

## D. Enforcement and Human Rights

### 1. Enforcement-Only Policies & Human Rights Abuses

In response to what is seen as an unacceptable number of people coming into the country without documentation, the U.S. has undertaken an “enforcement-only” policy of militarizing the border, massive raids, detentions, and deportations. The result is much human suffering and abuses of human rights, even death. However, it has not stemmed the flow of immigrants. Is this the type of policy we wish to have as a nation?

#### a. Militarization of the Border

To stem the flow of undocumented immigrants, our government has erected a wall along much of the border we share with Mexico, at great tax-payer expense both to build and maintain. The wall has had the effect of funneling migrants into the harshest parts of the deserts where over 5,000 have died. It was originally thought that the death of some would serve as a deterrent to others. It has not. Despite the deaths, the enforcement-only policy continues.

#### Stories

***The Death of Josseline: Immigration Stories from the Arizona-Mexico Borderlands*** (<http://www.beacon.org/productdetails.cfm?PC=2086>), by Margaret Regan. Beacon Press, February 2010, 256 pages.

Traveling on both sides of the border, Regan relays the compelling stories of the migrants, border patrol, humanitarian activists, ranchers and vigilantes. But mainly her focus is on the migrants and why they are so desperate to cross.

***Crossing with the Virgin: Stories From the Migrant Trail*** (<http://amzn.to/9BiEdG>), by Kathryn Ferguson, Dr. Norma Price and Ted Parks. University of Arizona Press (February 23, 2010), 240 pages.

The authors are volunteers with the Samaritans and No More Deaths, who take turns telling gut-wrenching stories of the migrants they have met.

***The Devil’s Highway: A True Story*** (<http://amzn.to/bb8Fq9>), by Luis Alberto Urrea. Back Bay Books (September 19, 2005), 272 pages.

In May 2001, 26 Mexican men attempted to cross the border into an area known as the Devil’s Highway. Only 12 made it out alive. Urrea traces their journey from their native Veracruz to that fateful trip where fourteen died excruciating deaths, succumbing to the Arizona sun. He also analyzes the causes for this tragedy.

#### **4 Facts about Border Enforcement** (pdf, 2 pages)

([http://washington.mcc.org/system/files/4Facts\\_Border\\_Enforcement.pdf](http://washington.mcc.org/system/files/4Facts_Border_Enforcement.pdf))

While the main focus of this section is to look at the human rights abuses, it's important to have a bigger picture. This brief from the Mennonite Central Committee provides succinct information about the border wall.

#### **Humanitarian Crisis: Migrant Deaths at the U.S.-Mexico Border**

(<http://bit.ly/cCuWKM>), by Maria Jimenez. October 1, 2009 for the ACLU of San Diego County and Mexico's National Commission of Human Rights (pdf, 75 pages)

Comprehensive report on the humanitarian crisis in the desert that has led to over 5,000 needless deaths.

#### **Militarization and Impunity at the Border Emergency National Border**

**Justice & Solidarity Community Tour** Prepared by the National Network for Immigrant and Refugee Rights with Coalición de Derechos Humanos, June 2006. (<http://www.nnirr.org/hurricane/bordertour.pdf>) (pdf, 13 pages)

Among the many painful findings is the assessment that U.S. policy *intentionally* drove migrants into the harshest regions of the desert, knowing many would die.

#### **Dying To Get In: Former Immigration Officials Says Billions Wasted On Border Control**, by Daniel Schorn for 60 Minutes, June 4, 2006

(<http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2005/12/08/60minutes/main1108476.shtml>)

Ed Bradley reports that the border wall has been a huge waste of taxpayers' money, has done nothing to stop migrants from coming to the U.S, but has forced those migrants to cross remote and deadly stretches of remote and treacherous desert.

#### **Anthropologist Is Seeing a Higher Number of Bodies Found in Desert**

(<http://bit.ly/a3O6k0>), by Weston Phippen. The Arizona Republic (June 27, 2010) Disturbing story about how the Tucson County's coroner's office is overwhelmed by the number of bodies being found in the desert. At this pace, the death rate is on course to break a 10 year record.

The suffering at the border isn't limited to the desert. Some border patrol agents also abuse those migrants whom they catch.

#### **Cruelty in the Desert: Documenting Government Abuse of Arizona Border Crossers** (<http://www.uuctucson.org/index.php/social-action/cruelty-in-the-desert.html>)

A slide show produced by Craig McComb, a member of the UU Church in Tucson, AZ and of No More Deaths. It is based on the No More Deaths' Abuse Documentation Project. The presentation is provided as three videos (which can be played as a single playlist) or as a self-paced slide show with audio.

#### **Border Patrol Agent Talks About Abuse Allegations**, by MaryEllen Resendez for ABC15. (August 6th, 2010) (<http://www.ktar.com/?nid=6&sid=1322373>)

A former Border Patrol agent speaks out about the alleged abuse of illegal immigrants by fellow agents.

**Tohono O'odham: Border Militarization and Abuse Accelerates**

(<http://bit.ly/au5Kt4>), by Brenda Norrell. Free Atlantic Press, March 20 2009  
Report on how the militarization of the border and the presence of border patrol on their land is negatively impacting members of the Tohono O'odham nation.

Does the government have the right to prosecute people for providing life-saving humanitarian aid?

**Water Drops for Migrants: Kindness, or Offense?**, by Marc Lacey. New York Times (Sept. 26, 2010) (<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/09/27/us/27water.html>)  
Humanitarian activists, including volunteers with No More Deaths, leave jugs of clean drinking water in the desert so that fewer people will die. The government has prosecuted some of these volunteers with "littering."

**Water is a human right, UN says**, by Andreas Zumach. Deutsche Welle, July 29, 2010 (<http://www.dw-world.de/dw/article/0,,5848799,00.html>)  
In July 2010, the UN voted to recognize access to clean drinking water as a human right. How might that impact the prosecution of humanitarian workers in the desert? (Note, the U.S. refused to vote on this issue.)

**The Crime of Giving Water to Thirsty People**, by Adam Cohen. Time Magazine (September 08, 2010) (<http://www.time.com/time/nation/article/0,8599,2016513,00.html>)  
As a follow up to the New York Times article, an appeals court threw out the convictions of volunteers charged with "littering." The ruling is still troubling in that it did not affirm water as a human right, but rather questioned whether bottles of potable water constituted "litter."

**Films**

***The 800 Mile Wall*** (<http://www.800milewall.org/>)

Directed by John Carlos Frey (2009) 90 min.

Highlighting the construction of the new border walls along the U.S.-Mexico border as well as the effect on migrants trying to cross into the U.S., this powerful 90-minute film is an unflinching look at a failed U.S. border strategy that has caused the death of thousands of migrants and violates fundamental human rights.

***Crossing Arizona*** (<http://www.crossingaz.com/>)

Directed by Joseph Mathew & Daniel DeVivo

Award-winning documentary about migration, its roots and affects on the Arizona border. The makers of this film take a very even-handed approach, documenting

both the faced by migrants and also the pressures that mass migration are putting on the residents of Arizona.

***The Border Wall*** (<http://www.theborderwall.com/>)

Directed by Wayne Ewing (2008) 71 min.

Documentary examines the effects of the wall on and also the policies that have made the barrier a reality. Watch a 5-minute preview on YouTube ([http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M7\\_DxZRhhkY](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M7_DxZRhhkY)).

***Dying To Get In*** (<http://amzn.to/brPhHM>)

Directed by Brett Trolley (2007) 40 min.

Award winning documentary from the perspective of those trying to cross the border, made by a former BorderLinks (<http://www.borderlinks.org/>) student. View a trailer on YouTube (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HNdvxmSIfJU>)

***The Gatekeeper*** (<http://www.gatekeeperfilm.com/>)

Directed by John Carlos Frey (2002),

A drama about a Mexican-American border patrol agent who starts off opposed to those he sees as entering “illegally” but in the course of the movie starts to see the situation through their eyes.

## **b. Raids and Family Separation**

Our government has taken to raiding communities and places of work with heavily armed officers as if the undocumented immigrants are dangerous. Often times, these raids are witnessed by citizen children of the immigrants. Other times, raids happen while the children are away, such as at school, and no provisions are made to care for them – they are abandoned. Raids tear apart the entire community but no one is affected more than the children.

***abUSed – The Postville Raid*** (<http://www.abusedthepostvilleraid.com/>)

Directed by Luis Argueta (in post production)

On May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2008, 900 ICE agents swooped into Postville, Iowa and apprehended 389 undocumented workers at Agriprocessors, Inc., the largest kosher slaughterhouse and meat-packing plant in the country. In just 4 days, nearly 300 of these workers were fast-tracked through the US legal system, convicted of criminal charges, and sentenced to prison. Individuals were left humiliated, families were torn apart and a community of great diversity was left in ruin. The effects of the raid were not limited just to the arrested workers and their families. With the loss of approximately one fifth of its workforce, Postville, a town of just 2,320 citizens continues to face a severe economic crisis. Watch the 10 minute trailer on Youtube (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JQHbFxUGMxs>)

**What Happens When a Town Implodes**, by Betsy Rubiner. Time Magazine, January 28, 2009. (<http://www.time.com/time/nation/article/0,8599,1874205,00.html>)

Article about the aftermath of the Postville raid, eight months later. The town continues to struggle with bankruptcies, unemployment and anxiety.

**Severing A Lifeline: The Neglect of Citizen Children in America's Immigration Enforcement Policy**, report by Dorsey & Whitney LLP to The Urban Institute, 2009. (pdf, 219 pages)  
([http://www.dorsey.com/files/upload/DorseyProBono\\_SeveringLifeline\\_web.pdf](http://www.dorsey.com/files/upload/DorseyProBono_SeveringLifeline_web.pdf))  
Report described a child welfare crisis as the result of enforcement-only deportations that do not take the well-being of citizen children and their families into account. Separations of families cause both emotional and financial trauma.

**Citizen Children Neglected and Deserted in Wake of Immigration Raids** (<http://bit.ly/a2Vom0>), by Michele Waslin. Immigration Impact, a blog project of the Immigration Policy Center, March 26, 2010.  
A much briefer synopsis of the Dorsey & Whitney report above.

**Over 5 Million Children Caught Up In Illegal Immigration Debate**, by Ana Tintocalis (<http://bit.ly/9xHOsc>). KPSB.org, July 21, 2010.  
Article focuses on the story of one of the five million children affected by parental deportation.

**San Mateo family struggles to stay together as U.S. deports dad, tries to deport mom** (<http://www.mercurynews.com/torn-apart>), by Ken McLaughlin. San Jose Mercury News (September 18 2010)  
Another story of a family torn apart by deportation.

**The Effects of U.S. Deportation Policies on Immigrant Families and Communities: Cross-Border Perspectives**, by Jacqueline Hagan, Brianna Castro & Nestor Rodriguez. NC Law Review, vol 88, 2010.  
(<http://nclawreview.net/wp-content/uploads/2010/06/Hagan.wptd.pdf>)  
Contrary to ICE's claim that it seeks to target immigrants who have committed violent crimes, most of the removals are noncriminal and ICE targets immigrants from Mexico and Central America. Studying over a ten year period, they find that U.S. deportation policy has disrupted family ties, causing psychological and financial hardship, and created anxiety, stress and confusion in U.S. communities where immigrants are concentrated.

### **c. Detention and Due Process**

In the United States, people charged with a crime have guaranteed rights to an attorney and to have the legal process and any possible ramifications of their pleas explained to them. Undocumented immigrants have committed a civil offense, not criminal, and are not guaranteed these basic rights. Thus, violent criminals have more protections from our legal system in this country than do immigrants whose only offense is to be in the country without authorization.

**Jailed Without Justice: Immigration Detention in the USA**, by Amnesty International. (<http://www.amnestyusa.org/uploads/JailedWithoutJustice.pdf>) (pdf, 56 pages)

This comprehensive report by Amnesty International looks at the numerous problems with our detention system – both in terms of the process and the centers in which apprehended immigrants are housed.

**Detention Watch Network Map** (<http://www.detentionwatchnetwork.org/dwnmap>)

The interactive map includes: Detention Centers, Community Organizations, ICE Offices and Immigration Courts. Over 32,000 immigrants are detained on any given day. See if there are immigrants detained near you.

**The Visitor** (<http://www.thevisitorfilm.com/>)

Directed by Thomas McCarthy (2007)

A drama about a university professor who befriends an undocumented couple, Tarek and Zainab, who had immigrated to the U.S. from different countries. The viewer watches as this couple struggles to live below the radar of ICE agents when a tiny infraction – a misunderstanding, really – can tear everything apart. After Tarek is caught, we then see how broken the system really is. Download the movie guide from Sojourners for this and several other movies on immigration (<http://www.faithandimmigration.org/movieguide>).

**We Are All Suspects Now: Untold Stories from Immigrant Communities after 9/11** (<http://www.beacon.org/productdetails.cfm?SKU=0461>), by Tram Nguyen, Beacon Press (November 2004), 212 pages.

“Nguyen reveals the human cost of the domestic war on terror and examines the impact of post-9/11 policies on people targeted because of immigration status, nationality, race, and religion. Nguyen's evocative narrative reporting-about the families, detainees, local leaders, community advocates, and others living on the front lines-tells the stories of people who witnessed and experienced firsthand the unjust detainment or deportation of family members, friends, and neighbors.”

**Detention Watch Network's Collection of Stories**

(<http://www.detentionwatchnetwork.org/stories>)

U.S. detention and deportation policies tear apart families and communities, yet too often the voices of those most directly impacted are lost in the larger immigration debate. In this section you can learn some of their stories.

**Stories in Detention: A Six Week Series** (<http://bit.ly/ac2gme>), by Becca Sheff. Immigration: It's Our Community blog, October 9, 2009.

A six-week series focusing on different aspect of detention. Links to the other posts are at the bottom.

**Restoring the Right to Due Process: A Toolkit for Immigrant Rights Activists**, by Detention Watch Network (pdf, 20 pages)

([http://www.breakthrough.tv/images/downloads/51/Restoring\\_lores\\_links.pdf](http://www.breakthrough.tv/images/downloads/51/Restoring_lores_links.pdf))

Breakthrough, Detention Watch Network. A "tool kit" for immigrant rights advocates that explains how immigration policy passed in 1996 undermines the right to due process today. Includes ideas for activities and taking action.

**Border Patrol Program Raises Due Process Concerns**, by Ted Robbins. (<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=129780261>) NPR, September 13, 2010.

The first in a three-part series that takes an in-depth look at Operation Streamline - an initiative that takes apprehended undocumented immigrants and speeds them through the federal courts en mass. Immigrants who used to be returned voluntarily, or they went through the normal administrative deportation process, now leave as convicted federal criminals.

**Enforcement Desk Weekly Wrap-up: Most of Those Deported Are Non-criminals** (<http://bit.ly/bzyxUA>). On Deportation Nation, August 20, 2010. Acknowledging that it cannot deport all 11 million undocumented immigrants currently in the U.S., ICE's official policy is that it gives priority to apprehending and deporting immigrants who have committed violent crimes and/or are a threat to national security. However looking at data from ICE's own annual report, the blogger shows that most of those deported are non-criminals.

#### **d. Evidence of Racial Profiling**

As the first article discusses, it would be difficult for officers to judge who is undocumented and who is not without resorting to racial profiling. Cases of racial profiling are difficult to prove, especially if the person targeted turns out to be "guilty" of what (s)he has been accused of. But what about cases where the person charged is clearly innocent? The next four articles document cases of U.S. citizens being detained and deported. In all cases, they were of Latino/a descent.

**Looks Seem Apt to Play Role in Enforcing Arizona Immigration Law** (<http://bit.ly/dl4boJ>), by Daniel Gonzalez. Tucson Citizen, July 18, 2010

**U.S. Citizens Deported**, CNN Newsroom. July 26, 2010 (<http://newsroom.blogs.cnn.com/2010/07/26/u-s-citizens-deported/>)

**U.S. citizens wrongly detained, deported by ICE** (<http://bit.ly/6CpOZO>), by Tyche Hendricks. San Francisco Chronicle, July 27, 2009.

**Houston native wrongly deported for 85 days**, by Susan Carroll. Houston Chronicle, September 13, 2010. (<http://www.chron.com/disp/story.mpl/special/immigration/7199653.html>)

## **American-Born Teen Deported After Failing to Wear a Seat Belt?**

(<http://bit.ly/9aTt3J>), by Alex DiBranco. Change.org/Immigrant Rights, June 30, 2010

## **2. Criminalization of Undocumented Immigration**

As we know from section A, being in the country without documentation, while illegal, is not a criminal offense. However, in the last few decades there has been a movement towards criminalizing undocumented immigration. It started in the Reagan era with Operation Gatekeeper and the militarization of a border that had up until then been laxly guarded. It continued in the 1990's when Congress dramatically expanded the list of crimes for which legal resident immigrants could be deported, making even minor crimes a deportable offense. Today, criminalization of undocumented immigrants has accelerated with 1) states such as Texas and Arizona passing laws that require prison sentences for undocumented immigrants; 2) the use of private prisons to house detainees thereby mixing detainees with criminals; and 3) ICE ACCESS programs that have deputized state and local officials into the immigration enforcement officers.

***Operation Gatekeeper: The Rise of the "Illegal Alien" and the Making of the U.S.-Mexico Boundary*** (<http://amzn.to/b9pEce>), by Joseph Nevins. Routledge (November 1, 2001), 256 pages.

A historical account of the United States-Mexico border shows that, up through recent times, the movement of peoples between the two countries was of relatively little concern. Not until the period of 1970 to the 1990s did political pressures make securing the border a pressing national issue. In turn, this pressure popularized the concept of the illegal alien.

**The "Crimmigration" Crisis**, by Tom Barry. Border Lines, May 22, 2009

(<http://borderlinesblog.blogspot.com/2009/05/crimmigration-crisis.html>)

Article discusses the dramatic increase immigrants – both documented and undocumented – who have been deported for minor infractions as a result of the 1996 law.

### **a. Operation Streamline and Mandatory Sentences**

**Operation Streamline Fact Sheet**, by ACLU. July 21, 2009

(<http://www.immigrationforum.org/images/uploads/OperationStreamlineFactsheet.pdf>)

As the fact sheet describes, "Operation Streamline is a Bush Administration program implemented in 2005 ordering federal criminal charges for every person who crosses the border illegally. In other words, it is a "zero tolerance" border enforcement program that targets even first time undocumented border-crossers. Instead of routing non-violent individuals caught crossing the border into civil deportation proceedings, Operation Streamline forces undocumented migrants through the federal criminal justice system and into U.S. prisons."

### **Arrested on Entry: Operation Streamline and the Prosecution of Immigration Crimes** ), by Donald Kerwin and Kristen McCabe.

(<http://www.migrationinformation.org/Feature/display.cfm?ID=780>) Migration Policy Institute, April 2010.

A more detailed article that describes how Operation Streamline works, highlights trends in the prosecution of immigration offenses, and evaluates its outcomes.

### **b. Using Private Prisons as Detention Centers**

**Jailed Without Justice: Immigration Detention in the USA**, by Amnesty International. (<http://www.amnestyusa.org/uploads/JailedWithoutJustice.pdf>) (pdf, 56 pages)

One of the issues that this comprehensive report talks about is the problems that arise when immigration detainees are mixed in with criminal prisoners. This is happening increasingly as private prisons are being contracted to house the ballooning detainee population.

**Move Across Hudson Further Isolates Immigration Detainees**, by Nina Bernstein. (<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/03/17/nyregion/17detain.html>) New York Times, March 16, 2010

New York Times article describes the conditions for detainees awaiting their immigration proceedings, as they are housed in a county jail.

### **c. ICE ACCESS – Co-opting Local Authorities for Immigration Enforcement**

A suite of federal programs that entwines local agencies into immigration enforcement further serves to criminalize immigrants while encouraging racial profiling and unchecked local abuse. Falling under the umbrella term of ICE ACCESS programs, the two of most concern are 287(g) and Secure Communities. Secure Communities requires immigration checks for everyone booked into a jail, and 287(g) deputizes local law-enforcement officials as immigration agents in task forces and in jails.

**ICE ACCESS Fact Sheet** (<http://www.ice.gov/news/library/factsheets/access.htm>) Official descriptions of the programs from Department of Homeland Security's U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

#### **About ICE ACCESS Programs**

(<http://www.altoarizona.com/ice-access-programs.html>)

The same programs as described by Alto Arizona.

**Briefing Guide to Secure Communities**, by National Day Laborers Organizing Network (NDLON), the Center for Constitutional Rights (CCR) and the Cardozo School of Law (pdf, 4 pages)

([http://lawprofessors.typepad.com/files/ndlon\\_foia\\_briefing-guide.finall.pdf](http://lawprofessors.typepad.com/files/ndlon_foia_briefing-guide.finall.pdf))

New statistics and information reveal disturbing trends and leave crucial question unanswered. ICE claims to prioritize apprehension of those who have committed violent crimes, yet Secure Communities takes a “dragnet” approach where the majority of people caught have no criminal records. Documents raise suspicions of racial profiling.

**Under 'Secure Communities,' all fingerprints would go into database**

(<http://bit.ly/9c3cCO>), by Tamar Hallerman. Durango Herald, August 20, 2010.

Because fingerprints automatically are run through the system when someone is arrested and brought to the police station, immigrant activists also are concerned that people who were arrested and later dismissed, or those who face minor violations, could still be subject to deportation.

**The Impact of Section 287(G) of the Immigration and Nationality Act on the Latino Community** (<http://bit.ly/d0HG2J>), by A. Elena Lacayo. National Council of La Raza Issue Brief, (August 12, 2010)

Report concludes that 287(g) provides unchecked authority to local law enforcement. The program arrests of nonviolent and nonthreatening immigrants, undermines relationships between the communities and law enforcement thereby threatening public safety, and exacerbates racial profiling of Latin@s. Read a synopsis by Eric Rodriguez for the Huffington Post here: <http://huff.to/9LZbLq>.

**Hazing Arizona** (<http://bit.ly/9SnH5H>), by Aura Bogado. Mother Jones, July 2010.

The 287(g) agreement between the DHS and Maricopa County in Arizona was allowing sheriff Joe Arpaio to abuse detainees long before the state ever drafted SB1070, the enforcement-only law that earned it such notoriety in April 2010. Article talks about the death of David La Fuente as a result.

### **3. State and Local Enforcement**

333 immigrant-related laws and resolutions were enacted by states in 2009, up from 32 in 2005.

Frustrated by the failure of the federal government to reform our broken immigration system and feeling the stress on local social services (as well as in some cases, a discomfort with changing demographics, state and local governments have attempted to pass immigration legislation of their own. Unfortunately, much of it continues the enforcement-only policies of the federal government. Such legislation is a “logical” progression from the ICE ACCESS programs where state and local authorities are enlisted to enforce immigration laws.

**In Arizona, Feds Are Fighting a Monster They Built** (<http://bit.ly/atxSyo>), by Aarti Shahani. Colorlines, July 26, 2010.  
Makes the link between 287(g), one of the ICE ACCESS programs, and Arizona's enforcement-only law, SB1070.

**To Copy or Not to Copy?**, by Immigration Works USA, October 22, 2010. ([http://www.immigrationworksusa.org/uploaded/IW\\_AZ\\_copycats\\_report.pdf](http://www.immigrationworksusa.org/uploaded/IW_AZ_copycats_report.pdf)) (pdf, 13 pages)  
Report predicts that 25 states will try next year to pass enforcement-only immigration laws similar to Arizona's controversial legislation.

**9500 Liberty** (<http://www.9500liberty.com/>)  
Directed by Annabel Park and Eric Byler (2010).  
An award-winning documentary about a law much like SB 1070 that passed in Prince William County, VA. It had a devastating social and economic impact on local citizens. 9500 Liberty shows how a local government was targeted by national anti-immigration networks using the Internet to frighten and intimidate lawmakers and citizens. It also shows how residents formed a grassroots resistance that ultimately repealed the law.

## 4. Crime Across the Mexican-U.S. Border

Reading the headlines or watching the news, it is understandable to be concerned about rampant drug related crime in Mexico affecting the U.S. And indeed there have been media stories suggesting such (see second story). However, the actual data does not bear that out. In the vast majority of cases, the drug-cartels have restricted their violence to Mexican side of the border, to the great misery of its citizens.

**Mexico gang killings more than double in 2008**, Associated Press, 2008. (<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/28119385/>)

**The Enemy Within: Cartel-related violence has moved well beyond American border towns**, by Eve Conant. Newsweek, March 14, 2009 (<http://www.newsweek.com/2009/03/13/the-enemy-within.html>)

**US border violence: Myth or reality?**, by Katie Connolly. BBC, 28 July 2010 (<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-us-canada-10779151>)

**Four border-state cities among safest - Violent crime down in Arizona**, by Martha Mendoza. Associated Press, June 3, 2010. (<http://www.krqe.com/dpp/news/politics/four-border-state-cities-among-safest>)  
Note that Phoenix, the city that is supposedly rife with drug-related kidnappings, is one of the cities listed here as being the most safe, according to the FBI report.

**The 'Dangerous' Border: Actually One of America's Safest Places**, by Tim Padgett. Time magazine, July 30, 2010  
(<http://www.time.com/time/nation/article/0,8599,2007474,00.html>)

## Questions for Reflection

1. The UN recently recognized the human right to water. This and other human rights would extend to undocumented immigrants – regardless of national laws - by way of our common humanity. What other human rights do (im)migrants have that are currently being violated by our national immigration system?
2. For what reasons are immigrants incarcerated? And once incarcerated, how are individuals and families treated in detention centers?
3. There are international laws that protect the rights of migrants and refugees (mainly the UN Declaration of Human Rights and the Geneva Conventions). There are national laws that protect the rights of accused criminals. Are these laws adequate to protect people in the current context? Who is unprotected? Who is responsible for ensuring that human rights are protected?