

Quit posturing, stop illegal immigrants

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Body

In the ongoing immigration debate, there is one word people seem to be overlooking: **illegal** ("Latest immigration 'crisis' defies simplistic solutions," Our view; "Myths vs. facts," Opposing view, Immigration reform debate, Thursday).

The issue is not immigration, per se; it's about **illegal** immigration. To top it off, we have such illustrious leaders as Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., offering so-called solutions such as allowing people who came here illegally to work in the USA for six years, then permit them to become citizens.

Did anyone hear of exploitation? What about upholding the laws of the United States?

Politicians need to **stop posturing** for re-election and deal with the hard issues they are in office to deal with, including enforcing the law.

David Tishim

Dover, N.H.

Immigration still works

We must protect our borders and insist upon legal immigration first. Anyone in this country illegally needs to be sent home immediately, and our borders must be sealed for protection against terrorists and from people who want a pay check but aren't willing to pledge allegiance to our country.

Immigration, the old-fashioned way, has worked since the birth of this nation. It must continue. **Immigrants** who come here legally, learn the language and eventually take a pledge of allegiance are always welcomed. This way helps maintain the unique and vibrant culture that makes us what we are.

Otherwise, forget July Fourth and start celebrating Cinco de Mayo.

Harry Hoover

Huntersville, N.C.

What about U.S. security?

It is disgraceful that the **illegal** immigration fanatics -- who have no regard whatsoever for our national security, the rule of law or the welfare of 300 million Americans -- want an unlimited, unregulated amount of **immigrants** to be allowed to enter the USA.

Illegal immigration already costs U.S. taxpayers billions of dollars yearly -- not to mention the lost wages resulting from **illegal immigrants** taking jobs at the lower end of the economic ladder.

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Illegal immigration lowers the wage scale and hurts the middle class. It is a major cause of overpopulation in our country and cannot continue unabated without serious, detrimental and irreparable harm to life as we know it in the USA.

Greg Horak

Aurora, Colo.

'Country's borders are weak'

I see on the news there are marches and protests against immigration reform in this country. How is it possible that there are people in this country who do not feel immigration is out of control?

How is it that anyone in this country can be against some sort of immigration reform? What is the problem with proposing some effort to curb the **illegal** invasion happening in the USA? What is the problem with trying to fix the already strained social services departments, caused in part by the influx of **illegal immigrants**?

This country's borders are weak and failing more every day. Until we strengthen the borders, our safety, our culture and our way of life are all in danger. It is time to roll up the "welcome" mats at the borders and replace them with "keep out" signs.

Debra Adkins

Roanoke, Va.

Solutions will take guts

When it comes to getting a deal on immigration, Congress has no guts -- just as our lawmakers lack guts to deal with other larger problems facing this country, such as Social Security and the war in Iraq.

Our politicians don't want to upset their political base.

A fair deal, in my view, would be to allow **illegal immigrants** who are in this country six months to register with immigration authorities without facing criminal charges.

Let them have their cases heard as to why they should or should not be allowed to stay in this country.

After that -- and no matter what -- no one should be allowed to remain in this country illegally, and anyone who gives **illegal immigrants** cover should face charges and a stiff jail sentence.

Garry Allyn DeManty

Stockton, Calif.

Graphic

PHOTO, B/W, Bill Clark, GNS

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