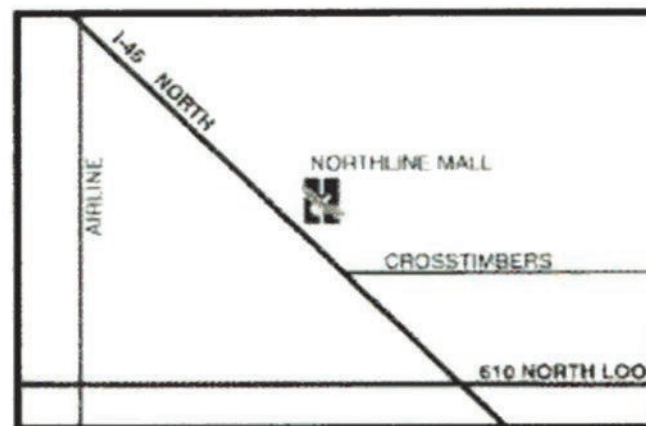
— GRATIS —

**Venga A Houston Community College –
Northeast Campus
401 Northline Mall**



***¿Quiere empezar
un negocio?***

***¿Quiere comprar una
casa?***



HCC-NORTHEAST
◆ En el salon No-195 y197
Houston, Texas 77022
Telephono (713) 718-8173
y (713)-718-8174