

In the News

July 19, 2019 - Press Release

WASHINGTON -- Thursday it was reported that the Administration is considering "zeroing out" the refugee resettlement program. This would effectively put an end, at least temporarily, to the United States resettling those fleeing persecution from countries overseas.

Most Reverend Joe S. Vasquez, Bishop of Austin, Texas, Chair of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on Migration, issued the following statement:

"This recent report, if true, is disturbing and against the principles we have as a nation and a people, and has the potential to end the refugee resettlement program entirely. The world is in the midst of the greatest humanitarian displacement crisis in almost a century. I strongly oppose any further reductions of the refugee resettlement program. Offering refuge to those fleeing religious and other persecution has been a cornerstone of what has made this country great and a place of welcome. Eliminating the refugee resettlement program leaves refugees in harm's way and keeps their families separated across continents."



Since his inaugural trip to Lampedusa, Pope Francis has worked to highlight the dignity of migrants. He has consistently spoken out on the plight of immigrants and called people to stand in solidarity with them. In his message before the United States Congress in 2015, he stated: "We must not be taken aback by their [migrants] numbers, but rather view them as persons, seeing their faces and listening to their stories, trying to respond as best we can to their situation. To respond in a way which is always humane, just and fraternal."

www.cliniclegal.org, 2015



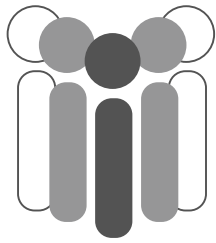
"For the Lord your God...loves the strangers, providing them food and clothing. You shall love the stranger, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt."

Deuteronomy 10:18-19

How do **YOU** want to be treated?



Immigration



Rumor:

Immigrants are taking over.

Reality:

Immigrants today make up 13.5 percent of the total United States population, which is in line with historical norms.



*George W. Bush Presidential Center

Rumor:

Immigrants take American jobs.

Reality:

7.6 percent of immigrants are self-employed compared to 5.6 percent of native-born Americans and they founded more than 40 percent of Fortune 500 companies.

Deportation

80

percent of those being deported are parents with U.S. citizen children.

10

years is the average number of years individuals had been working at their jobs before being removed from the U.S.

4

out of five individuals had no criminal record or had not committed a minor offense such as a traffic violation.

*Catholic Migration Studies

Refugees

70.8

Number of displaced people worldwide, including 25.9 million refugees.

*The UN Refugee Agency

11

Steps in the process of approving refugees for resettlement, including two security clearances, a medical screening, and an interview with Homeland Security.

*World Relief

96

The average number of days it takes refugees new to the U.S. to find their first job placement in Kentucky.

*Kentucky Office for Refugees

Border Security

58%

The percentage of new unauthorized immigrants in the U.S. who came lawfully but overstayed their visas, rather than crossing the border illegally.

*PEW Research Center, 2012

\$10,800

The amount of money it costs the American taxpayer per border apprehension.

2,650

The number of children separated from their parents in just three months of 2018.

*National Immigration Forum



*Source for statistics