

July 27, 2019
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Dear Mr President:

I am concerned about border crime. Criminalizing things for which there is demand is a great incentive to gang formation. Prohibition was a well known example and once formed those gangs were slow to dissolve with Whitey Bulger as an only recently deceased example. By building a wall, blocking asylum and generally terrorizing immigrants you are creating a new generation of gangsters focused on getting people around these rules. Corruption has long been a problem with the Border Patrol and by adding new officers, outsourcing background checks, shifting military personnel into these roles and tolerating vigilante militia groups the problem will only increase. As barriers rise more desperate immigrants will die and border communities will see more violent crime. This week alone sixteen camp Pendleton marines were arrested for human smuggling.

Please assure me that you will welcome all asylees and decriminalize border crossing.

I am very proud to be a US resident and a large part of that derives from our safe communities.

Sincerely,
Eric Babson