

## E. Who Benefits from a Broken System?

### 1. Colonialism Continued

***Illegal People: How Globalization Creates Migration and Criminalizes Immigrants*** (<http://www.beacon.org/productdetails.cfm?SKU=4226>), by David Bacon. Beacon Press (2008), 272 pages.

For two decades veteran photojournalist David Bacon has documented the connections between labor, migration, and the global economy. In *Illegal People* Bacon explores the human side of globalization, exposing the many ways it uproots people in Latin America and Asia, driving them to migrate. At the same time, U.S. immigration policy makes the labor of those displaced people a crime in the United States. *Illegal People* explains why our national policy produces even more displacement, more migration, more immigration raids, and a more divided, polarized society.

***Moving Millions: How Coyote Capitalism Fuels Global Immigration*** (<http://amzn.to/c0QaTD>), by Jeffrey Kaye. Wiley (April 19, 2010) 320 pages.

In addition to talking about the “coyotes” – the people who smuggle undocumented migrants across the border for profit, Kaye also talks about the history of unskilled workers migrating to follow jobs and how we have profited from it.

***The Children of NAFTA: Labor Wars on the U.S./Mexico Border*** (<http://amzn.to/bU0ej4>), by David Bacon. University of California Press (March 1, 2004), 348 pages

Relating first-hand stories from Mexican laborers, the author of “Illegal People” shows how the Mexican government has suppressed workers’ attempts to unionize for rights and wages in an attempt to attract foreign investment.

**NAFTA and Mexican Immigration** (<http://borderbattles.ssrc.org/Portes/>), by Alejandro Portes for Border Battles: The U.S. Immigration Debates (ssrc.org - July 31, 2006)

In this short, accessible essay, Portes describes how instead of decreasing immigration to the U.S. from Mexico, NAFTA actually increased it many fold.

#### **NAFTA, the WTO and Other Trade Agreements**

(<http://www.citizen.org/Page.aspx?pid=1014>)

From Public Citizen.org, a web resource with links to information on NAFTA, the World Trade Organization (WTO) free trade agreements (FTAs) for several countries.

***Dying to Live: A Migrant’s Journey*** (<http://www.dyingtolive.nd.edu/>)

This award-winning documentary looks at immigration from a religious (Christian) perspective. It is a profound look at the human face of the immigrant that

explores who these people are, why they leave their homes and what they face in their journey. Drawing on the insights of Pulitzer Prize winning photographers, theologians, Church and congressional leaders, activists, musicians and the immigrants themselves, this film exposes the places of conflict, pain and hope along the US-Mexico border. It is a reflection on the human struggle for a more dignified life and the search to find God in the midst of that struggle. Download the movie guide from Sojourners for this and several other movies on immigration (<http://www.faithandimmigration.org/movieguide>).

**Causes of the Irish Emigration** (<http://bit.ly/doN4u4>), by Linda Magnusson. As published on ThinkQuest.

In the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, large numbers of Irish immigrants immigrated to the U.S. and crowded into squalid tenement buildings, taking up low paying and dangerous jobs. Most of us were taught in school that they came as a result of the potato famine – a massive failure of the crop on which they relied. But what caused Irish farmers to become so dependent upon the potato? After all, the potato is a “New World” vegetable that only entered the Irish diet after the European colonization of the Americas.

## Films

### ***Bread and Roses*** (2000)

This drama, starring Adrien Brody and directed by Ken Loach, tells the story of two Latina sisters who work as cleaners in a downtown Los Angeles office building, and their fight for the right to unionize. It highlights the economic disparities in the U.S. and how wages and benefits have declined for low-wage workers in recent years. The film is based on the Justice for Janitors campaign of the Service Employees International Union (SEIU). Read the foreword by SEIU president, Andrew Stern (<http://bit.ly/a1fGu9> - 2 page doc)

### ***Made in L.A.*** (2007) (<http://www.madeinla.com/>)

Like many other low-wage industries employing immigrant workers, the multinational garment industry in Los Angeles uses a network of contractors and sub-contractors to manufacture its apparel while insulating itself from the workers' low wages and poor working conditions. Through the story of three Latina immigrants working in these garment factories and their struggle for self-empowerment, this Emmy award-winning documentary illustrates a system that makes labor laws nearly impossible to enforce and keeps workers trapped between contractor and law enforcement while customers remain mostly unaware of the human costs. Download the 21 page pdf discussion guide for this movie from PBS (<http://to.pbs.org/bdGON0>). Download the movie guide from Sojourners for this and several other movies on immigration (<http://www.faithandimmigration.org/movieguide>).

## Farm workers

### **Farm Worker Conditions**

(<http://www.nfwm.org/category/map/learn-more/farm-worker-conditions>)

Web pages from the National Farm Worker Ministry that describes the living, working and health conditions of our nation's approximately two million migrant and seasonal farm workers

### **Focal Point: Standards of Living**

(<http://www.wral.com/news/local/documentaries/video/3209288/#/vid3209288>)

A 23 minute documentary that ran on WRAL in North Carolina about the living conditions of migrant workers.

### **Para La Gente: The Film Documentary on Immigration and Farm workers in America** ([http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mq\\_7klkKVbl](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mq_7klkKVbl))

8 min preview of the 60 min film "Para La Gente: The Film Documentary" argues that our modern agricultural industry is a continuation of the exploitation of workers that started with the slave trade.

### **Fingers to the Bone: Child Farmworkers in the United States**

(<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NfEtO00DSvl>) A YouTube video made by Human Rights Watch that documents the rampant use of child labor on our country's farms. Child labor is regulated in the U.S. but legal exemptions for farm work make this kind of abuse possible.

### **With or Without Papers – The Same Life in a Labor Camp**

(<http://bit.ly/aF2iMU>), by David Bacon. New America Media, Aug 31, 2010

Article compares the experiences of undocumented workers with those who have an H2-A guest worker visa and finds that they are basically the same.

### **The Bracero Program**

When the U.S. was short on low-wage farm labor, due largely to the second world war, it instituted a "guest" worker program, where workers from Mexico were "invited" to work. The word "bracero" derives from the Spanish word for "arm." At it's height, braceros worked in nearly every state in the union.

### **Los Braceros 1942-1964** (<http://www.farmworkers.org/benglish.html>)

A website by the Sin Fronteras Organizing Project (which helps farmworkers organize to for their rights), it describes the U.S. Bracero program in accessible format.

### **The Bracero Program** (<http://braceroarchive.org/>)

From the University of Northern Colorado, a 47 page pdf file based in a power point presentation, that explains the program, the economic factors for both countries, working conditions and abuse.

### **Opportunity or Exploitation: the Bracero Program**

([http://americanhistory.si.edu/onthemove/themes/story\\_51\\_5.html](http://americanhistory.si.edu/onthemove/themes/story_51_5.html))

From the Smithsonian Institution, an online taste of their exhibit on the Bracero program at the American History Museum.

### **Canada's Guest Worker Program**

As in the U.S., Canada faces a shortage of (low wage) workers, and so instituted a guest worker program. As in the U.S. this has caused both social tensions and human rights concerns.

### **Seasonal Agricultural Worker Program** (<http://bit.ly/bhdqVy>)

From the official website of Canada's Dept. of Human Resources and Skills Development, information on their "guest worker" program.

### **Time to Rethink Guest Worker Program**

(<http://www.thestar.com/comment/article/676158>)

Op-ed from the Toronto Star

### **Hard Thanksgiving for Injured Farm Workers**

(<http://theyee.ca/News/2010/10/11/InjuredFarmWorkers/>)

News article out of British Columbia about the hazards faced by farm workers.

### **After Iowa Raid, Immigrants Fuel Labor Inquiries**

(<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/07/27/us/27immig.html>)

New York Times article about the working conditions in the Postville, Iowa meat-processing plant. More than 20 of the 389 undocumented workers who were apprehended were under-age, some as young as 13.

### **Meat Processing: an Industry Engineered to Hire Immigrants**

(<http://bit.ly/adAmpn>), as posted by Peter Rousmaniere (March, 2006) on "Working Immigrant," a weblog about the business of immigrant work.

The author points to the notable increase of Latin@ workers in recent years and the "deskilling" of labor positions (so that they are cheaper). We note that the meat processing industry has a long history of employing immigrants for low-wage positions – for example, Irish and Polish immigrants during the first half of the 20th Century.

### **Immigration Law: Bringing Back Sweatshop Conditions**

(<http://labornotes.org/node/1824>), by David Bacon (11/08/1998) as published on Labor Notes

Beacon Press author, David Bacon, discusses how our broken immigration system is causing "the return to exploitative conditions in the workplace reminiscent of a century ago. And the enforcement of U.S. immigration law has become a key weapon in the proliferation of those conditions..."

**Wal-Mart: Sweatshop Products & Labor Exploitation Wrapped in the American Flag** (<http://www.organicconsumers.org/politics/walmart32905.cfm>), A.V. Krebs, editor. The Agribusiness Examiner, March 29, 2005, Issue #400  
The article discusses, amongst other things, Walmart's employment and abuse of undocumented workers.

**Unsafe Conditions for Undocumented Michigan Oil Spill Workers**, by Elise Foley (<http://bit.ly/a3belX>). The Washington Independent, August 30, 2010  
Because of their tenuous legal status, undocumented workers often work in unsafe job conditions.

### 3. The Business of Enforcement / Detention

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.

**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.”

## **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](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.

**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 masse. 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

## **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.final1.pdf](http://lawprofessors.typepad.com/files/ndlon_foia_briefing-guide.final1.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.

## **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. Who Benefits from our immigration system as it currently is? And is that fair?
2. What is our own role in this?