

Center for Constitutional Rights

Discrimination, Detention, and Deportation: Immigration & Refugees

<https://ccrjustice.org/home/blog/2017/03/06/trump-s-white-christian-nation>

Public Facing Advocacy Writing

The CCR blog

Muslim ban 2.0 will meet the same resistance in the streets and in the courts

The repackaging of Trumps Muslim ban does nothing to undo its fundamentally repugnant character as an act of state-sponsored bigotry. That was CCRs [official response](#) to todays do-over of the Muslim ban. Trump and his advisers have not bothered to conceal their prejudice, and last weeks revelation that the Department of Homeland Security itself [assessed it to be worthless](#) in stopping potential terrorists from entering the U.S. only underscored the bans obvious discriminatory intent. Minor adjustments in the language will not alter the bans fundamentally repugnant character as an act of state-sponsored bigotry and it will meet the same resistance as the first one, in the streets as well as the courts.

Trumps first Muslim ban was responsible for grave harm to thousands of individuals whose lives and families were upended, and CCR filed a complaint with the Department of Homeland Securitys [inspector general](#) in response. Meanwhile, the administrations words and actions alike have encouraged the predictable violence and harassment of those labeled other with deadly consequences. Two weeks ago a white man yelled [get out of my country](#) and opened fire on two Indian immigrants in a Kansas bar, killing one of them and injuring the other as well as a bystander who intervened. The White Nationalist House was silent in response (as it was after the attack on a Quebec mosque that killed six people), and only issued a statement under fire a week later.

The same is true for the administrations reaction to the rise in anti-Semitic hate crimes. Schools, cemeteries, and Jewish community centers have been vandalized, graffitied with swastikas, and threatened, and while Muslim Americans have responded in [solidarity](#) and raised funds to restore gravestones, official administration response again came only after intense pressure. Trump himself, meanwhile, suggested that the attacks might be [false flags](#).

Trumps promise/threat to make America great again is a vision of white Christian nationalism, silencing, banishing, or making subservient all others.

While the Muslim ban seeks a whitening and Christianizing of the U.S. by keeping certain people out, Trumps executive order on [immigration](#) and the [regulations](#) issued by DHS pursuant to it serve the same goal by detaining and deporting millions of predominantly brown-skinned immigrants.

CCR [denounced](#) the executive order immediately, calling it brutal and a betrayal of our most important political, moral, and constitutional values. And in January, together with our partners at the Immigration Defense Project, we published a [toolkit](#) to inform the public about ways to protect against ICEs unlawful tactics. Meanwhile, protesters have taken to the streets by the thousands in response to stepped-up ICE raids and churches are creating [networks](#) of safe houses and sanctuary spaces.

Whereas Muslims are equated with terrorists by the administration and its followers, immigrants are equated with criminals. By sleight of hand, the White Nationalist House is redefining most undocumented immigrants as criminals. The [DHS rules](#) call for rounding up those with criminal convictions (like [Guadalupe Garcia](#), who had used a false social security number, a necessity in order to work), those merely charged with any crime; those not yet charged with a crime (people who have committed acts which constitute a chargeable criminal offense); and those who in the judgment of an immigration officer, otherwise pose a risk to public safety or national security in other words, anyone they want to.

Under these circumstances, racist policing strategies like broken windows (which intentionally targets low-level offenses like turnstile jumping) that ensnare millions in the criminal justice system become additionally a tool of Trumps ethnic cleansing regime. Sanctuary cities like New York, which refuse to ask for or pass on immigration status information to federal authorities, thus have a long way to go before they can truly claim to be safe harbor for immigrants. Immigrant communities and rights advocates have been [calling on Mayor de Blasio](#) specifically to end the NYPDs broken windows policy.

Sanctuary cities must extend protection from *all* forms of state-sanctioned violence, especially those that overlap, CCR Bertha Justice Institute Fellow [Stephanie Llanes](#) wrote last month in [The Daily Outrage](#). Radical transformation is needed and, for better or for worse, Trumps presidency presents an opportunity to change our local and state policies not only to reduce harm, not only to create shields, but also to create true sanctuaries.

Resources for the Resistance

CCR maintains and regularly updates a collection of [Resources for the Resistance](#) that serves as a hub page for everything from protest calendars to toolkits and know-your-rights trainings to reading lists and curricula. [Check it out](#) and share it with fellow resisters!

**Photo credit: Attribution-ShareAlike 2.0 Generic (CC BY-SA 2.0)*

[View the discussion thread.](#)

Get the latest

Join us on the front lines for social justice!

666 Broadway
7th Floor
New York, NY 10012

Main: 212-614-6464
Donations: 212-614-6448
Fax: 212-614-6499

[Contact us](#)

[Privacy Policy](#)

2019 Center for Constitutional Rights

Main: 212-614-6464
Donations: 212-614-6448
Fax: 212-614-6499

[Contact us](#)

[Privacy Policy](#)

2019 Center for Constitutional Rights

Main: 212-614-6464
Donations: 212-614-6448
Fax: 212-614-6499

[Contact us](#)

[Privacy Policy](#)

2019 Center for Constitutional Rights

Get the latest