

Don't Deport My Dad

INTERFAITH
IMMIGRATION
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Families and Faith Leaders Against Immoral Deportations

Resources for Father's Day

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“The Lord your God, who goes before you, will himself fight for you, just as he took your part before your very eyes in Egypt, as well as in the desert, where you saw how the Lord, your God, carried you, as a man carries his child, all along your journey until you arrived at this place”

—Deuteronomy 1: 30-31

How Our Immigration System Unjustly Affects Fathers and Their Families



- In November 2014, President Obama announced executive actions that promised changes to deportation policies. While the creation of the Deferred Action for Parents of Americans and Lawful Permanent Residents (DAPA) and expansion of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) programs have received the most attention and have been postponed due to a lawsuit, other executive actions were also announced, including guidance on the use of [Prosecutorial Discretion](#) which the administration has full authority to implement.
- The Prosecutorial Discretion memo set priorities for enforcement actions, including situations in which individuals should not be deported. Factors to be considered include "length of time in the United States; military service; family or community ties in the United States; status as a victim, witness or plaintiff in civil or criminal proceedings; or compelling humanitarian factors such as poor health, age, pregnancy, a young child, or a seriously ill relative," as well as extenuating circumstances involving any past offenses.
- Despite these policies, local ICE offices are refusing to provide Prosecutorial Discretion and the Obama Administration is still deporting dads, moms, and members of our families, congregations and communities. Examples include:

- ♦ **Pastor Max Villatoro**, father of four U.S. citizen children, who was deported in March
- ♦ **Arturo Hernandez Garcia** ([see petition](#)), father of two daughters, who is living in sanctuary because his pleas to stop his deportation orders have been repeatedly denied by the administration



- ♦ **Leach Chhoeun**, who entered the U.S. as a refugee from Cambodia at age 4, father of two U.S. citizen daughters and last surviving relative and primary caretaker of his mother, and was recently deported to Cambodia, with a pending appeal
- ♦ **Al Samuels**, who was separated from his wife and three U.S. citizen children and held for 5 months in an immigration detention center before his family and his church, Shepherd Park Christian Church, were able to advocate for his release

Understanding Prosecutorial Discretion

- In all of these cases, these individuals' families, friends, congregation members and communities actively and powerfully petitioned for them to be released, for their deportations to be stopped. Some of these efforts have been successful in urging ICE to exercise Prosecutorial Discretion. However, it should not take months of gathering letters of support and appealing to all levels of the government for cases to receive Prosecutorial Discretion. The November 2014 guidance says that Prosecutorial Discretion should be exercised "at all stages of the enforcement process - from the earliest investigative stage to enforcing final orders of removal"
- The failure of ICE to utilize Prosecutorial Discretion in these cases and thousands of others demonstrate the need for additional training, oversight and accountability mechanisms to hold local ICE officers and attorneys accountable who fail to adhere to administrative guidance.
- We're calling on the administration to improve oversight of local ICE office to make sure that Prosecutorial Discretion is being used as much and as early as possible, so that individuals like Pastor Max, Arturo, Leach, Al and others don't have to go through months of family separation, detention and deportation. For Prosecutorial Discretion to effectively function as an administrative policy, it must be utilized with formal and affirmative documentation, inclusive identification and prioritization of equities, and rigorous oversight.



Familial Bonds Are Central to Our Religious Traditions

Social and Historical Context:

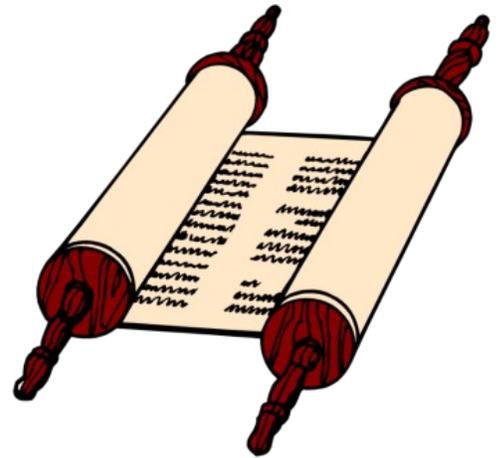
Families in the Hebrew Bible were close-knit with strong feelings of family loyalty. The administration of Biblical covenants included a principle of familial inclusion, which became a core value used as a metaphor for a relationship with God. Steadfast love was the basis of the familial covenant, which created a sense of loyalty, justice, and high regard for one another. In the Hebrew Bible, family has the purposes of reproduction, instruction, care giving, maintaining traditions, and conveying wisdom. For the Hebrew family, steadfast love was the heart of loyalty and solidarity. Covenants included all family relationships and have helped maintain the identity of the Hebrew family through today.

Hebrew Bible

Abraham and Isaac: The story of Abraham and Isaac shows the value that God places on family. Abraham is asked to sacrifice his only son, the most important thing in his life. The surest test of Abraham's loyalty to the Lord is sacrificing his son. When Abraham shows his obedience, the Lord spares his son and blesses him with plentiful descendants. Family is the risk and family is the reward. (Genesis 22: 1-19)

Joseph and his Brothers: The story of Joseph, whose brothers violated the code of family covenant by selling him into slavery, shows the importance of forgiveness and family unity overcoming past wrongs. When Joseph rises to political power in Egypt, he is reunited with his brothers and accepts not only his own family into Egypt, but the entire tribe of Israel, so that they can escape the famine in the land of Canaan. (Genesis 37-50)

Ruth and Naomi: This well-known story highlights the relationship between mother-in-law and daughter-in-law. When Ruth was widowed, she pledged her loyalty to her mother-in-law, Naomi, who had Ruth migrate with her to Bethlehem to help her re-establish herself in a new land. With the assistance of Naomi, Ruth began to work in the fields and was able to eventually marry the landowner wherein she became the great-grandmother to David. The current U.S. immigration system would not recognize the familial relationship between this mother and her daughter-in-law. (Ruth 1 and 2)

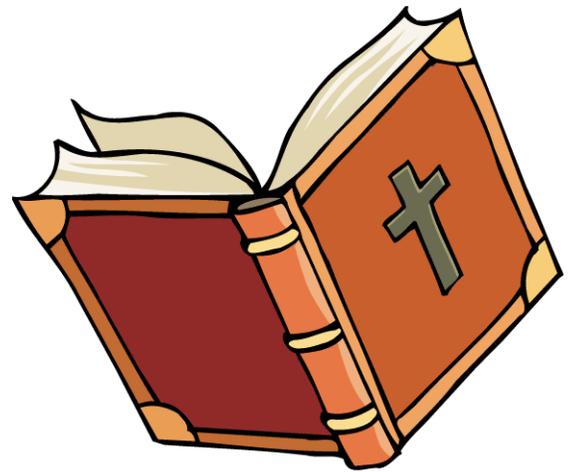


Family Bonds Are Central to Our Religious Traditions

Christian Texts

Mary and Jesus: The relationship between Mary and Jesus throughout his life and especially at the time of his death points to the interconnectedness of familial strength and the fluidity of family relationships. Mary's courage in the Immaculate Conception showed the dedication and strength of motherhood that continued throughout Jesus' ministry. Jesus clearly extended his understanding of the family model to include all of his disciples. Each individual is not independent, but rather interconnected and interdependent. This points to how crucial is it to refrain from limiting the definition of family and the power that parents play in the lives of their adult children and vice-versa. (John 19:25-27)

Mary and Martha: The story of Mary and Martha displays the reliance that adult siblings can have on one another. Mary and Martha give one another mutual and diverse support. Martha welcomes Jesus into their home, which is an important action for Jesus and Mary's relationship. Martha points out that she needs Mary to help her do her work, exhibiting how adult siblings can depend on one another. Mary, however, is able to most fully understand and appreciate Jesus' presence; thereby teaching Martha an important lesson. The interdependence and wisdom that blossoms from these adult sisters' relationship is one so powerful that they are mentioned by name in multiple places in scripture. (Luke 10:38-42)



The Twelve Disciples: At least half of the twelve disciples were brothers and many more siblings were part of the larger following of Jesus. Jesus calls two pairs of brothers to follow him in his ministry. The first thing that Andrew does after he meets Jesus is share the news with his brother, Simon Peter, and together they become disciples of Jesus. The dependence and support between siblings is apparent in the story of James and John. They are fisherman together and followers of Jesus together. Jesus finds them fishing and asks that they follow him. This decision is a joint venture between the brothers. They are reliant on one another's support and trust themselves to follow Jesus together. Jesus does not collect one sibling and leave the other behind. He shows the value of sibling relationships by inviting both to follow him. As more disciples gather there is a sense that the family structure is extended to all followers, as sisters and brothers.—(Matthew 4:18–22 and 10:1-4; Mark 2:14 and 3:16-19; Luke 6:12-16; John 1:35-42)

Impacts of Detention and Deportation on Families

Again and again, U.S. courts have found that pulling families apart brings great detriment upon children and parents—and upon all our communities. As examples, we remember:

“Families and relationships between family members occupy a place of central importance in our nation’s history and are a fundamental part of the values which underlie our society.”
(*Richland Park Homeowners Ass’n v. Pierce*, 671 F.2d 935, 943. 5th Cir. 1982.)

“Separation of the alien from family living in the United States” has been deemed the “most important single factor” that can establish extreme hardship for a family.”
(*Mejia-Carrillo v. U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service*, 656 F.2d 520, 522 (9th Cir. 1981.)



“The trauma caused to an immigrant family when a member is detained is also immense; exacerbated as immigrants are often transported on average 370 miles, and are frequently sent to multiple locations. Such movement leads to further isolation from relatives, and often from legal services, as well.”

—(Seth Wessler, Applied Research Ctr., *Shattered Families: The Perilous Intersection of Immigration Enforcement and the Child Welfare System*

Impacts of Detention and Deportation on Families

A heartbreaking letter that Al Samuels' young daughter Aubrey sent him after he had been picked up by ICE—(Samuels' full story on pages 12-13).

January 26 2023
Dear Daddy,

It is me your princess Aubrey.

I am so sorry that you left on
Thursday.

When you left I cried so much.

Tears were dropping down my
eyes when the men took you

Some where, where I do not know.

I miss you so much da day.

Daddy, I miss you taking
me to school and picking me
up from school everyday.

Love
princess Aubrey



Faith, Family Unity, and the Impacts of Detention and Deportation on Faith Communities

Faith Commitments To Family Unity

Faith communities place high priority upon the crucial values of steadfast love, lived in covenant commitments and mutual care for one another through familial relationships. Our sacred texts constantly call us into relationships of care between Abraham and Isaac, Joseph and his brothers, Ruth and Naomi, Mary and Jesus, Martha and Mary, and the Twelve Disciples.

Impacts of Detention and Deportation on Faith Communities

Thus, immigrant detention and deportation often pose heartaches and hardships for faith communities as well, resulting in confusion about where to locate members, why they were removed without warning, and how to assist remaining family members to maintain contact.

Visitation policies in detention facilities are likewise highly restrictive, time consuming, and often confusing. (Nina Rabin, *Disappearing Parents: Immigration Enforcement and the Child Welfare System*, 44 Conn. L. Rev. 99, 122-24, (2011), and Human Rights Watch, *Locked Up Far Away: The Transfer of Immigrants to Remote Detention Centers in the United States* 79-80 (2009).

And far too often, the detention and deportation of immigrants from our communities leaves great gaps in congregational leadership. Pastor Max Villatoro's local church was left without a pastor when he was deported in March. Indeed, his whole denomination, and many others with similar cases like them, are feeling the pain.

“Pastor Max Villatoro’s case and recent deportation has brought to the forefront that undocumented people are part of our church. And not only that, they are mothers, fathers, pastors, and important members of their local communities.”

—(Iris De León-Hartshorn, Director of Transformative Peacemaking for Mennonite Church USA, <http://mennoniteusa.org/featured-blogs/a-continued-call-to-action-justice-for-the-undocumented/> .)

“Ruben and his wife would be our Associate Pastors, if he were not now in detention.”

—(Rev. Lori Tapia, Co-Pastor, Iglesia Alas de Salvacion, Christian Church, Disciples of Christ, Gilbert, AZ.)

Max Villatoro—Pastor, Community Leader, Husband & Father



Max Villatoro, Pastor of Iglesia Menonita Torre Fuerte (First Mennonite Church) in Iowa City, came to the U.S. in 1994 and, for a time, had a temporary legal status but later lost this due to bad legal advice. He subsequently tried for several years to legalize his status, with the help of the Central Plains Mennonite Conference. Pastor Max has been a leader in his community, and his four children—Anthony, Edna, Angela, and Aileen—are U.S. citizens. His convictions, for trying to obtain a driver's license with false identification and DUI, were more than 15 years in the past and do not represent the man he is now.

Not only does Pastor Max eschew alcohol use for himself, he helps others who struggle with addictions. His positive impact on the community in Iowa City was illustrated by the thousands who rallied to his side during his detainment, including more than 40,000 who signed petitions calling for his release. Pastor Max's relatives in Honduras have been victims of murder, assault and threats due to ongoing violence there.

Unfortunately, he was deported to Honduras on March 20, 2015. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) sent Pastor Max away from his wife and children, his church and the country where he has lived for the past 20 years.

Sadly, Pastor Max is not alone. He was caught in a series of ICE raids dubbed "Operation Cross Check" the week of March 2 which picked up more than 2,000 individuals. Though ICE has said they are deporting the "worst of the worst" criminals, in fact, nearly half of those picked up had only misdemeanor convictions. Another quarter had immigration-related convictions. Many, like Max, had been in the U.S. for decades and leave behind families and communities who are devastated by their loss.

Arturo Garcia: Arrested, Detained, Now Living In Sanctuary

Arturo Garcia has lived in the United States for 15 years with his wife raising two children, one is a U.S. citizen and the other is DACA eligible. In 2010 Arturo was unfairly arrested by local police and later proved innocent in court, withdrawing all charges. Although he was acquitted, Arturo was detained by immigration and deportation proceedings continued.

Arturo has opened a subcontracting business that employs 8-9 people annually and enjoys serving his community in other ways by helping with bible study and service projects at the local Catholic Church. He and his family have exhausted every resource and legal recourse to stay together over the last four years and have now turned to the faith community to find sanctuary, remaining continuously in First Unitarian Society of Denver, Colorado. ICE continues to deny Arturo's appeals saying that the suffering of his family is not reason enough to stop his deportation. Due to the injunction, ICE continues to deny Arturo's appeals despite the harm to his family, the families of his employees, and the long-standing ties he has with the community, as well as the fact that he would likely qualify for DAPA.

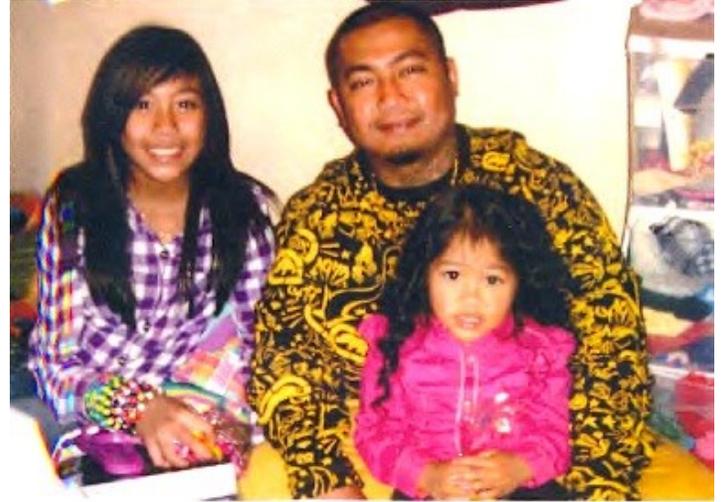


The [Groundswell Movement has an active petition](#) asking President Obama and Department of Homeland Security Secretary Johnson to grant Arturo a stay of removal. Please consider adding your name to the list in support of Arturo and his family.



Leach Chhoeun—The Devastating Impact of Deportation on Southeast Asian Americans

Leach Chhoeun came to the United States as a refugee from Cambodia when he was 4 years old, after most of his family was killed during the genocide. Like other refugees, Leach's family was resettled in an impoverished neighborhood plagued by gang violence, poor schools, unemployment, and a lack of any resources for new immigrants. Cambodian youth were picked on and began joining together for protection. By elementary school, Leach was in a gang. He grew up in Stockton, California.



In 1996, at the age of 18, Leach was arrested for assault with a firearm following an incident in which his cousin exchanged gunfire with a rival gang. Leach was present but unarmed. No one was injured in the incident, but Leach served one year in state prison. Weeks after his conviction, Congress **retroactively** designated it as an “aggravated felony” under new 1996 legislation.

Leach decided to leave gang life in 1999, months after his brother was mistakenly targeted and killed in a drive-by shooting. He married his wife (now of 19 years) and has focused on raising his two daughters, 14 and 6 years old. His father and both sisters tragically died of Lupus. He is the last surviving relative and primary caretaker of his mother, who suffers from major depressive disorder, memory loss, and seizures. In April 2014, ICE arrested Leach, seeking to deport him to Cambodia for his 1996 conviction.

At the last minute, a judge granted Leach a “stay of deportation.” However, two days later, ICE had already put Leach on a plane to Cambodia. He remains there, with an appeal pending, unable to care for his mother, wife, or daughters. According to his attorney, “The judge applied an impossibly high standard for him to reopen his deportation order which was not the correct standard.”

Additional raids picked up more Cambodian refugees in California a month ago, and moved them far away to York, Pa. for interviews with the Cambodian consulate.

Learn More About Leach's Story at: http://www.recordnet.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=%2F20140614%2FA_NEWS%2F406140326%2F0%2Fwap

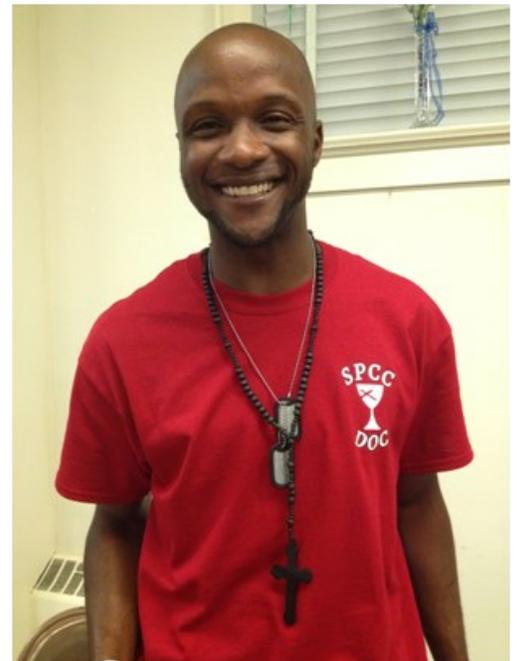


Testimony of Al Samuels—Father, Church Leader, Husband

My name is Al Samuels and I have been a member at Shepherd Park Christian Church for 6 years in Washington, DC. I am originally from Jamaica and moved the US as a child. I am also proud to have served in the U.S. Marine Corps on active duty for four years and on reserve duty for another four years. From November 15, 2012 to April 4, 2013, I was detained by US Immigrations and Customs Enforcement in the Worcester County Detention Center in Salisbury, MD. For five months, I was separated from my loving wife and our 3 kids – all US citizens – wondering whether I would be deported. I lived in fear and pain with my fellow immigrant brothers in detention wondering if my family would be split forever. During this difficult time, the only thing I knew to do was to turn to God and to my fellow brothers in the detention facility.

There were a couple religious groups within my block – but we were mostly split by race, ethnicity and language. But we were all in the same situation. In my particular block, we were 32 men of different backgrounds – but predominantly Latinos and Africans. And it would be safe to say, the groups did not always get along. We would fight over what we would call the three Ts – the tiny Television, the Telephone, and the Tables where we would sit around.

We had official worship services on Saturday mornings that were offered by local pastors, and we also had informal prayer meetings in individual cells. The Latino religious group would meet on Sunday mornings while the remaining detainees watched sports on the television. We were separate. One day, I was talking with one of my Latino brothers and we came to the conclusion that our groups should start to pray and fast together, especially as the Easter season approached. And over the course of 2 weeks, our whole block started to fast. We had 28 of 32 guys praying, singing, worshipping, fasting and skipping meals together. The racial divide and tension immediately disappeared. We were no longer fighting over resources. We were unified in solidarity together through this spiritual action. The warden was shocked. The guards and watch commanders were shocked. They couldn't believe the miracle that they saw in front of their eyes as we unified together. They said we needed to get more groups to do this in the facility.



Al Samuels—Vindicated and Released

I believe that the differences that we overcame in detention are no different than that of our American society – or the divisions in American politics. I am living proof that when people of faith come together – and pray and fast in solidarity – that *circumstances can change* even when the odds are against you. I believe that we can find peace, harmony, and reconciliation in America. I believe this is what our country urgently needs. I love this country, and I am proud to have served overseas in the US military. I feel blessed to have been given the chance to remain here in the US where I can continue to be a father to my kids and husband to my loving and supportive wife. Staying in the US also gave me the opportunity to earn my Master's of Education from Concordia University in Curriculum and Instruction: Ethics, Equity and Justice. My thesis was entitled, "Understanding the Achievement Gap and Educational Attainment: A Holistic Approach .

But, I know there are so many more in detention and millions who have been deported who were not so fortunate. We don't need more of the pain and suffering brought on by the detention and deportations of mothers and fathers. We need for ICE to implement the President's memo that encourages them to NOT detain and deport persons who are not a danger to this society, and we need compassionate reform to our nation's immigration system. Thank you for the opportunity to share my story and I hope that it may bring hope and joy to many. But most importantly, may it bring about change.



“My life and profession have been spent offering words and an ethos that second chances are not deserved, such favor is grace. Grace can be offered by the most unanticipated institutions and communities toward the most unimaginable recipients—grace is judgment saturated with mercy.”

—Pastor Marcus Leathers, Pastor of Al Samuels

A Prayer for Fathers on Father's Day

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*God, Father of us all, we pray with loving gratitude for our dads, living and deceased. We pray especially for the many fathers who have been separated from their families by U.S. deportation policies, and for those dads who fear being deported. We pray for children who cry at night for their dads, youths who miss the strength and love their dads offer, and mothers who struggle to provide for them. We pray that our country's shameful practices of detention and deportation that separate fathers from their families may soon be ended, so that families may be whole again. While we pray to you, Father God, we also renew our commitment to work for an end to separation of immigrant families.
Amen.*

Don't Deport My Dad

Families and Faith Leaders Against Immoral Deportations

Devotion—Camp Tales From Moses

“The Lord your God...will fight for you, just as he did for you in Egypt... and in the wilderness...where you saw...God carried you, as a father carries a child, all the way that you traveled.”—Deuteronomy 1:30-31

Warm weather seasons remind many families of camping stories; tales of fish caught, meals grilled, storms endured, mosquitos fought. For our ancient Hebrew faith family in the book of Deuteronomy, “camp tales” shared on the edge of the Promised Land included a review of God’s presence with them throughout history. Camping there--on the plain of Moab, after decades of journeying sometimes forward and sometimes backwards in obedience and faith—the Israelites were reminded they had NEVER been separated from God. Their journey started with promises to their ancestors in Egypt. It was delayed as they suffered as slaves in Egypt. It re-commenced when they escaped as refugees. It at points veered off track as they wandered and complained, in the desert.

But as Moses took great care to remind them as they encamped at the climax of their decades- long odyssey, God in every moment went BEFORE them. Not many gathered by their tents and listening to Moses would likely have been on the full 40 years of their ancestors’ journey. A few elders may have experienced every hope and every challenge through the years since the granting of the Mosaic Law on Mount Sinai. Parents likely held in their hearts some stories of “promises made” and trust fractured en route. The youngest kids may not have known much about previous battles fought or grumblings along the way.

The message Moses gave to unify them all for entry into their futures ahead, though, was to remember that God would FIGHT for them in the eras before, even as God had rescued them from Pharaoh in Egypt; against all odds, ensuring that love conquered over political power to thwart or enslave them. And, to ensure they would forever feel confident that no future threats could overcome them, Moses reminded God’s people how God CARRIED THEM like a father upholds a beloved child to seek their safety, protect them, and deliver them to a secure place.

Moses’ “campfire message” to the Israelites is “a law that delivers”; restoring hope, reducing fear, assuring protection and comfort. For today’s immigrants, and advocates who seek to support them, it offers an encouragement to work for laws within our own nation which offer the same values of assurance.

Prosecutorial discretion is intended to reinforce just those values. In the story of immigrant and community leader Al Samuels, Pastor Marcus Leathers offered this testimony to the courts, on behalf of his church leader then detained: “My life and profession have been spent offering words and an ethos that second chances are not deserved, (but rather) such favor is ‘grace.’ Grace can be offered by the most unanticipated institutions and communities toward the most unimaginable recipients—grace is judgment saturated with mercy....I pray that (my detained church member) might benefit from an act of mercy executed by our courts.”

In the flicker of the campfire, and spoken in the flickering last month of his long life—Moses likewise called God’s people then to remember God’s constant outpouring of grace. And so we hear his call now that we, too, might offer such grace now to those encamped as migrants among us-- including through support for prosecutorial discretion.



Sign the 'Dads Ask Dads' Letter at <http://ignatiansolidarity.net/fathers/>
Urge the President & Secretary Johnson to Stop Deporting Dads!

President Obama and Secretary Johnson,

Happy Father's Day! Like you, we are fathers too. Like you, our faith is of fundamental importance, and guides our values. However, on this special day for dads we write to you with heavy hearts for immigrant fathers whose families are being unjustly torn apart by our broken immigration system.

Each of us will likely have the opportunity to embrace our children on Father's Day, to play with our children, or celebrate with them over a meal. In contrast immigrant fathers and their children who are marginalized by our country's immoral deportation and immigration detention systems will face yet another day of fear, loneliness, and hopelessness.

President Obama, despite the announcement of your executive actions in November that promised changes to deportation policies, **your Administration is still deporting family members, including dads.** In March, Max Villatoro, a church pastor and father of four U.S. citizen children, was deported. **Max will not be with his children on Father's Day.** Leach Chhoeun entered the U.S. as a refugee from Cambodia at age 4. He is the father of two U.S. citizen daughters and the last surviving relative and primary caretaker of his mother. **Leach was recently deported, and will not be with his children on Father's Day.** Arturo Hernandez Garcia, a father of two daughters, is living in sanctuary because his pleas to stop his deportation orders have been repeatedly denied by the administration. **Arturo will not be with his children on Father's Day.**

In light of the realities faced by these dads and thousands of others, we ask you take the following actions:

- **The White House must ensure that local Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) offices are implementing the administration's stated policies of prosecutorial discretion.** It's clear from these stories of dads and thousands more that ICE is repeatedly violating the prosecutorial discretion policies announced in November.
- **The Department of Homeland Security must train, monitor, and hold local ICE offices accountable to utilizing prosecutorial discretion** whenever possible to stop deporting dads and tearing apart families.
- **The fact that dads are parents and active members of their communities must be weighed against any past mistakes they have made.** Our faiths teach us that we are called to forgive and our communities are to be places of redemption and wholeness.

President Obama and Secretary Johnson, I am sure we can agree that our children are our greatest asset. The children of deported and detained fathers need to be with their dads. We implore you to do everything in your power in the coming weeks and months to make this possible.

Don't Deport My Dad

Families and Faith Leaders Against Immoral Deportations

Taking Action!

Don't Deport My Dad

Families and Faith Leaders Against Immoral Deportations

- ▶ [Sign the 'Dads Ask Dads' Letter](#) to President Obama and DHS Secretary Johnson
 - ▶ Help us **SHARE** the word about a **Father's Day Sign-On Letter** directed toward two dads - **President Obama and DHS Secretary Johnson** - asking them to protect dads from our country's **immoral deportation and immigration detention systems**?
 - ▶ Share it on social media with attached images for [Facebook](#) & [Twitter](#)! **Sample Tweets & FB posts below.** Questions? - E-mail: Chris Kerr at ckerr@ignatiansolidarity.net.
 - ▶ **Dads Ask Dads Sample Tweets/Facebook Posts:**
 - This #FathersDay stand w/immigrant fathers marginalized by an immoral #immigration system | <http://bit.ly/DadsAskDads> #DontDeportMyDad
 - Do you think immigrant dads should be with their children on Father's Day? Let President Obama & Sec Johnson know: <http://bit.ly/DadsAskDads>
 - This #FathersDay ask Pres Obama to protect dads from our country's immoral #immigration system | <http://bit.ly/DadsAskDads> #DontDeportMyDad
 - Do you think dads need to be with their children on Father's Day? This Father's Day JOIN DADS by STANDING WITH IMMIGRANT FATHERS and their children who are marginalized by our country's immoral deportation and immigration detention system. SIGN THE LETTER that will be sent two dads - President Obama and DHS Secretary Johnson - today at: <http://bit.ly/DadsAskDads>
- ▶ Visit <http://DontDeportMyDad.org> for *many stories of family separation* along with call-in numbers and Click-to-Tweet options for House leadership and the White House.
- ▶ **Talking Points For Advocacy**
 - ▶ **We call on President Obama and Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Johnson to:**
 - Provide immediate relief from deportation to Arturo Hernandez Garcia and other fathers
 - Hold local Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) offices accountable to utilizing Prosecutorial Discretion whenever possible to stop deporting dads and tearing apart families.
 - ◆ This includes training, monitoring, and accountability mechanisms for officers who fail to comply. It also means ensuring that individuals' positive equities - being parents and active members of their communities - must always be weighed against any past mistakes. Our faiths teach us that we are called to forgive and our communities are to be places of redemption and wholeness.
 - It's clear from these stories of dads and thousands more that ICE is repeatedly violating Prosecutorial Discretion guidance issued by President Obama in November 2014.
 - The administration has the power to stop the fear that comes from the threats of deportation and family separation. President Obama needs to live up to his promise in the Executive Actions and hold ICE accountable to fully implement the Prosecutorial Discretion guidelines.

Taking Action!

Don't Deport My Dad

Families and Faith Leaders Against Immoral Deportations

SOCIAL MEDIA—Sample Tweets/Facebook Posts:

- No child should be separated from their father on Father's Day because of an unjust deportation. #dontdeportmydad (graphic)
- This Father's Day, families are standing up against unjust deportations. Join them through the #dontdeportmydad campaign. <http://bit.ly/1GzQefX> (add graphic on Facebook post as well)
- Join the #dontdeportmydad this campaign to speak out against unjust deportations. <http://bit.ly/1GzQefX> (graphic)
- Families should not live in fear of separation & deportation this Father's Day. Speak out. #dontdeportmydad <http://bit.ly/1GzQefX> (graphic)
- #DontDeportMyDad Too many families are separated this Father's Day! Find out more & take action: <http://DontDeportMyDad.org>
- #DontDeportMyDad @DHSgov & @WhiteHouse deport 1,100 people every day. Too many families are torn apart. Take action now: <http://DontDeportMyDad.org>
- #DontDeportMyDad The #TimeIsNow to ensure that America lives up to its values. Take action today: <http://DontDeportMyDad.org>
- .@BarackObama You said you would stop separating families. This Father's Day, make good on that promise. #DontDeportMyDad <http://DontDeportMyDad.org>
- Hashtags: #DontDeportMyDad #Not1more #ImplementDiscretion #StandWithFamilies



[**Download And Use This Graphic Here!**](#)

▶ [**Sign a Petition**](#) in support of Arturo Garcia and his Family

▶ [**Fast with Arturo and Rosa**](#)—Join the American Friends Service Committee, Church World Service, Standing on the Side of Love Campaign, and other partners around the country on **June 16th-18th** in a Fast with Arturo and Rosa, who both face possible deportation.