

HUFFINGTON: TEACH IMMIGRANTS AT HOME SENATE CANDIDATE STANDS BY PROP. 187

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Body

Republican **Senate candidate** Michael **Huffington** said Sunday that illegal **immigrant** children who will be thrown out of public schools if Proposition **187** passes should go to private schools or be **taught** at **home**.

Appearing on "This Week with David Brinkley," **Huffington** denied it was hypocritical for him to support the initiative, even though he admitted he broke the law when he employed an illegal **immigrant** to care for his children.

While **Huffington** was on TV, Los Angeles' Republican Mayor Richard Riordan endorsed Democratic Sen. Dianne Feinstein. He joins other members of his party who have endorsed her, including former baseball Commissioner Peter Ueberroth, actor Clint Eastwood and Los Angeles County Sheriff Sherman Block.

Riordan cited Feinstein's work in passing the assault weapons ban and helping the city get \$8.6 billion in federal aid after the January earthquake.

Huffington, meanwhile, continued to blame the nanny problem that has bedeviled his campaign on his wife, who is one of his closest advisers.

"My wife hired her, my wife paid for her, and I asked my wife to let her go. I don't control my wife. . . . I disagreed with my wife, but I'm taking responsibility for my wife's actions," he said.

When **Huffington** suggested his education plan, even conservative newspaper columnist George Will appeared surprised on the show. He asked, "Is it realistic to expect the parents of these children, who are themselves probably working at at least one job, scraping to make ends meet, to invest in private education or to stay **home** and **teach** their children?"

Huffington answered: "Well, hopefully, some have grandparents, some have aunts or uncles, some have people that are retired who can help **teach** the kids."

Many supporters of Proposition **187** already have voiced positions similar to **Huffington**'s. The initiative would deny a public education and most state services to illegal **immigrants**.

Immigration and anti-**187** activists reacted with anger at **Huffington**'s answer. "Many undocumented workers are paid less than minimum wage. To suggest they stay **home** and **teach** kids in their spare time is ridiculous," said Bobbi Murray, spokeswoman for the Coalition for Humane **Immigrant** Rights of Los Angeles.

The Republican **Senate candidate** repeated assertions that there are rumors of Dianne Feinstein employing illegal **immigrants** although neither he nor his campaign has provided evidence.

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Kam Kuwata, Feinstein's campaign manager has emphatically denied that Feinstein ever has employed illegal **immigrants**. "**Huffington** began the campaign lying, and he's going to end the campaign lying," he said Sunday.

Huffington, who will spend the early part of the week in the state's agriculture heartland, told the TV panel that he supports scaling back crop subsidies.

However, **Huffington** said last week at a Santa Clara County Farm Bureau luncheon that he supported cheap water.

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