



Refugees and Allies will Protest President Obama’s Visit to Los Angeles: Demand an End to Raids and Deportations of Central American Refugees

MEDIA TALKING POINTS

Violence has become an all too common mechanism to convey an erroneous message to refugees. The U.S. has also begun the practice of shackling mostly Central American women with GPS monitoring devices, which impedes them from pursuing dignified lives as refugees. Recently, ICE has gone as far as taking refugee children from their schools.

The U.S. government rejects 95 percent of asylum claims from Central Americans, ensuring that the vast majority of asylum seekers are deported to their death or continue to be targets and/or victims of gendered violence, which includes domestic violence. Furthermore, it is important to state that the violence we are witnessing in the region is a result of decades of U.S. foreign policy that have continuously exacerbated poverty, instability, and inequality across race, class, and gender.

All of these harmful acts create additional trauma in refugee families, especially women and children.

In order to address these conditions, the Human Rights Alliance for Children and Refugee Families demands that the Obama Administration:

- Provide temporary relief for Central Americans fleeing violence until the U.S. immigration courts, judges and the entire judicial system demonstrates its ability to treat Central Americans fairly in light of the ongoing violence in Central America
- Halt deportations of refugees to Central America, as well as halt all raids of refugees and vulnerable migrant communities
- Halt all repressive policies that punish and harm Central Americans including but not limited to, detaining asylum seekers at U.S Mexico border
- End warehousing asylum seekers including children as young as infant age in ice boxes, often called “Hieleras”, before transferring them to detention centers
- Release all refugees in detention centers across the country, prioritizing women and children, and other vulnerable communities, including LGBTIQ migrants
- End the practice of shackling detainees, which include mothers, children and LGBTIQ migrants with GPS devices
- Reexamine U.S. refugee policy and ensure the law is fair and just for Central American asylum seekers.

For more info, please visit <http://www.refugeerightsnow.com/>.