

The Notion of Home: Exploring Immigration Narratives  
& Understanding the Power of Citizenship

Natalie Goncher  
Senior Project  
Preethi Thomas-McKnight & Karyn Silverman  
June 4th, 2019

SENIOR PROJECT = IMMIGRATION IN NEW YORK CITY AND FAMILY NARRATIVES

PITCH = ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

1. HOW DO I TRANSFORM THE KNOWLEDGE I GAINED FROM MY JUNIOR CLASS TRIP EXPERIENCE INTO A FEASIBLE, INDIVIDUAL CALL TO ACTION?
2. WHAT DOES IMMIGRATION LOOK LIKE IN MY OWN COMMUNITY AND HOW DOES ONE'S FAMILY NARRATIVE ULTIMATELY SHAPE WHO THEY BECOME?

THIS PROJECT WILL ACT AS AN EXTENSION OF THE ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS AND TOPICS I EXPLORED THROUGHOUT MY JUNIOR CLASS TRIP REGARDING IMMIGRATION AND BORDER CONTROL IN TUCSON ARIZONA = "HOW DOES OUR CURRENT LEGISLATION CONCERNING IMMIGRATION AND BORDER CONTROL IMPACT ALL ASPECTS OF LIFE FOR IMMIGRANTS — BOTH DOCUMENTED AND UNDOCUMENTED — ON THE MEXICAN-AMERICAN BORDER? FURTHERMORE, HOW DOES BORDER LEGISLATION INFLUENCE SOCIAL STRUCTURES SUCH AS EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT, HOUSING, AND HEALTHCARE?" AFTER I EXPLORED THESE INQUIRIES AND REFLECTED ON THEM THROUGH MY WRITING IN PERSONAL ESSAY CLASS, DURING THE THIRD TRIMESTER OF MY JUNIOR YEAR, MY SENIOR PROJECT WOULD ESSENTIALLY BE MY OWN, INDIVIDUAL CALL TO ACTION.



MY OVERALL QUESTIONS THAT PROVIDE AN INTELLECTUAL FRAME TO GUIDE MY PROJECT ARE, "HOW CAN I TRANSLATE THE ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS AND EXPERIENCES OF MY JUNIOR CLASS TRIP TO INFORM MORE CURRENT ACTION AND ULTIMATELY HELP THE VICTIMS OF THIS UNJUST SYSTEM," "WHAT MORE CAN I LEARN ABOUT THE CURRENT LEGAL SYSTEM AND ITS RESPECTIVE INTERACTIONS," AND "WHAT ELSE CAN I LEARN ABOUT MYSELF AND HOW CAN I USE THE POWER I HAVE AS AN INDIVIDUAL AND CITIZEN TO CREATE MEANINGFUL POSITIVE CHANGE IN OUR WORLD, STEMMING BEYOND SENIOR PROJECT AND MY HIGH SCHOOL CAREER?"

THE FINAL PRODUCT = A DIGITIZED BOOKLET  
THIS WILL CREATE A "REFLECTIVE" SPACE INCLUDING THE FOLLOWING = JUNIOR CLASS TRIP WRITING FROM MY PERSONAL ESSAY CLASS THAT WOULD BE FURTHER EDITED, IN ADDITION TO INDIVIDUAL INTERVIEWS WITH FIRST AND SECOND GENERATION IMMIGRANTS AND THEIR FAMILIES CONDUCTED WITHIN AND OUTSIDE OF OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY THAT WOULD TRANSFORM INTO ARTICLES.

THESE INTERVIEWS WILL ASSIST IN BRINGING IN A FAMILY NARRATIVE, TALK ABOUT ASSIMILATION, THE CHALLENGES THAT ACCOMPANY ABANDONING THE ONLY LIFE ONE HAS EVER KNOWN, AND THE EFFECT ON ONE'S NATIONAL IDENTITY ALONG WITH THE TOPIC OF VULNERABILITY

OVER THE COURSE OF SENIOR PROJECT I WILL ALSO BE VOLUNTEERING WITH IMMIGRANT AND REFUGEE ORGANIZATIONS, WATCHING DOCUMENTARIES, LISTENING TO PODCASTS, AND VISITING HISTORIC LANDMARKS AROUND NEW YORK CITY THAT PERTAIN TO IMMIGRATION. FROM THIS, I WILL CREATE A SOLID CONNECTION TO MY AUDIENCE INSIDE THE WEBSITE THROUGH PROVOKING IMAGES OF SUCH PLACES.

### GOALS

I AIM TO HUMANIZE THIS ISSUE AND MAKE IT MORE TANGIBLE FOR THOSE NOT DIRECTLY AFFECTED TO UNDERSTAND, (WORKING TO GIVE IMMIGRANT AND REFUGEE STORIES THE CORRECT REPRESENTATION AND JUSTICE THEY DESERVE)

### MAIN PIECES OF LITERATURE

1. "TELL ME HOW IT ENDS" BY VALERIA LUISELLI \*
2. "MRS. SEN'S" BY JHUMPA LAHIRI (A FICTIONAL STORY)
3. "THE BOAT" BY NAM LE (FICTIONAL STORY)
4. EXCERPTS FROM "TEACHING MY MOTHER HOW TO GIVE BIRTH" BY WARSAN SHIRE (POETRY)



5. EXCERPTS FROM "LOST IN TRANSLATION" BY EVA HOFFMAN (MEMOIR OF A POLISH IMMIGRANT IN THE 1950s)

6. "A SMALL PLACE" BY JAMAICA KINCAID (PERSONAL ESSAY / MEMOIR OF COLONIALISM & DISPLACEMENT)

MEDIA & SHORT DOCUMENTARIES

- 1. "PRECIOUS KNOWLEDGE"
- 2. "IMMIGRANTS FOR SALE"
- 3. "HARVEST OF EMPIRE"
- 4. "WHICH WAY HOME"

HISTORICAL & ICONIC LANDMARKS

- THE TENEMENT MUSEUM, ELLIS ISLAND, THE STATUE OF LIBERTY, LITTLE ITALY, CHINATOWN (NOM WAH TEA PARLOR), KATZ'S DELICATESSEN, KNISH BAKERY

COHORT MEETING & SCHEDULE

- MONDAY = GROUP MEETING (10:00AM - 11:00AM)
- THURSDAY = GROUP MEETING (10:00AM - 11:00AM)
- FRIDAY = MENTOR MEETING (8:00AM - 8:30AM)
- THE DAY AFTER TOMORROW = NEW YORK

CONTACT ORGANIZATIONS

- NEW SANCTUARY COALITION ACCOMPANIMENT PROGRAM
- BROOKLYN COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
- UNITED WE DREAM
- WE ARE HERE TO STAY
- NEW YORK IMMIGRATION COALITION (NYIC)

PLANNING SENIOR PROJECT

HAVING A PROJECT SUCH AS THIS WOULD ENSURE THAT THIS PROCESS WE WENT THROUGH DURING THE JUNIOR CLASS TRIP WAS NOT JUST FOR US TO ARRIVE BACK TO THE SANCTUARY THAT IS OUR SCHOOL AND WHAT WE WERE EXPOSED TO, BUT RATHER CONTINUE THIS WORK THAT IS PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT TO SUPPORT GIVEN OUR CURRENT POLITICAL CLIMATE AND POLARIZED SOCIETY, WHILE IT IS CRUCIAL TO VOICE SUPPORT AND PROTEST FOR THESE FAMILIES AND INDIVIDUALS WHOSE RIGHTS AND VOICES HAVE BEEN STRIPPED AWAY, IT MUST NOT BE COMPLETED THROUGH "FAUX ACTIVISM." I WILL LEARN HOW TO BECOME AN ENGAGED COMMUNITY MEMBER, AND ACCOMPLISHED MEANINGFUL WORK THAT PERTAINS TO MY PREVIOUS EXPERIENCES.





# PODCASTS

- TITLE = "CHUCK SCHUMER ON THE WALL, THE SHUTDOWN AND THE ERA OF DIVIDED GOVERNMENT"
- CHANNEL = NEW YORK TIMES, THE DAILY
- DATE = JANUARY \* 25 MIN (nytimes.com/the-daily).
- DESCRIPTION = "ON THE 12TH DAY OF THE GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN, THE DEMOCRATIC CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS WENT TO THE WHITE HOUSE AND PROPOSED THAT THE PRESIDENT REOPEN THE GOVERNMENT WHILE THE TWO SIDES IRONED OUT DIFFERENCES ON FUNDING FOR A BORDER WALL. A COUPLE OF HOURS AFTER THAT MEETING, THE NY TIMES SPOKE WITH SENATOR CHUCK SCHUMER, THE SENATE MINORITY LEADER, ABOUT HIS NEWLY EMBOLDENED APPROACH AND HOW HE AND MS. PELOSI PLAN TO STICK TOGETHER IN A DIVIDED WASHINGTON. GUEST = SENATOR CHUCK SCHUMER OF NEW YORK, THE SENATE MINORITY LEADER."

◦ OBSERVATIONS = REVEALS OUR POLARIZED POLITICAL CLIMATE

- TITLE = "DISPATCHES FROM THE BORDER, PART 1"
- CHANNEL = NEW YORK TIMES, THE DAILY
- DATE = JANUARY 14TH \* 25 MIN (nytimes.com/the-daily).
- DESCRIPTION = "AS THE GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN CONTINUES, ANNIE BROWN FROM "THE DAILY" JOINED AZAM AHMED, A NEW YORK TIMES REPORTER, AND MERIDITH KOHUT, A PHOTOJOURNALIST, ON THEIR ENDEAVOR TO DRIVE THE ENTIRE LENGTH OF THE US-MEXICO BORDER. THIS PODCAST

- REVEALS THE FIRST PART OF THAT JOURNEY.
- GUESTS = ANNIE BROWN, A PRODUCER FOR "THE DAILY", AZAM AHMED, THE NEW YORK TIMES BUREAU CHIEF FOR MEXICO, CENTRAL AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN, AND MERIDITH KOHUT, A PHOTOJOURNALIST WHO COVERS LATIN AMERICA.
- OBSERVATIONS = VISITING PLACES SIMILAR TO THOSE WE VISITED OVER THE JUNIOR CLASS TRIP, IT HUMANIZES THE ISSUE AS IT INTRODUCES THEIR LISTENERS TO THOSE LIVING IN MIGRANT CAMPS DIRECTLY ACROSS THE BORDER AND SHOWS THE PAUNTING PROCESS THOSE SEARCHING FOR ASYLUM MUST WAIT, USUALLY FOR SEVERAL MONTHS, TO EVEN BE CONSIDERED.

- TITLE = "DISPATCHES FROM THE BORDER, PART 2"
- CHANNEL = NEW YORK TIMES, THE DAILY
- DATE = JANUARY 29TH \* 30 MIN (nytimes.com/the-daily).
- DESCRIPTION = "AFTER A 35-DAY GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN OVER A PROPOSED WALL ALONG THE US-MEXICO BORDER, DEMOCRATS AND REPUBLICANS IN CONGRESS ARE NEGOTIATING OVER WHAT BORDER SECURITY ACTUALLY MEANS. THEY CHECKED WITH ANNIE BROWN FROM "THE DAILY" WHO'S BEEN DRIVING THE LENGTH OF THE BORDER WITH THE NEW YORK TIMES REPORTER AZAM AHMED. THEIR LAST DISPATCH FOCUSED ON MIGRANTS IN MEXICO DECIDING WHETHER TO CROSS THE BORDER ILLEGALLY. NOW, THEY HEAR WHAT CAN HAPPEN ONCE THEY CROSS. GUESTS = ANNIE BROWN, A PRODUCER FOR "THE DAILY," AND AZAM AHMED, THE TIMES



BUREAU CHIEF FOR MEXICO, CENTRAL AMERICA,  
AND THE CARIBBEAN.

° OBSERVATIONS = IT SHOWS PEOPLE'S STRUGGLES AS THEY ATTEMPT TO CROSS OVER THE BORDER SAFELY. IT TOUCHES ON THOSE WHO TRAVEL THROUGH TOWNS SURROUNDING THE BORDER AND THE DEATH TOLL THAT COMES WITH IT. IT FOCUSES ON HOW THE INCREASED AMOUNT OF BORDER SECURITY PUSHED MORE MIGRANTS INTO DESOLATE LANDS, SCRUB BRUSH, DESERT, AND EMPTINESS TO DESUADE PEOPLE FROM COMING. HOWEVER, FORCING MIGRANTS INTO INHOSPITABLE ENVIRONMENTS HAS ONLY INCREASED THE DANGERS AND COMPROMISED THE SAFETY OF THOSE SEEKING ASYLUM AND RESOLUTION FROM HARM BY CROSSING. THE PODCAST REVEALS THAT IF THOSE ASKING FOR ASYLUM WILL NOT BE GRANTED IT FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS, IT IS NOT WORTH WAITING. IT FOCUSES IN ON BROOKS COUNTY, PEOPLE'S TREK THROUGH RANCHES WITH NO SENSE OF DIRECTION AND DENED INTO THE REALM OF THE "SACRED HEART" BURIAL GROUND, THE COUNTY'S CEMETARY, FILLED WITH ANONYMOUS REMAINS. THE REPORTERS DISCUSS THE LONG TRENCHES AND ENCAMPMENTS OF PEOPLE EXCAVATING BLACK TRASH BAGS BURIED IN THE DESERT FILLED WITH BONES (THE REMNANTS OF THOSE WHO DIED LONG BEFORE THEY WERE BURIED). AHMED JOINS HUMANITAREAN GROUPS WITHIN THIS TOWN, NOT FAR FROM THE BORDER, TO PARTICIPATE IN WATER DROPS, SEEING SLASHED BOTTLES, SURVEY THE UNRULY TERRAIN, AND AS

WE HAD OVER THE COURSE OF OUR JUNIOR CLASS TRIP, WALK ALONG A PIECE OF THE BORDER WITH SUBTLY INDICATIONS AND TRINKETS LEFT BY THOSE TRAVELING THROUGH. IN THIS TOWN SPECIFICALLY, MANY ARE TRYING TO RECLAIM PEOPLE FROM ANOMINITY WHERE THEY HAVE DISCOVERED OVER 150 BODIES, TRAVELING WITH NECESSITIES AND PERSONAL ITEMS, COLLECTING DNA TO UPLOAD INTO A DATABASE. THUS FAR THEY HAVE FOUND THE IDENTITIES OF 30 PEOPLE AND ASSISTED FAMILIES IN GAINING CLOSURE YET THERE ARE THOUSANDS WAITING TO BE FOUND OR IDENTIFIED. THIS PODCAST CARRIES A STARK SIMILARITY TO MY TRIP TO TUCSON, ARIZONA AND HIGHLIGHTS WHAT PEOPLE ARE FLEEING IN ADDITION TO THE LENGTHS ONE IS WILLING TO GO THROUGH FOR SURVIVAL AND THE HOPE FOR A BETTER LIFE.

° TITLE = "LUCK, FORTUNE, AND CHANCE"

° CHANNEL = NPR, TED RADIO HOUR

° DATE = MARCH 1ST x 53 MIN (TED.NPR.ORG)

° DESCRIPTION = "WHAT MAKES SOMEONE LUCKY? CAN LUCK BE CONTROLLED, IS IT RANDOM, OR IS IT BASED ON SOMETHING ELSE ENTIRELY? THIS HOUR, TED SPEAKER EXPLORE IDEAS ABOUT WHY SOME PEOPLE SEEM MUCH LUCKIER THAN OTHERS. GUESTS INCLUDE FORMER PROFESSIONAL POKER PLAYER, LIV BOEKEE, A PROFESSOR OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP, TINA SEELIG, COMMUNITY ACTIVIST, AMY HUNTER, JOURNALIST, MARK SUTCLIFFE, AND YOUTH SERVICES ADVOCATE,



ESHAUNA SMITH."

° OBSERVATIONS = TINA SEELIG, A STANFORD PROFESSOR AND SPEAKER, DECIPHERS THE MEANING OF LUCK WHICH IS "DEFINED AS SUCCESS OR FAILURE APPARENTLY CAUSED BY CHANCE, WHERE APPARENTLY IS THE OPERATIVE WORD." SHE EXPLAINS HOW LUCK CAN BE INCREASED BY TAKING A SERIES OF RISKS AND ONE'S REACTIONS TO FAILURE ALONG WITH HOW ONE INTERACTS WITH THE WORLD, SHE ELUDES TO THE FACT THAT LUCK IS INFORMED BY CIRCUMSTANCE AND DECISION MAKING.



04.07.19

A SUMMATION OF AND REFLECTION ON "TELL ME HOW IT ENDS"

# TELL ME HOW IT ENDS

AN ESSAY IN  
FORTY  
QUESTIONS

VALERIA  
LUISELLI

"TELL ME HOW IT ENDS = AN ESSAY IN FORTY QUESTIONS" BY VALERIA LUISELLI REVEALS THE LACK OF LEGAL REPRESENTATION AND RELIEF FOR THOUSANDS OF IMMIGRANTS AND REFUGEES COMING FROM CENTRAL AMERICA OVER THE BORDER BETWEEN MEXICO AND THE UNITED STATES ANNUALLY. SHE OBSERVES THAT THE MOST VULNERABLE PEOPLE IN THIS FLIGHT FROM POVERTY AND VIOLENCE IN THEIR FRACTURED NATIONS AND INTO THE UNITED STATES, WITH THE EXPECTATION OF SAFETY AND SANCTUARY, ARE CHILDREN. LUISELLI'S WORDS ILLUSTRATE THE REALITY OF AN IMPERMEABLE, CALLOUS SYSTEM — ONE THAT IS BOTH CYNICAL AND BRUTAL — ACTING TO DEHUMANIZE IMMIGRANTS, THE AUTHOR OF THIS NOVEL, AS A WOMAN BORN IN MEXICO CITY AWAITING A GREEN CARD TO GRANT HER RESIDENCY IN THE US, WAS IMMEDIATELY IMMERSSED IN THE IMMIGRATION LEGAL SYSTEM. SHE BECAME ACUTELY AWARE OF THE



INCREASE IN UNACCOMPANIED CHILD MIGRANTS, PROMPTING HER TO START VOLUNTEERING AT AN IMMIGRATION COURT IN NEW YORK CITY WHERE SHE CONDUCTED INTAKE QUESTIONNAIRES WITH THE CHILDREN AND TRANSLATED THEIR ANSWERS TO ASSIST THEM IN THEIR SEARCH FOR LEGAL REPRESENTATION. HER PERSONAL EXPERIENCES AND ENCOUNTERS WITH THE CHILDREN ARE WHAT ULTIMATELY INSPIRED HER TO WRITE WITH THIS POWERFUL AND SIMULTANEOUSLY BEAUTIFUL STORY.

FROM ADMINISTERING THESE QUESTIONNAIRES, SHE WRITES ABOUT HOW THE "CORRECT" ANSWERS, THOSE THAT WILL HELP CHILDREN ACQUIRE AN ATTORNEY, ARE THE ANSWERS YOU DON'T WANT TO HEAR - ONES THAT MAKE YOU WANT TO COWER BEHIND CLOSED HANDS, COVERING YOUR EYES WITH STRETCHED OUT FINGERS, AND KEEPING YOUR EARS PLUGGED WITH CONCRETE BLOCKS, ISOLATED FROM THE HORRID TRUTH. EVEN WITH THESE VIVID MEMOIRS, PEOPLE HAVE A TENDENCY TO IGNORE THE STRUGGLES OF OTHERS IF THEY DO NOT DIRECTLY CONCERN THEM. LUISELLI FURTHER ILLUSTRATES HOW PEOPLE OFTEN TIMES CHOOSE TO BECOME COMPLACENT IN OPPRESSIVE SYSTEMS BECAUSE IT IS EASIER AND LESS PAINFUL TO BE OBLIVIOUS. IN HER INTERVIEWS, SHE RECOGNIZES HOW TRANSLATION AND INTERPRETATION BLEED INTO ONE ANOTHER AND FINDS IT DIFFICULT TO SEPERATE THE TWO.<sup>2</sup> LUISELLI SAYS THE CHILDREN'S RESPONSES AND BLANK SPACES ON THE QUESTIONNAIRE FORMS REPRESENT "BADLY STITCHED WOUNDS WHILE AN UNCOMFORTABLE SILENCE" ENGULFS THEIR EXPERIENCE,

EACH SEARCHING FOR "THE MODEST ASPIRATION TO WAKE UP FROM A NIGHTMARE."<sup>3</sup> SHE HIGHLIGHTS THE ASTRONOMICAL RATES OF SEXUAL ASSAULT, ABDUCTIONS, DEATH, DISAPPEARANCES, AND MALTREATMENT THAT SURROUNDS THE BORDER. SHE ACKNOWLEDGES THE "HORROR STORIES" WHICH HAVE BEEN ENGRAVED INTO THE "COLLECTIVE SOCIAL CONSCIOUS," BUT ALSO STATES THAT THE STORIES THAT STEM BEYOND ABSTRACT STATISTICS, THE ONES OF THE DEEPEST TERROR, ARE THOSE THAT HAVE BEEN LEFT TO MARINATE IN SILENCE.<sup>4</sup> THESE SCARRING STORIES ARE THE ONES THAT ECHO THROUGH AND REPLAY IN OUR DAILY LIVES, EVIDENCE OF OUR BROKEN WORLD.

WHILE LUISELLI OUTLINES THE DANGERS OF OUR CURRENT POLARIZED POLITICAL CLIMATE, SHE ALSO HINTS AT OUR SOCIETY'S TENDANCY TO NORMALIZE VIOLENCE AND HIGHLY TRAUMATIC EVENTS. SHE RECALLS HER EXPERIENCES AT THE IMMIGRATION COURT WITH A FEARFUL TONE "THE BUILDINGS LABYRINTHINE ARCHITECTURE IS, IN A WAY, A REPLICA OF THE UNITED STATES IMMIGRATION SYSTEM. AND, AS IN ANY LABYRINTH, SOME FIND THEIR WAY OUT AND SOME DON'T. THOSE WHO DON'T MIGHT REMAIN THERE FOREVER, INVISIBLE SPECTERS WHO GO UP AND DOWN ELEVATORS AND WANDER THE HALLWAYS, IMPRISONED IN CIRCULAR NIGHTMARES."<sup>5</sup> MANY WHILE ENTERING THE "COURT PROCESS" ARE ASKED ABOUT A SPONSOR, A FAMILY MEMBER ALREADY LIVING IN THE UNITED STATES,



BUT MANY OF WHOM ARE UNDOCUMENTED MEANING THAT REVEALING THEIR IDENTITY MAY COMPROMISE THEIR SAFETY,<sup>6</sup> SHE DESCRIBES THIS AS A "FAMILIAL REUNIFICATION OF ABSOLUTE STRANGERS," WHERE MANY OF THEIR STORIES FORM A LARGER PICTURE, USUALLY FOLLOWING "THE SAME PREDICTABLE, FUCKED-UP PLOT."<sup>7</sup> BECAUSE IMMIGRATION COURT IS A CIVIL COURT, THESE MIGRANT CHILDREN ARE NOT ENTITLED TO THE FREE LEGAL COUNSEL THAT AMERICAN LAW GUARANTEES PEOPLE ACCUSED OF CRIMES AND WHILE THE WORK VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATIONS HAVE DONE IS IMPRESSIVE, THEY ARE ONLY ABLE TO PROVIDE "PATCHWORK SUPPORT."<sup>8</sup>

LUISELLI EXPANDS ON HER THOUGHTS AND FOCUSES ON THE SYSTEMIC AND TARGETED VIOLENCE OF CRIMINAL GROUPS, REFERENCING HOW MOST CHILDREN SHE INTERACTED WITH, COMING FROM GUATEMALA, EL SALVADOR, AND HONDURAS WERE FLEEING GANG VIOLENCE AND THE USUALLY SUBSEQUENT FATE OF BEING RESIGNED TO A MASS GRAVE IN TAMAULIPAS OR VERACRUZ.<sup>9</sup> THE CAUSES OF THIS VIOLENCE ARE DEEPLY EMBEDDED IN A SHARED HEMISPHERIC HISTORY IN WHICH THE UNITED STATES IS AN ACTIVE PARTICIPANT BECAUSE DRUG TRAFFICKING IS A RESULT OF AMERICA'S DEMAND.<sup>10</sup> HOWEVER, LUISELLI CLAIMS THAT GOVERNMENTS CANNOT DEAL WITH THE "UNCOMFORTABLE TRUTH" THAT MIGRANTS ARE "WAR REFUGEES" BECAUSE IT "OBLIGUES THEM TO DEAL DIRECTLY WITH THE PROBLEM."<sup>11</sup>

LUISELLI BELIEVES IT IS HER DUTY TO

TRANSLATE THE EMOTIONAL AND INTENSIVE ASPECT OF IMMIGRANT CHILDREN'S STORIES INTO COMPELLING NARRATIVES THAT CAN BE USED AS POLITICAL CAPITAL TO HELP THE CHILDREN IN COURT. SHE REMINDS US, AS READERS, THAT SHARING STORIES IS A MEAN TO "UNDERSTAND" THE UNTHINKABLE" AND ENCOURAGES PEOPLE TO RECOGNIZE HOW TRULY SCARCE AND BEWILDERING LEGAL RESOURCES ARE FOR MOST OF THOSE WHO DO NOT HAVE CITIZENSHIP. HER PIECE ULTIMATELY ALLUDES TO THE PROGRESS THAT MUST BE MADE IN ORDER TO PRODUCE A BRIGHTER, MORE HARMONIOUS FUTURE AND DRAWS ATTENTION TO OUR GREATER WANT, AS HUMAN BEINGS, TO BELONG.

#### FOOTNOTES & ENDNOTES (PAGE #s)

1. 66
2. 68
3. 13
4. 26
5. 35
6. 50
7. 51 & 83
8. 68
9. 44
10. 86 & 87
11. 87 & 90
12. 93, 95, & 98



READING THIS SHORT NOVEL, I HAVE GAINED DEEPER INSIGHT INTO THE PROCESS OF OBTAINING LEGAL AID AND FINDING A SAFE SPACE IN AN UNFAMILIAR SETTING. I FOUND MYSELF ABLE TO SHARE SIMILAR EMOTIONS AND FRUSTRATIONS WITH THE AUTHOR ULTIMATELY CREATING A TIE BETWEEN US.



PERSONAL NARRATIVE, THE WORLD THROUGH MY EYES,

A STREAM OF CONSCIOUSNESS = POETRY

TITLE = A VIOLENT WORLD

A EMULATING WARSAN SHIRE'S "HOME" AND LAWRENCE

FERLINGHETTI'S "I AM WAITING" WITH A

A REFERENCE TO EMMA LAZARUS'S "THE NEW COLOSSUS"

COLOSSUS"

IN THIS TIME

WE NEED YOU, MY DARLING,

MY YOUNG FRIEND

BECAUSE THERE IS PAIN-

BECAUSE THERE IS AGONY-

BECAUSE THERE IS TORMENT-

BECAUSE THERE IS ANGER-

BECAUSE THERE IS BLOOD ON OUR HANDS

IN THIS TIME

WE NEED YOU, MY DARLING,

MY YOUNG FRIEND,

WHO CAN GROW TO CHANGE THE WORLD

BECAUSE A CHILD SHOULD NOT BE SEIZED

FROM THE WARMTH OF HIS MOTHER'S EMBRACE

BECAUSE HE DESERVES TO KNOW HER FACE

AND SHE TO WATCH HIM THRIVE,

BECAUSE THERE IS EVIL LURKING IN THE DARKNESS

AND EVEN IN THE LIGHTED TORCH OF THE STATUE'S HAND,

OFFERING A FALSE PROMISE

BECAUSE "GIVE ME YOUR TIRED, YOUR POOR,

YOUR HUDDLED MASSES YEARNING TO BREATHE FREE,

THE WRETCHED REFUSE OF YOUR TEEMING SHORE"

WAS A BENEVOLENT MASK RIPPED OFF BY FEAR AND HATRED

BECAUSE I CAN STILL STILL HEAR,

STILL SMELL,

THE SMOKE OF A GUN

AS ITS BULLETS FIRE FROM THE BARREL,

MAIMING THE HOUNDED AND INNOCENT

WHO BELIEVED THEY FOUND SANCTUARY,

BUT WERE INSTEAD GREETED WITH VIOLENCE,

AS A HAND PULLED

AN UNFORGIVING TRIGGER,

BECAUSE JUSTICE HAS BEEN COMPROMISED,

LOST

AND WE ARE ALL CRIMINALS

WHILE THE UNARMED ARE DEAD,

BECAUSE THE WORDS THAT LEAVE POLITICIANS'

MOUTHS ARE CRUDE AND IGNORANT,

BECAUSE HUMANITY HAS BEEN NEGLECTED,

EVEN SCORNE

AND ITS BLOOD IS ON OUR HANDS

IN THIS TIME

WE NEED YOU, MY DARLING,

MY YOUNG FRIEND,

WHO CAN GROW TO CHANGE THE WORLD,

WHO CAN LEAD A FORCE OF MANY,

WHO CAN MARCH FOR JUSTICE,

WHO CAN SAVE THE CHILDREN FROM THEIR CELLS

AND RETURN THEM TO THEIR PARENTS

IN THIS TIME

WE NEED YOU, MY DARLING,

MY YOUNG FRIEND,

WHO WILL CHANGE US ALL





BECAUSE OUR WORLD  
 CAN BE LIKE BRUISED KNEES =  
 FUNCTIONAL AND FIXABLE,  
 BUT NEVERTHELESS  
 DAMAGED AND HURTING  
 LIKE TEARS OF HEARTBREAK =  
 GUT-WRENCHING AND GENTLE,  
 POURING LIKE SOAP,  
TO RINSE THE BLOOD OFF  
OUR BRITTLE HANDS.



WE NEED YOU  
 BECAUSE OUR WORLD IS COLD  
 IT GROWS UPSET  
 AND OVERWHELMED  
BUT YOU, MY DARLING,  
YOU  
MUST BRING A FIRE  
THAT ISN'T ANGRY,  
A SKY  
 THAT ISN'T DISTRAUGHT,  
AN EARTH  
 THAT ISN'T ENVILOUS,  
 AND A HAND  
 THAT IS STRONG AND TRUE,  
IN THIS TIME  
WE NEED YOU, MY DARLING,  
MY YOUNG FRIEND,  
 TO BRING US  
THE LOVE AND LIGHT WE CRAVE.



"RELATED POETRY" & LECTURES:

- TITLE = "SECOND ATTEMPT CROSSING" AND "CITIZENSHIP"
- AUTHOR = JAVIER ZAMORA

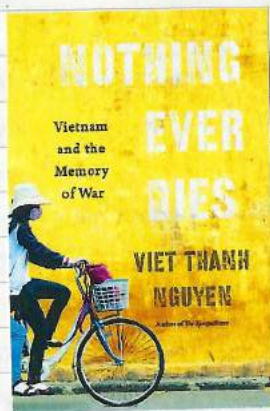
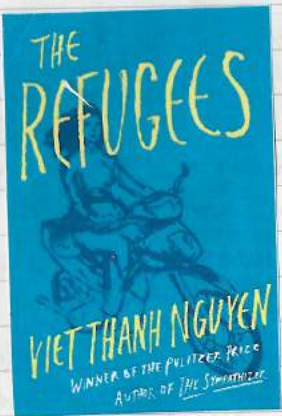


- TITLE = "HOME"
- AUTHOR = WARJAN SHIRE

- EVENT = THE EDWARD W. SAID MEMORIAL LECTURE
- TITLE = "OUT OF PLACES: REFUGEES, IMMIGRANTS, AND STORYTELLING" ([heymancenter.org/events/viet-thanh-nguyen/](http://heymancenter.org/events/viet-thanh-nguyen/))
- DATE = MONDAY, APRIL 8TH 2019 6:15PM, THE HEUMAN CENTER FOR HUMANITIES AT COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY CONDUCTED BY THE ITALIAN ACADEMY
- ABOUT VIET THANH NGUYEN = A VIETNAMESE-AMERICAN NOVELIST WHOSE NOVELS SUCH AS, "THE SYMPATHIZER," "NOTHING EVER DIES = VIETNAM AND THE MEMORY OF WAR," AND "THE REFUGEES" WON HIM THE PULITZER PRIZE FOR FICTION

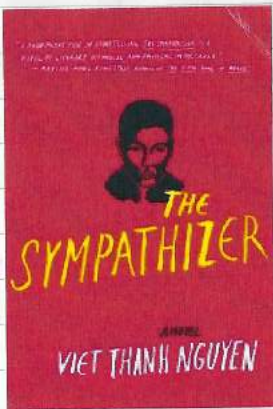
- TITLE = "AMERICA, SAY MY NAME" (<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/03/09/opinion/09vietnam.html>)
- AUTHOR = VIET THANH NGUYEN
- DATE = MARCH 9TH, 2019
- ABOUT THE PIECE = HE WRITES ABOUT HIS EXPERIENCES WITH A VIETNAMESE NAME IN AMERICA IN AN OP-ED FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES. IN THIS PIECE, HE OPENS A DIALOGUE ABOUT HIS STORY, IDENTITY, WHAT IT'S LIKE TO BE A CITIZEN, AND LIVE IN AMERICA. HE SPEAKS OF PROUDLY AND PUBLICALLY ASSERTING HIS NAME TO PEOPLE, NOT SACRIFICING A PIECE OF HIMSELF TO APPEASE OTHERS. (<https://vietnguyen.info/author-viet-thanh-nguyen>)



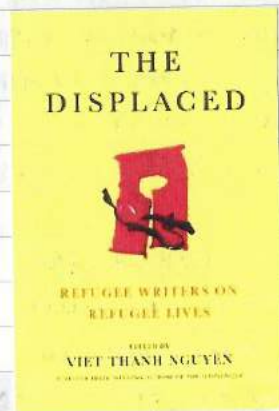


IN MEMORY." HE USES THE VIETNAM WAR AS A MODEL TO CRITIQUE THE WAYS IN WHICH WARS ARE REMEMBERED AND OFFERS AN ALTERNATIVE ETHICAL MODEL. HE REFERS TO THE IDEA OF FOREMEMORY AND THE NEED TO ENSURE THAT NONE OF WAR'S PARTICIPANTS ARE MARGINALIZED OR FORGOTTEN. HE "SUGGESTS A COSMOPOLITAN EDUCATION THAT HUMANIZES OTHERS WHILE ALSO ACKNOWLEDGING OUR ABILITY TO CAUSE HARM."

3.



4.



3. "THE SYMPATHIZER" IS THE STORY OF A COMMUNIST SPY WHO IS - CONFLICTED ABOUT WHERE HE STANDS WITHIN HIS POLITICAL BELIEFS AND IN THE WORLD ITSELF.

4. "THE DISPLACED" IS "A COLLECTION OF ESSAYS BY REFUGEE WRITERS ABOUT REFUGEE LIVES. IT HOSTS A GROUP OF DIVERSE PERSPECTIVES FROM ACROSS THE WORLD, BOUND TOGETHER BY THEIR SHARED TRAUMA - SEPARATED BY TIME AND DISTANCE." (ADIBA JAIGIRDAR'S REVIEW FOR CULTURED VULTURES)

"INTERDISCIPLINARY INQUIRY"

INFORMATION ABOUT THE AFOREMENTIONED TEXTS =

1. "THE REFUGEES" IS A COLLECTION OF EIGHT SHORT STORIES WHERE THE MAIN CHARACTERS ARE VIETNAMESE IMMIGRANTS AND THEIR CHILDREN, AND MANY OF THEM FLEEING VIETNAM AFTER THE COMMUNIST REGIME TOOK POWER.

2. "NOTHING EVER DIES - VIETNAM AND THE MEMORY OF WAR" SPEAKS TO NGUYEN'S NOTION THAT WARS ARE FOUGHT TWICE, "THE FIRST ON THE BATTLEFIELD, AND THE SECOND



04.08.19

VIET THANH NGUYEN / HISTORY, POLITICS, AND THE ART OF WRITING // RADCLIFFE INSTITUTE

FEBRUARY 8TH, 2018

- AIMS TO INVESTIGATE THE POWERFULLY LARGE COMPLEXITIES OF WAR DISPLACEMENT, ETHNIC IDENTITY, AND THE REFUGEE EXPERIENCE
- HIS WORK SHOWCASES THE INTERSECTION OF IDENTITY, HISTORY, AND WRITING, AS A REFUGEE

— HE ANNOUNCES TO THE AUDIENCE THAT HIS MEMORY "STARTED" WHEN HE MOVED INTO A "WHITE SPONSERSHIP FAMILY" AT THE AGE OF 4 BUT ALSO SAYS THAT THIS IS WHERE THE FORGETTING PROCESS CAN BEGIN AND THAT, AS A SCHOLAR, IT IS HIS DUTY TO REMEMBER

◦ HE SPEAKS ABOUT THE CHALLENGES HE FACED UNDERSTANDING HOW TO INCORPORATE POLITICS, HISTORY, ETHICS, AND IDENTITY INTO ONE'S WRITING — PIECING THEM TOGETHER — EVENTHOUGH THEY ARE CLASSICALLY TAUGHT AS BEING SEPERATE. HE ALSO CLAIMS THAT DOMINANT CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE IS SLIGHTLY LACKING IN THIS REGARD. HE DESCRIBES THE ACT OF DISREMEMBERING AS AN "UNETHICAL AND PARADOXICAL MODE OF FORGETTING AT THE SAME TIME AS REMEMBERING." HE SPEAKS OF IT AS BEING "SEEN THROUGH", NOT MUTE BUT STRUCK DOWN. HIS STORY CIRCLES AROUND VOICE AND STYLE AND IS INFORMED BY HIS ASIAN-AMERICAN IDENTITY. HE REMINDS PEOPLE THAT HIS STORY DOES NOT FOLLOW THE

04.09.19

TRADITIONAL CONCLUSION OF THE "AMERICAN DREAM" BUT RATHER THAT IT CHALLENGES MAJORITY PRIVILEGE. IN TERMS OF HIS WRITING HE STATED THAT ONE SHOULD BE WILLING TO BE UNCOMFORTABLE AND TO DETERMINE WHAT ONE IS AFRAID OF SAYING AND DO SO. ([HTTPS://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/WATCH?V=AILKTKGFK70](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AILKTKGFK70))



IMAGES OF VIET THANH NGUYEN





(MONDAY)

04.08.19

DOCUMENTATION = DAILY REFLECTIVE WRITING

• OVER THE COURSE OF ANALYZING THE NOVEL, "TELL ME HOW IT ENDS" AND READING OTHER AUTHOR'S WORKS THAT RELATE TO THE TOPIC, I WAS ABLE TO GAIN DEEPER INSIGHT INTO OTHER'S EXPERIENCES AND THE PHYSICAL MATERIALIZATION OF EACH OF THOSE STORIES. MY COHORT MEETING AND DISCUSSION OF CONDUCTING INTERVIEWS CAUSED ME TO REALIZE THAT MOST OF THE QUESTIONS I CARE TO ASK ARE ABOUT CITIZENSHIP, AND THE ATTITUDES REGARDING IT, ALONG WITH HOW DEMOCRACY ITSELF FUNCTIONS AND HOW PEOPLE SHOULD HAVE A VOICE IN OUR GOVERNMENT. IT SHOWED ME THAT MY PROJECT IS SLOWLY MORPHING INTO ONE ABOUT THE PRIVILEGES OF CITIZENSHIP, LIVING IN THE UNITED STATES, AND HOW THAT EXPERIENCE DIFFERS UPON WHO IT IS. FROM MY HISTORICAL ANALYSIS THROUGH LITERATURE CLASS AND CONDUCTING RESEARCH, I HAVE FOUND THAT, OCCASIONALLY, THE PURPOSE OF STORY TELLING IS TO RETURN TO MEMORIES THAT ARE UNRESOLVED, ONES THAT PEOPLE CANNOT UNDERSTAND, OR PARTICULARLY RETURN TO IN A "FANTASY WORLD" BECAUSE THEY CANNOT COME TO TERMS WITH IT IN THE "REAL WORLD." IN MANY OF THE PODCASTS AND LECTURES I HAVE LISTENED TO ELUDE TO THE FACT THAT "CHANGE STEMS FROM INCREMENTAL AND GENERATIONAL PROGRESS THAT BEGINS WITH ACCOUNTABILITY."

(TUESDAY)

04.09.19

DOCUMENTATION = DAILY REFLECTIVE WRITING

• WORKING WITH NEW SANCTUARY, I ASSISTED IN RESEARCH AND DATA COLLECTION FOR THE LEGAL AID CLINIC THEY RUN. I WAS TASKED WITH LOOKING INTO THE "PUBLIC CHARGE" RULE CHANGE IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER WHOSE "COMMENTING PERIOD" CLOSED ON DECEMBER 10TH, 2018. FROM READING THROUGH THIS DOCUMENT, I WAS ASKED TO SEE IF THERE WAS A WAY FOR CLIENTS TO GAIN ACCESS TO MEDICAID AND HEALTH INSURANCE WITHOUT VIOLATING THIS NEW "REGULATION" WHILE NOT SIMULTANEOUSLY JEOPARDIZING THEIR APPLICATION TO POSSESS LPR STATUS (BECOMING A GREEN CARD HOLDER). IN LOOKING CLOSELY AT THIS ALTERATION I FOUND THAT IT APPLIES MAINLY TO FAMILY-BASED IMMIGRANTS WHILE OTHERS ARE EXEMPT OR CAN APPLY FOR A WAIVER. IT REVEALS A VERY CLEAR ATTACK ON IMMIGRANT FAMILIES, AND PRIORITIZES THE WEALTHY: "THE PROPOSAL IS INTENDED TO DENY BASIC SUPPORTS SUCH AS FOOD, HEALTH CARE, AND HOUSING TO LAWFULLY PRESENT IMMIGRANTS WITH THEIR FAMILIES" (JAY INSLEE, WASHINGTON STATE GOVERNER). IT ALSO VIOLATES STATES RIGHTS TO PROVIDE BENEFITS TO CHILDREN AND IMMIGRANTS EXPERIENCING SHORT-TERM CRISES.

RESOURCES = [HTTPS://WWW.ILRC.ORG/SITES/DEFAULT/FILES/RESOURCES/OVERVIEW OF PUBLIC CHARGE - 20181214.PDF](https://www.ilrc.org/sites/default/files/resources/overview_of_public_charge_20181214.pdf)  
[HTTPS://WWW.NYTIMES.COM/2018/09/22/US/POLITICS/IMMIGRANTS - GREEN - CARD - PUBLIC - AID.HTML](https://www.nytimes.com/2018/09/22/us/politics/immigrants-green-card-public-aid.html)



04.10.19

(WEDNESDAY)

04.10.19

READING "THE BOUNDARY" BY JHUMPA LAHIRI PUBLISHED IN THE NEW YORKER JANUARY 22ND 2018 AND HER LECTURE ON WRITING, TRANSLATION, AND IDENTITY || CONVERSATIONS WITH TYLER ON JANUARY 11TH, 2017



Jhumpa Lahiri

"THE BOUNDARY" IS ABOUT A TEENAGE GIRL WHO IS THE DAUGHTER OF IMMIGRANTS. HER PARENTS ARE THE CARETAKERS FOR A HOLIDAY HOUSE — IN ITALY, WE PRESUME — AND, AS THE STORY OPENS, THE GIRL IS SHOWING A NEW FAMILY AROUND AT THE START OF THEIR WEEK'S VACATION." SHE SPEAKS OF HOW THIS "SHORT STORY" WAS ORIGINALLY WRITTEN IN ITALIAN AND SHE SPEAKS TO HOW SHE AIMS TO TRANSLATE IT AS "ACCURATELY AS POSSIBLE." YET SHE ALSO STATES THAT "ALL TRANSLATION INVOLVES REWRITING" AND THAT "TO TRANSLATE IS, BY DEFINITION, TO REWRITE SOMETHING IN ANOTHER LANGUAGE." ([HTTPS://WWW.NEWYORKER.COM/MAGAZINE/2018/01/29/THE-BOUNDARY](https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2018/01/29/the-boundary)).

° ABOUT HER = "AN AMERICAN AUTHOR KNOWN FOR HER SHORT STORIES, NOVELS, AND ESSAYS IN ENGLISH, AS WELL AS, MORE RECENTLY, IN ITALIAN. LAHIRI'S WORK EXPLORES THE INDIAN-IMMIGRANT EXPERIENCE IN AMERICA

DOCUMENTATION = DAILY REFLECTIVE WRITING

° GOING INTO NEW SANCTUARY AGAIN, I WAS LOOKING INTO WHY MANY OF THOSE RECEIVING ASSISTANCE FROM THE ORGANIZATION WERE BEING REJECTED, DEEMED INELIGIBLE, FROM PREVENTIVE ASSISTANCE AND TEMPORARY (PATH) HOUSING. FROM THIS, I RESEARCHED INTO THE RIGHTS IMMIGRANTS AND REFUGEES HAVE WHEN APPLYING FOR HOUSING AND THEIR POLICIES. THE PROBLEM APPEARED TO LIE WITH THE HUMAN RESOURCES ADMINISTRATION AND THE CASEWORKERS WHO CONDUCT THE INVESTIGATIONS AND INQUIRE ABOUT LIVING SITUATIONS — WHAT DETERMINES IF THEY ARE GRANTED SHELTER. IN MY RESEARCH, I FOUND THAT IF ONE IS DISCOVERED TO BE INELIGIBLE AND THEY DISAGREE WITH THE DECISION, THEY ARE ALLOWED TO IMMEDIATELY RE-APPLY AND REQUEST A LEGAL CONFERENCE WITH PATH WITHIN 60 DAYS OF BEING DEEMED INELIGIBLE. IN CASES SPECIFICALLY RELATING TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, I FOUND THAT NO MORE VIOLENCE AGAIN (NOVA) CAN PREVENT ONE FROM INVESTIGATING UNSAFE ADDRESSES AS POTENTIAL HOUSING OPTIONS. IN DOING THIS RESEARCH, I LEARNED MORE ABOUT THE NYC HOUSING SYSTEM AND THE COALITION FOR THE HOMELESS, SPECIFICALLY RELATING TO IMMIGRANTS AND REFUGEES. I ALSO ASSISTED PEOPLE IN THEIR APPLICATION PROCESS AND APPEALS.

RESOURCES = [HTTPS://COUNCIL.NYC.GOV/IMMIGRANT-RESOURCES/](https://council.nyc.gov/immigrant-resources/)  
 ABOUT PATH = [HTTPS://WWW.COALITIONFORTHEHOMELESS.ORG/UPLOADS/2014/03/PATH-KYR-BOOKLET-LAS1013.PDF](https://www.coalitionforthehomeless.org/uploads/2014/03/path-kyr-booklet-las1013.pdf)

OUTSIDE OF MY "INTERNSHIP," I HAVE CONTINUED TO READ RELATED WORKS, LISTENED TO ALI THORS SPEAK AND NAVIGATED THROUGH MANY PODCASTS. AND



WHILE MY PROJECT BEGAN UNDER THE TOPIC OF IMMIGRATION IN NEW YORK CITY, BUT MORPHED INTO ONE ABOUT CITIZENSHIP, POWER, PRIVILEGE, AND FINDING MY VOICE IN WHAT I HAD ORIGINALLY BELIEVED TO BE AND REGARDED AS UNTOUCHABLE, UNCOMPROMISING GOVERNMENT SYSTEMS.

ARTICLE = "ART EXHIBIT LETS HIGH SCHOOL IMMIGRANTS SHARE STORIES OF HARDSHIP AND HOPE"  
 (HTTPS://WWW.EDSURGE.COM/NEWS/2019-04-01-HIGH-SCHOOL-IMMIGRANTS-SHARE-STORIES-OF-HARDSHIP-AND-HOPE)

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services  
 U.S. Department of Justice  
 Executive Office for Immigration Review

**I-589, Application for Asylum and for Withholding of Removal**

START HERE - Type or print in black ink. See the Instructions for information about eligibility and how to complete and file this application. There is no filing fee for this application.  
 NOTE:  Check this box if you also want to apply for withholding of removal under the Convention Against Torture.

**Part A.1. Information About You**

1. Alien Registration Number (A-Number) (if any) 2. U.S. Social Security Number (if any) 3. USCIS Online Account Number (if any)

4. Complete last name \_\_\_\_\_ 5. First Name \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Middle Name \_\_\_\_\_

7. What other names have you used (include maiden names and aliases)? \_\_\_\_\_

8. Residence in the U.S. (where you presently reside)  
 Street Number and Name \_\_\_\_\_ Apt. Number \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone Number ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

9. Mailing Address in the U.S. (if different than the address in Item Number 8)  
 Is Care Of (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone Number ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Street Number and Name \_\_\_\_\_ Apt. Number \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

10. Gender  Male  Female 11. Marital Status  Single  Married  Divorced  Widowed  
 12. Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy) \_\_\_\_\_ 13. City and Country of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

14. Present Nationality (Country) \_\_\_\_\_ 15. Nationality at Birth \_\_\_\_\_ 16. Race, Ethnic, or Tribal Group \_\_\_\_\_ 17. Religion \_\_\_\_\_

18. Check the box, a through e, that applies: a.  I have never been in Immigration Court proceedings. b.  I am now in Immigration Court proceedings. c.  I am not now in Immigration Court proceedings, but I have been in the past.  
 19. Complete if a through e:  
 a. When did you last leave your country? (mm/dd/yyyy) \_\_\_\_\_ b. What is your current I-94 Number, if any? \_\_\_\_\_  
 c. List each entry into the U.S. beginning with your most recent entry. (Include (mm/dd/yyyy) dates and your status for each entry. (Check additional sheet or sheets.)  
 Date \_\_\_\_\_ Place \_\_\_\_\_ Status \_\_\_\_\_ Date Status Expires \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date \_\_\_\_\_ Place \_\_\_\_\_ Status \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date \_\_\_\_\_ Place \_\_\_\_\_ Status \_\_\_\_\_

20. What country issued your last passport (or travel document)? \_\_\_\_\_ 21. Passport Number \_\_\_\_\_ 22. Expiration Date (mm/dd/yyyy) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Yes  No

23. What is your native language (include dialect, if applicable)? \_\_\_\_\_ 24. Are you fluent in English?  Yes  No 25. What other languages do you speak fluently?  
 Yes  No

For EOIR use only. For USCIS use only. Action: Interview Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Decision: Approved/Other: \_\_\_\_\_ Denial Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Referral Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 USCIS Application ID No: \_\_\_\_\_

Form I-589 (Rev. 05/14/17) 3

AN APPLICATION FOR ASYLUM FORM, WHICH NEW SANCTUARY COALITION PROVIDES SERVICES IN FILLING OUT, WHOSE PROCESS OF ASSISTING IN SUCH WAS EXPLAINED TO ME ON MONDAY (04.08.19). EACH TUESDAY NIGHT, NEW SANCTUARY ALSO HOSTS A CLINIC TO HELP IMMIGRANTS AND REFUGEES WHETHER IT BE IN REFERING THEM TO STRONG LEGAL AID,

SOCIAL WORK, OR TRANSLATING AND FILLING OUT IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS. EVERY THURSDAY NIGHT, THEY HOST COMMUNITY PINNERS OPEN TO CITIZENS, REFUGEES, AND IMMIGRANTS IN THE NEW YORK CITY AREA, PROVIDING A WELCOMING ENVIRONMENT TO "SHARE ONE'S STORIES

AND BREAK BREAD" WHICH CAN PROVE TO BE VERY SPECIAL AS WELL AS POWERFUL.

SCHEDULE WITH NEW SANCTUARY COALITION = MONDAYS & TUESDAYS (10:00AM - 3:00PM)



IMAGE THAT ACCOMPANIED THE AFOREMENTIONED NEW YORK TIMES "ARTICLE" BY JHUMPA LAHIRI. "TO BECOME A REFUGEE IS TO KNOW, INEVITABLY, THAT THE PAST IS NOT ONLY MARKED BY THE PASSAGE OF TIME, BUT BY LOSS - THE LOSS OF LOVED ONES, OF COUNTRIES, OF IDENTITIES, OF SELVES. WE WANT TO GIVE VOICE TO ALL THOSE LOSSES THAT WOULD OTHERWISE REMAIN UNHEARD EXCEPT BY US AND THOSE NEAR AND DEAR TO US." - VIET THANH NGUYEN, FROM THE DISPLACED INTRODUCTION



(THURSDAY & FRIDAY)

04.11.19

## DOCUMENTATION = DAILY REFLECTIVE WRITING

° SPENDING TIME LISTENING TO A FEW PODCASTS AND LECTURES, I WAS ABLE TO HEAR OTHER PEOPLES' STORIES IN ADDITION TO UNDERSTANDING HOW TO WRITE ABOUT IDENTITY AND CREATING PERSONAL NARRATIVE PIECES. I HAVE BEEN READING DIFFERENT FICTIONAL NOVELS AS WELL AS ARTICLES WHICH USUALLY RELATES TO THE AUTHOR'S PERSONAL EXPERIENCES. IN HEARING PODCASTS AND LECTURES, I HAVE BEEN EXPOSED TO DIFFERENT MODES OF STORY TELLING. IT CAUSED ME TO SEE THE CONNECTION BETWEEN OPPRESSIVE SYSTEMS, OVERLOOKED HISTORY, AND PEOPLE. IT MADE ME CONSIDER MY PART IN A LARGER STORY AND MY ABILITY TO VISIBILIZE OTHERS, ATTEMPTING TO ADVANCE PEOPLES' HUMANITY. I CONSIDERED MY ESSENTIAL QUESTION ONCE MORE IN THIS PROCESS WHICH CAUSED IT TO BECOME MORE REFINED AND CLEAR. MY PROJECT IS ULTIMATELY ABOUT FINDING HOME, SAFETY, AND SANCTUARY ALONG WITH ITS' CONNECTION TO CITIZENSHIP — HOW DO BOTH IMPACT ONES' IDENTITY, OR, PERHAPS MORE IMPORTANTLY, HOW DO I ASSIST IN THE PROCESS OF RESTORING HUMILITY



04.15.19

## READING THE INTRODUCTION TO "THE DISPLACED"

EDITED BY VIET THANH NGUYEN, 2018.

° "IN JANUARY 2017, TRUMP SIGNED AN EXECUTIVE ORDER: STOPPING ENTRY TO THE UNITED STATES FROM SEVEN PREDOMINANTLY MUSLIM COUNTRIES AND DRAMATICALLY CUTTING THE NUMBER OF REFUGEES ALLOWED TO RESETTLE IN THE UNITED STATES EACH YEAR. THE AMERICAN PEOPLE SPOKE UP WITH PROTESTS, MARCHES, DONATIONS, AND LAWSUITS THAT QUICKLY OVERTURNED THE ORDER, BUT THE REFUGEE CAPS REMAINED.

IN THE DISPLACED, PULITZER PRIZE-WINNING WRITER VIET THANH NGUYEN, HIMSELF A REFUGEE, BRINGS TOGETHER A HOST OF PROMINENT REFUGEE WRITERS TO EXPLORE AND ILLUMINATE THE REFUGEE EXPERIENCE. FEATURING ORIGINAL ESSAYS BY A COLLECTION OF WRITERS FROM AROUND THE WORLD, THE DISPLACED IS AN INDICTMENT OF CLOSING OUR DOORS, AND A POWERFUL LOOK AT WHAT IT MEANS TO BE FORCED TO LEAVE HOME AND FIND A PLACE OF REFUGE."

° IN READING THE "NOVEL" = NGUYEN BEGINS BY SHARING THE STORY OF HOW HE BECAME A REFUGEE WITH HIS AUDIENCE. HE WRITES OF HOW THE NORTHERN COMMUNIST ARMY CAPTURED HIS HOMETOWN OF BAN ME THUOT IN THEIR FINAL INVASION OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM DURING MARCH OF 1975 AND HOW IT IS "A COUNTRY THAT NO LONGER EXISTS EXCEPT IN THE IMAGINATION OF ITS GLOBAL REFUGEE DISAPORA OF SEVERAL MILLION PEOPLE, A COUNTRY MOST REMEMBER



AS SOUTH VIETNAM." HE EXPLAINS HOW HE DOES NOT REMEMBER MUCH OF THE EXPERIENCE WHICH TURNED HIM INTO A REFUGEE, BUT KNOWS OF THE TRAUMA HIS PARENTS HAVE FELT, SPECIFICALLY HIS MOTHER, "IN LOSING HER COUNTRY, HER FAMILY, HER PROPERTY, HER SECURITY, OR PERHAPS HER SELF." HE REFERENCES MOVING TO SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA IN 1978 AND HOW HIS PARENTS OPENED THE SECOND VIETNAMESE GROCERY STORE IN THE CITY ALONG WITH HOW YEARS LATER, THE CITY OF SAN JOSE FORCED BUSINESSES SUCH AS HIS PARENTS TO SELL THEIR PROPERTY. NGUYEN ALSO MENTIONS HOW REFUGEES ARE EITHER "INVISIBILIZED" OR "HYPERVISIBILIZED," POINTING TO HOW PEOPLE DELIBERATELY IGNORE AND FORGET OTHERS.<sup>3</sup> BEYOND THIS, HE TAKES NOTE OF HOW REFUGEES CAN EITHER BENEFIT FROM OR BE HURT BY CURRENT GOVERNMENT POLITICS REFERENCING HOW "VIETNAMESE REFUGEES ARRIVING IN THE UNITED STATES WERE LUCKY IN RECEIVING AN AMERICAN CHARITY THAT WAS BORN OUT OF GUILT ABOUT THE WAR, AND RESULTED FROM A DESIRE TO SHOW THAT A CAPITALIST AND DEMOCRATIC COUNTRY WAS A BETTER HOME THAN THE NEWLY COMMUNIST COUNTRY (THE REFUGEES WERE FLEEING)." HE CONTINUES WITH WHO THE UNITED NATIONS CONSIDERS TO BE A REFUGEE = "SOMEONE WHO HAS BEEN FORCED TO FLEE THEIR COUNTRY BECAUSE OF PERSECUTION, WAR, OR VIOLENCE," AND THAT HE ATTEMPTS TO CULTIVATE THE "FEELING OF WHAT IT WAS TO BE A REFUGEE," BECAUSE "A WRITER IS SUPPOSED TO GO WHERE IT HURTS."<sup>5</sup> HE CLAIMS THAT "A WRITER'S WORK IS IMPOSSIBLE IF THEY CANNOT CONJURE UP THE LIVES

OF OTHERS" AND THAT "ONLY THROUGH SUCH ACTS OF MEMORY, IMAGINATION, AND EMPATHY CAN WE GROW OUR CAPACITY TO FEEL FOR OTHERS."<sup>6</sup> HE ALSO HIGHLIGHTS THE FACT THAT "MOST, OR EVEN ALL WRITERS, ARE PEOPLE WHO DO NOT FEEL COMPLETELY AT HOME," HE THEN TELLS OF HOW WHAT IS CONSIDERED UNJUST AND INHUMANE HAS SHIFTED ACROSS TIME. HE MENTIONS HOW "WE SHOULD LOOK AT THE CURRENT CONDITION OF NATIONAL BORDERS AND IMAGINE A MORE JUST WORLD WHERE THESE BORDERS WOULD BE MARKERS OF CULTURAL IDENTITY, VALUABLE BUT EASILY CROSSED, RATHER THAN LEGAL BORDERS DESIGNED TO KEEP OUR NATIONAL IDENTITIES RIGID AND READY FOR CONFLICT AND WAR, SEPERATING US FROM OTHERS." HE SAYS THAT THE DISOLUTION OF BORDERS IS THE UTOPIAN VISION OF COSMOPOLITANISM, OF GLOBAL PEACE AND OF A GLOBAL PLACE WHERE NO ONE IS DISPLACED, OF HUMANITY AS A GLOBAL COMMUNITY THAT IT IS ALLOWED ITS CULTURAL DIFFERENCES BUT NOT THE KIND OF DIFFERENCES THAT LEAD US TO EXPLOIT, PUNISH, OR KILL." VIET STATES THAT HE FINDS THIS PROSPECT EXHILERATING WHILE OTHERS SEE IT AS UNIMAGINABLY TERRIFYING."<sup>9</sup> HE SAYS THAT "YEARNING TO HEAR THE VOICELESS IS POWERFUL" BUT THAT IT MUST NOT ENCOURAGE ONE TO JUST LISTEN, BUT RATHER ACT TO INSPIRE ACTION AND MEANINGFUL CHANGE = TRUE JUSTICE WILL BE WHEN VOICELESS CAN TELL THEIR OWN STORIES, AS OPPOSED TO REQUIRING A WRITER OR REPRESENTATIVE."<sup>10</sup>



## FOOTNOTES & ENDNOTES (PAGE #s)

1. 11
2. 13
3. 15
4. 16
5. 17
6. 17
7. 17
8. 19
9. 19
10. 20

(MONDAY & TUESDAY)

04.16.19

## DOCUMENTATION = DAILY REFLECTIVE WRITING

ON MONDAY, I HAD A COHORT MEETING IN WHICH WE SHARED OUR WRITING, VIDEOS, AND INTERESTING ACTIVITIES WE FOUND. FROM THIS, I THEN DEVELOPED A ROLL OF BLACK AND WHITE NEGATIVE FILM THAT I TOOK OF SOME LANDSCAPES AND PORTRAITS, WITH A FEW OF MY FELLOW CLASSMATES I WENT ON A "FIELD TRIP" TO ELLIS ISLAND AND THE STATUE OF LIBERTY WHERE I DOCUMENTED THE "EXPERIENCE" BY SHOOTING SOME DIGITAL PHOTOS. I CONTINUED READING MY SECOND INDEPENDENT NOVEL, "THE DISPLACED," INCLUDING THE INTRODUCTION AND ONE OF THE SHORT STORIES. I ALSO WORKED AT NEW SANCTUARY COALITION AGAIN, SORTING THROUGH FILES, BRINGING IN FOOD, AND MEETING IMMIGRANTS WITHIN THE COMMUNITY HOPING TO RECEIVE AID FROM THE ORGANIZATION. BEYOND THIS, I CONDUCTED SOME RESEARCH ON PAST LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS REGARDING IMMIGRATION TO HELP BUILD AND GIVE HISTORICAL CONTEXT TO THIS TOPIC. ON TUESDAY, I WORKED WITH NEW SANCTUARY IN RESEARCHING PRUCOL (PERMANENTLY RESIDING UNDER COLOR OF LAW) WHICH WAS CREATED BY COURTS AS A CATEGORY USED FOR PUBLIC BENEFITS ELIGIBILITY THAT INCLUDES MEDICAID. I WAS TASKED WITH FINDING OUT WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR SUCH OR HOW ONE CAN APPEAL TO BECOME ELIGIBLE.



(WEDNESDAY)

04.17.19

DOCUMENTATION = DAILY REFLECTIVE WRITING

• I WORKED IN DATA ENTRY AT NEW SANCTUARY COALITION WHERE I ENTERED AND UPATED THE PROFILES OF THOSE WHO HAD COME TO THE CLINIC, WHICH PROVIDES TO LEGAL AID, ASSISTS PEOPLE WITH THEIR ASYLUM APPLICATIONS, ADVICE ON "PRO SE" (INDIVIDUAL) DEFENSE AT COURT APPEARANCES, AND ADVOCATES TO INCREASE IMMIGRANTS' ACCESS TO LEGAL DEFENSE TOOLS IN DETENTION CENTERS, INTO THE DATABASE. THEY ALSO OFFER ACCESS TO SOCIAL WORKERS AND CONDUCT AN ACCOMPANIMENT PROGRAM THAT ALLOWS UNITED STATES CITIZENS AND NEW SANCTUARY VOLUNTEERS TO ESCORT IMMIGRANTS AND REFUGEES TO THEIR "MASTER HEARING" COURT DATES. I WAS TASKED WITH TRANSFERING THE INFORMATION COLLECTED DURING THE CLINIC ON "TEAM INTAKE SHEETS" TO THEIR ONLINE "PROFILES" AND REAFFIRMING WHEN THEIR NEXT COURT DATE WOULD BE THROUGH THE EOIR (EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR IMMIGRATION REVIEW). USUALLY AROUND 250 PEOPLE WILL COME TO THIS CLINIC EVERY TUESDAY NIGHT FROM 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM AT NYU LAW SCHOOL.



AN IMAGE FROM NEW SANCTUARY COALITION'S CLINIC.

04.18.19

• NEW SANCTUARY COALITION'S WALLS ARE COVERED IN ENCOURAGING IMAGES OF MOVEMENTS, EVENTS, AND PEOPLE. BELOW ARE A FEW THAT ARE ON "DISPLAY."



**JOIN US IN SUPPORT OF INTRODUCING THE SCAR ACT**

The Separation of Children Accountability Response Act, introduced in the State Assembly by Assembly member Harvey Epstein and in the Senate by Senator Brian Benjamin, requires greater transparency and accountability from New York state foster care organizations.

The SCAR Act asks that basic information about separated and unaccompanied children in care of these agencies be reported to the state, as well as to the federal government.



→ ONE OF THE EVENTS WRITTEN ABOUT ON NEW SANCTUARY'S WEBSITE

Thursday, April 2th, 2019 at 11:00 AM  
26 Federal Plaza, Lafayette side

**Jericho Walk**

Through the Jericho Walk, faither leaders, immigration activists, and community members march in silence and pray outside 26 Federal Plaza in solidarity with individuals and families whose basic humanity is being denied by our unjust and immoral immigration System. Though we walk in silence, our actions speak to the injustices that our communities face.



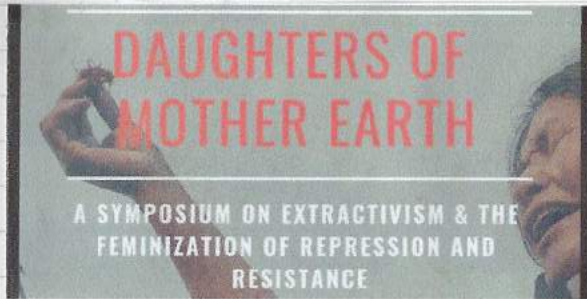
→ ANOTHER EVENT MENTIONED  
ON NEW SANCTUARY'S WEBSITE

Thursday, April 25th, 2019 at 6:00 PM

Parish House Church of the Ascension in New York, NY

### Community Meeting

Every Thursday, the NSC community comes together to tell stories, organize around different issues and actions, create together, and lean on each other. All are welcome.



CLACS-NYU  
APRIL 18TH - 20TH



04.18.19

### Immigration Pro Se Clinic Training

New Sanctuary Coalition runs a weekly clinic staffed by non-attorney volunteers and supervised by experienced immigrants rights organizers and immigration lawyers. You do not need prior experience to participate; we will train you. The clinic helps people identify ways to get relief from deportation and detention, access immigration-related benefits, understand their rights in order to fight their own case, apply for asylum, and prepare for court appearances or interviews.



### Accompaniment Training

The New Sanctuary Coalition (NSC) accompaniment program recruits and trains volunteers to accompany people facing deportation to their immigration hearings and ICE check-ins. This provides moral support to the person facing deportation and Enables volunteers to hold immigration authorities accountable. Standing in solidarity with migrants facing deportation also demonstrates to immigration judges, ICE officers, and government attorneys that there is a community mobilized against their deportation. NSC accompanies hundreds of people a year.





### Popular Education

In order to dismantle a violent, dehumanizing and unjust system, we need to understand how it works and who benefits from it. The immigration and criminal systems thrive in the shadows, and popular education gives us the weapons to see into the dark corners of their brutality.

In following months, New Sanctuary Coalition will lead a series of trainings on the system of laws that make the caging of immigrants, massive deportations, and ongoing separation of families possible, as well as trainings on who is financially benefitting from the incarceration and deportation machine.

From these trainings we will develop political campaigns to dismantle our current immigration system, and offer a humane alternative that recognizes the dignity of all people and keeps our communities whole.

## INTERVIEW QUESTIONS REGARDING IMMIGRATION, CITIZENSHIP, AND DEMOCRACY

### ◦ INTRODUCTION QUESTIONS

1. WHAT IS YOUR FULL NAME?
2. WHEN AND WHERE ARE YOU BORN?
3. WHERE WAS YOUR FIRST HOME?
4. CAN YOU RECALL A TIME WHERE YOU FELT YOU BELONGED?

### ◦ CHILDHOOD QUESTIONS

1. WHAT IS YOUR EARLIEST CHILDHOOD MEMORY?
2. WHAT WORLD EVENTS HAD THE MOST IMPACT ON YOU WHILE YOU WERE GROWING UP? DID ANY OF THEM PERSONALLY AFFECT YOUR FAMILY?
3. ARE THERE ANY ITEMS OR ARTIFACTS, FAMILY HEIRLOOMS, THAT YOU CAN REMEMBER FROM NOW, OR YOUR CHILDHOOD?

### ◦ STORY-TELLING, OPEN-ENDED QUESTIONS

1. DID YOU HAVE ANY EXPECTATIONS OF THE UNITED STATES, AND IF SO, HAS BEING A RESIDENT IN THE US LIVED UP TO YOUR EXPECTATIONS YOU ORIGINALLY HAD?

### ◦ DEEP QUESTIONS

1. DID YOU VOTE IN MID-TERM ELECTIONS THIS PAST YEAR?



2. WHAT DO YOU THINK IT MEANS TO BE A CITIZEN? IF YOU COULD ASSIGN A DEFINITION TO WHAT IT MEANS, WHAT WORDS WOULD YOU CHOOSE?

3. WHAT ABOUT THE NOTION OF A HOME, HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE OR DEFINE IT?

4. WOULD YOU CONSIDER YOURSELF AN ACTIVE CITIZEN - WHAT DOES BEING AN "ACTIVE CITIZEN" TRULY ENTAIL?

5. HAVE YOU ALWAYS VOTED WHEN YOU WERE ELIGIBLE TO? (ASKED DEPENDING ON AGE)

6. ARE YOU A REGISTERED VOTER?

## • CIVIC AND GOVERNMENT QUESTIONS

1. WHO MAKES FEDERAL LAWS?  
(CONGRESS)

2. HOW MANY US SENATORS ARE THERE? HOW LONG IS THEIR TERM OF OFFICE?  
(100, 2 FOR EACH STATE, 6 YEARS)

3. WHO IS ONE OF YOUR STATE'S US SENATORS NOW?

(NY - CHUCK SCHUMER, NJ = CORY BOOKER)

4. HOW MANY MEMBERS DOES THE HOUSE

OF REPRESENTATIVES HAVE? HOW LONG IS THEIR TERM OF OFFICE?

(435, 2 YEARS)

5. CAN YOU NAME YOUR REPRESENTATIVE?

(DEPENDENT ON WHERE YOU LIVE, NY/DIA M. VELAZQUEZ - 7TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT)

6. WHAT ARE THREE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE JUDICIAL BRANCH?

(1. INTERPRETING THE CONSTITUTION, 2. REVIEWING LAWS, 3. <sup>DECIDING CASES INVOLVING</sup> INVOLVING STATE RIGHTS)

7. HOW MANY JUSTICES ARE ON THE SUPREME COURT?

(9)

8. CAN YOU NAME 3 POWERS THAT BELONG TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT?

(DECLARE WAR, INTRODUCE TREATIES, PRINT MONEY, MAINTAIN ARMED FORCES)

9. CAN YOU NAME 3 POWERS THAT BELONG TO THE STATES?

(IN CHARGE OF "PROTECTION FORCES", PROVIDE EDUCATION, AND APPROVE LAND USE)

10. WHAT ARE THE FIVE FREEDOMS PROTECTED BY THE FIRST AMENDMENT?

(1. SPEECH, 2. RELIGION, 3. PRESS, 4. ASSEMBLY, 5. PETITION)

11. WHEN WAS THE CONSTITUTION WRITTEN?  
(1787)

12. WHAT WAS THE FEDERALIST PAPERS? AND WHO WERE ITS WRITERS?

(A COLLECTION OF 85 ARTICLES AND ESSAYS PUBLISHED IN 1788 TO PROMOTE THE RATIFICATION OF THE US CONSTITUTION BY ALEXANDER HAMILTON, JAMES MADISON, AND JOHN JAY UNDER THE PSEUDONYM "PUBLIUS")



13. WHAT IS GERRYMANDERING?  
(THE REDRAWING OF DISTRICT LINES TO GET MORE VOTES FOR A SPECIFIC POLITICAL PARTY)

14. WHAT ARE 3 RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH?

(1. VETOING LAWS, 2. COMMANDING THE ARMED FORCES, 3. DEALING WITH INTERNATIONAL POWERS.)

15. WHAT ARE 3 RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH?

(1. PASSING LAWS, 2. APPROVING TREATIES, 3. IMPEACHING OFFICIALS.)

16. WHICH ARTICLE OF THE CONSTITUTION DEALS WITH AMENDING THE CONSTITUTION?

(ARTICLE 5)

17. HOW MANY AMENDMENTS ARE THERE TO THE CONSTITUTION?

(27)

18. NAME 3 PROMINENT LOBBYING ORGANIZATIONS.

(NRA, AARP, BLUE CROSS/BLUE SHEILD, ACLU, EVERYTOWN, PLANNED PARENTHOOD)

19. FOR WHAT PERIOD OF TIME ARE FEDERAL JUDGES AND JUSTICES OF THE SUPREME COURT IN OFFICE?

(LIFE)

20. WHAT ARE THE FIRST 10 AMENDMENTS KNOWN AS, COLLECTIVELY?  
(THE BILL OF RIGHTS)

21. WHAT ARTICLE OF THE CONSTITUTION DEALS WITH THE JUDICIAL BRANCH?  
(3)

22. IN WHICH AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION DO YOU FIND THE EQUAL PROTECTION CLAUSE?

(14TH AMENDMENT)

23. WHICH POLITICAL PARTY HAS THE MOST "TRIFECTA" STATES?

(REPUBLICAN, 26 STATES)

24. WHAT IS JUDICIAL REVIEW?

(THE POWER OF THE SUPREME COURT TO DECLARE ACTS OF CONGRESS AND THE STATES UNCONSTITUTIONAL, IT IS A FORM OF CHECKS AND BALANCES TO KEEP POWER EQUAL THROUGHOUT ALL 3 BRANCHES OF GOVERNMENT.)

25. WHAT ARE ENTITLEMENT PROGRAMS?

(A GOVERNMENT PROGRAM THAT GUARANTEES CERTAIN BENEFITS TO A PARTICULAR GROUP OR SEGMENT OF THE POPULATION, EX = WELFARE, MEDICARE, MEDICAID, SOCIAL SECURITY)

26. WHAT DOES THE TERM "GRASSROOTS" MEAN?



(THE MOST BASIC LEVEL OF AN ACTIVITY OR ORGANIZATION, SUCH AS PEACEFUL PROTEST)

27. WHAT IS THE CENSUS?  
(AN OFFICIAL COUNT OR SURVEY OF A POPULATION, TYPICALLY RECORDING VARIOUS DETAILS OF INDIVIDUALS)

28. WHAT IS THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE 10TH AMENDMENT?

(ANYTHING NOT MENTIONED IN THE CONSTITUTION IS UP TO THE STATES TO DECIDE. THIS IS THE IDEA OF FEDERALISM = STATES CAN CHOOSE THEIR OWN LAWS)

29. WHAT DOES THE SUPREMACY CLAUSE STATE?  
(THAT FEDERAL LAW TAKES PRECEDENCE OVER LOCAL LAW. THE FEDERAL CONSTITUTION OVERRULES STATE CONSTITUTION.)

30. WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE A "TRIFECTA" STATE?

(WHEN ONE POLITICAL PARTY CONTROLS ALL BRANCHES OF GOVERNMENT, 3 GOVERNMENTAL POSITIONS IN THE STATE)

31. WHAT IS AN EXECUTIVE ORDER?

(A RULE OR ORDER ISSUED BY THE PRESIDENT THAT HAS THE EFFECT OF LAW, BUT IT IS NOT ACTUALLY A LAW. IT IS AN ORDER THAT DOESN'T HAVE TO GET THE APPROVAL OF CONGRESS).

32. WHAT ARE CHECKS AND BALANCES?

(TO MAINTAIN EQUAL POWER THROUGHOUT ALL 3 BRANCHES OF GOVERNMENT, THERE IS A SEPERATION OF GOVERNMENTAL RESPONSIBILITIES. FOR EXAMPLE, A LAW MUST BE PASSED THROUGH THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH AND THEN SIGNED BY THE PRESIDENT, WHO IS PART OF THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH. THE SUPREME COURT, A PART OF THE JUDICIAL BRANCH, THEN HAS THE POWER TO DETERMINE ITS CONSTITUTIONALITY.)

33. HOW CAN A PRESIDENT'S VETO BE OVERRIDDEN?

(IF TWO-THIRDS OF THE HOUSE AND THE SENATE VOTE TO OVERRIDE IT)

34. WHAT IS LOBBYING?

(THE ACT OF ATTEMPTING TO INFLUENCE THE ACTIONS, POLICIES, OR DECISIONS OF OFFICIALS IN THEIR DAILY LIFE)

35. HOW DOES THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT DEFINE POVERTY? WHAT ARE THE PROBLEMS WITH THIS MEASURE?

(THE FEDERAL POVERTY LINE IS \$25,100 FOR A FAMILY OF 4. THIS IS A PROBLEM BECAUSE THE STANDARD OF LIVING VARIES DEPENDING ON WHERE ONE LIVES IN THE COUNTRY. THEREFORE WHAT MAYBE THE POVERTY LINE IN NEW YORK CITY IS VERY DIFFERENT FROM WHAT THE POVERTY LINE WOULD LOOK LIKE IN RURAL ALABAMA.)



36. WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN PROGRESSIVE AND REGRESSIVE TAXES? GIVE AN EXAMPLE FOR EACH.

(PROGRESSIVE TAXES ARE WHEN THE TAX RATE INCREASES AS THE TAXABLE AMOUNT INCREASES. AN EXAMPLE OF THIS IS THE INCOME TAX AS THOSE WHO ARE RICHER PAY A BIGGER PERCENTAGE OF THEIR INCOME TAXES. A REGRESSIVE TAX IS WHEN THE TAX RATE IS UNIVERSAL FOR EVERYONE. AN EXAMPLE OF THIS IS A SALES TAX WHERE NO MATTER WEALTHY ONE IS, THEY WILL ALWAYS PAY THE SAME AMOUNT IN SALES TAX.)

37. WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN DIRECT CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS AND "OUTSIDE SPENDING" BY LOBBYING ORGANIZATIONS?

(PAC = POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE = THERE IS A CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTION MAXIMUM AMOUNT, BUT "OUTSIDE SPENDERS" CAN SUPPORT A CANDIDATE THROUGH A LOBBYING ORGANIZATION THAT SUPPORTS THE SAME IDEAS AS THE CANDIDATE. THIS ALLOWS THEM TO GIVE MORE MONEY TO INFLUENCE A CANDIDATE.)

38. THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS = HOW DOES A BILL BECOME A LAW?

(1. CONGRESSMAN INTRODUCES A BILL, 2. GETS ASSIGNED TO A COMMITTEE WHERE THEY DECIDE WHETHER TO REVISE, RELEASE, OR TABLE THE BILL, 3. IF RELEASED, IT IS BROUGHT TO THE FLOOR OF EITHER THE HOUSE OR SENATE TO MAKE

AMENDMENTS, 4. HOUSE OR SENATE MEMBERS THEN VOTE ON THE BILL, 5. BROUGHT TO CONFERENCE COMMITTEE FOR THE SENATE AND HOUSE TO VOTE ON THE REVISED BILL, 6. SENT TO THE PRESIDENT - EITHER SIGNED OR VETOED.)

39. HOW IS AN AMENDMENT ADDED TO THE CONSTITUTION?

(AFTER TWO-THIRDS OF THE HOUSE AND SENATE APPROVE THE PROPOSAL AND SEND IT TO THE STATES FOR A VOTE, THREE-FOURTHS OF THE STATE LEGISLATURE MUST AFFIRM THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT.)

40. DESCRIBE THE WAYS IN WHICH A DECISION OF THE SUPREME COURT CAN BE CHANGED OR OVERRIDDEN.

(1. THE SUPREME COURT CAN DECIDE THAT A DECISION MADE IN THE PAST WAS WRONG AND OVERRIDE IT, 2. IF THEY MADE A DECISION BASED ON THE CONSTITUTION, THE CONSTITUTION CAN BE AMENDED IF ENOUGH PEOPLE VOTED FOR IT, 3. IF THE DECISION IS BASED ON A LAW THAT CONGRESS PASSED IN THE PAST, THEN CONGRESS COULD CHANGE THE LAW.)

41. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF HOLDING SOMEONE IN JAIL?

(THE PURPOSE IS TO HOLD SOMEONE BEFORE THEIR SUPPOSED CRIME.)

42. DISCUSS AN EXAMPLE OF JUDICIAL REVIEW.

(THE SUPREME COURT HAS EXERCISED THIS



POWER, FOR EXAMPLE, TO REVOKE STATE LAWS THAT DENIED CIVIL RIGHTS GUARANTEED BY THE CONSTITUTION. PLESSY V. FERGUSON (1869) WHERE THE SUPREME COURT CREATED THE PRINCIPLE "SEPERATE BUT EQUAL," DECLARING IT CONSTITUTIONAL AND THEN OVERTURNING IT IN 1951 THROUGH BROWN V. BOARD OF EDUCATION.

42. "THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS AN ABSOLUTE RIGHT UNDER THE BILL OF RIGHTS" = PROVIDE TWO EXAMPLES.

(FOR EXAMPLE, THE "FREE" EXERCISE OF ANY RIGHT ENDS WHEN IT INFRINGES ON THE RIGHTS OF OTHERS, FREEDOM OF SPEECH IS NOT AN ABSOLUTE RIGHT IF IT CREATES A "CLEAR AND PRESENT DANGER;" YOU CANNOT SHOUT "FIRE" IN A CROWDED BUILDING, FREEDOM OF RELIGION IS NOT AN ABSOLUTE RIGHT AS IT CAN BE LIMITED BY THE EQUAL PROTECTION CLAUSE.)

43. WHY WERE THE COURTS THE PRIMARY VEHICLE FOR THE EXPANSION OF LGBT RIGHTS?

(BECAUSE SUPPORTING LGBTQ+ RIGHTS WAS SEEN AS A TOPIC THAT WAS "POLITICAL SUICIDE" FOR POLITICIANS AND THE ONLY WAY TO MAKE PROGRESS WAS THROUGH THE COURTS.)

44. PROVIDE AN EXAMPLE OF HOW FEDERALISM WORKS.

(BEFORE THE RULING OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, STATE LEGISLATURES COULD

DECIDE WHETHER OR NOT THEY WANTED TO GRANT RIGHTS TO SAME SEX COUPLES, AND EACH STATE HAD DIFFERENT POLICIES.

45. WHAT IS THE PROCESS OF IMPEACHMENT OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES? (IF THE PRESIDENT IS ACCUSED OF TREASON, BRIBERY OR OTHER "HIGH CRIMES AND MISDEMEANORS," THE CASE IS BROUGHT TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THEY VOTE - IF MAJORITY VOTES AGAINST THEM, THEY ARE CONSIDERED IMPEACHED, AND A 2/3 SENATE VOTE WILL REMOVE THEM FROM OFFICE.)

46. WHAT ARE 3 WAYS IN WHICH A BILL CAN FAIL TO BECOME A LAW?

(1. PRESIDENTIAL VETO, 2. NOT PASSED IN COMMITTEE, 3. NOT PASSED / DOES NOT RECEIVE A MAJORITY VOTE IN CONGRESS.)

47. WHAT ARE 2 RESPONSIBILITIES OF CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES?

(1. MONITOR ON-GOING GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS, 2. IDENTIFY ISSUES SUITABLE FOR LEGISLATIVE REVIEW, 1. GATHER AND EVALUATE INFORMATION, 2. RECOMMEND COURSES OF ACTION TO THE SENATE.)



(THURSDAY & FRIDAY)

04.19.19

## DOCUMENTATION = DAILY REFLECTIVE WRITING

° IN ORDER TO CONTINUE MY LEARNING OF SIMPLIFIED MANDARIN AND IMPROVE MY SKILLS AS A TRANSLATOR, I SIGNED UP FOR DUOLINGO AND HAVE BEGUN TO TAKE CLASSES EQUIVALENT TO MY KNOWLEDGE. BEYOND THIS, I HAVE CRAFTED A SERIES OF QUESTIONS TO ASK THOSE IN MY INTERVIEWS ABOUT THEIR EXPERIENCE WITH "CITIZENSHIP" AND, MORE SPECIFICALLY, CREATING COMMON CIVIC QUESTIONS THAT ONE LIVING WITHIN THE UNITED STATES SHOULD BE ABLE TO ANSWER. I ALSO DID MORE RESEARCH ON PREVIOUS LAWS AND ACTIONS BY PAST ADMINISTRATIONS RELATING TO IMMIGRATION IN ADDITION TO FINDING UPCOMING EVENTS, LECTURES, AND PROTESTS. OUTSIDE OF THIS, I HAVE BEEN CONTINUING MY READING OF "THE DISPLACED" SHORT STORIES OF WHICH I HAVE COMPLETED "LAST, FIRST, MIDDLE" BY JOSEPH AZAM, "COMMON STORY" BY DAVID BEMZOGIS, AND "FLESH AND SAND" BY FATIMA BHUTTO.

duolingo

HOME

DISCUSSION

LABS

04.22.19

## LUMA MUFLEH | "DON'T FEEL SORRY FOR REFUGEES — BELIEVE IN THEM" || TED TALK

JANUARY 23RD, 2017

° "THERE ARE 68.5 MILLION PEOPLE FORCIBLY DISPLACED WORLDWIDE WITH 40 MILLION INTERNALLY DISPLACED, 25.4 MILLION REFUGEES, AND 3.1 MILLION ASYLUM SEEKERS, 57% OF REFUGEES WORLDWIDE COME FROM THREE COUNTRIES = 2.4 MILLION ARE FROM SOUTH SUDAN, 2.6 MILLION ARE FROM AFGHANISTAN, AND 6.3 MILLION ARE FROM SYRIA. 44,400 PEOPLE ARE FORCED TO FLEE THEIR HOMES DAILY BECAUSE OF CONFLICT AND PERSECUTION" — STATISTICS ARE GATHERED FROM THE UN REFUGEE AGENCY (UNHCR).

### — QUOTES FROM MUFLEH

- ° "IT'S KIND OF HARD TO BELIEVE THAT YOU BELONG WHEN YOU DON'T HAVE A HOME, WHEN YOUR COUNTRY OF ORIGIN REJECTS YOU BECAUSE OF FEAR OR PERSECUTION, OR THE CITY THAT YOU GREW UP IN IS COMPLETELY DESTROYED."
- ° ACCORDING TO HER GRANDMOTHER, WHO FLED SYRIA IN 1964 DURING THE FIRST ASSAD REGIME TO JORDAN, "I REALIZED IF I DIDN'T LEAVE, MY THREE YOUNG CHILDREN WOULD DIE. AND SO WE LEFT. WE LEFT BECAUSE WE HAD TO, NOT BECAUSE WE WANTED TO. THERE WAS NO CHOICE."
- ° "KIND HEARTED PEOPLE WHO FELT SORRY FOR ME OFFERED TO PAY RENT OR BUY ME A MEAL OR A SUIT FOR MY NEW INTERVIEW. IT JUST MADE ME FEEL MORE ISOLATED AND INCAPABLE"
- ° "THEIR JOURNIES ARE HAUNTING. BUT WHAT I GET TO



SEE EVERY DAY IS HOPE, RESILIENCE, DETERMINATION, A LOVE OF LIFE AND APPRECIATION FOR BEING ABLE TO REBUILD THEIR LIVES. IN THE LAST TWO YEARS, WE HAVE SEEN AN ESCALATING ANTI-REFUGEE SENTIMENT. IT'S GLOBAL. THE NUMBERS CONTINUE TO GROW BECAUSE WE DO NOTHING TO PREVENT IT AND NOTHING TO STOP IT. THE ISSUE SHOULDN'T BE STOPPING REFUGEES FROM COMING INTO OUR COUNTRIES, THE ISSUE SHOULD BE NOT FORCING THEM TO LEAVE THEIR OWN."

"NOT ONLY DO WE SHAME, BLAME, AND REJECT THEM FOR ATROCITIES THAT THEY HAD ABSOLUTELY NOTHING TO DO WITH, WE RE-TRAUMATIZE THEM, WHEN WE'RE SUPPOSED TO BE WELCOMING THEM INTO OUR COUNTRIES. WE STRIP THEM OF THEIR DIGNITY AND TREAT THEM LIKE CRIMINALS."

"WE HAVE SEEN ADVANCES IN EVERY ASPECT OF OUR LIVES — EXCEPT OUR HUMANITY. THERE ARE 65.3 MILLION PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN FORCED OUT OF THEIR HOMES BECAUSE OF WAR — THE LARGEST NUMBER IN HISTORY. WE ARE THE ONES WHO SHOULD BE ASHAMED."



(MONDAY & TUESDAY)

04.23.19

DOCUMENTATION = DAILY REFLECTIVE WRITING

° OVER THE COURSE OF MONDAY'S COHORT MEETING WE SHARED SOME OF OUR EXPERIENCES ALONG WITH WATCHING AND REVIEWING LUMA MUFLEH'S TED TALK. FOLLOWING THIS, I ALSO DEVELOPED A ROLL OF BLACK & WHITE FILM THAT I TOOK OF THE BROOKLYN BRIDGE AND THE STATUE OF LIBERTY. I CONTINUED MY SECOND INDEPENDENT READING NOVEL, READING "FLESH AND SAND" BY FATIMA BHUTTO FROM "THE DISPLACED" AND CONTINUED TO ADVANCE MY MANDARIN SKILLS THROUGH MORE DUOLINGO CLASSES. IN THE AFTERNOON I TRAVELED TO THE LOWER EAST SIDE, CHINATOWN, AND LITTLE ITALY IN ORDER TO SHOOT SOME COLOR FILM AND DIGITAL PHOTOS OF A FEW OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD'S ICONIC LANDMARKS AND PORTRAITS, WHICH DUE TO THE RAIN OUTSIDE HAD MYSTERIOUS AND OMINIOUS UNDERTONES TO THEM. ON TUESDAY, I HAD MY INTERNSHIP AT NEW SANCTUARY WHERE I HAD TO CONDUCT SOME RESEARCH ON HOW ONE CAN OBTAIN AN NYC ID AND THE DOCUMENTATION NEED TO ACQUIRE SUCH FOR IMMIGRANTS ([HTTPS://WWW1.NYC.GOV/SITE/IDNYC/CARD/APPLICATION-MATERIALS.PAGE](https://www1.nyc.gov/site/idnyc/card/application-materials.page)). IN THIS RESEARCH, I DISCOVERED THAT ONE MUST SUBMIT FORMS THAT ADD UP TO 4 POINTS 3 OF WHICH SHOW IDENTITY AND 1 OF WHICH PROVES ONE'S PLACE OF RESIDENCY. I ALSO ASSISTED IN ARCHIVING PEOPLE'S FOLDERS THAT PREDATE THE FIRST OF 2018 AND CROSS-REFERENCING THEIR CONTENTS WITH THE ONLINE DATE BASE. I READ "PERSPECTIVE AND WHAT GETS LOST" BY THI BUI, "HOW SUCCULENT FOOD DEFEATED TRUMP'S WALL BEFORE IT



HAS BEEN BUILT" BY ARIEL DORFMAN, "GUESTS OF THE HOLY ROMAN EMPRESS" BY MARIA THERESA, AND "THE PARENT WHO STAYS" BY REYNA GRANDE FROM "THE DISPLACED."



68.5 million forcibly displaced people worldwide



Intensely Displaced People **40 million** Refugees **25.4 million** Asylum-seekers **3.1 million**

Where the world's displaced people are being hosted

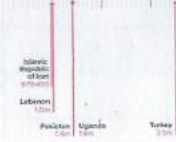


85% percent of the world's displaced people are in developing countries

57% of refugees worldwide came from three countries



Top refugee-hosting countries



10 million stateless people

102,800 Refugees resettled

44,400 people a day forced to flee their homes because of conflict and persecution

16,765 personnel UNHCR is relying on 167 countries worldwide

138 countries UNHCR is working in 123 countries on its operations

We are funded almost entirely by voluntary contributions, with 67 per cent from governments and the European Union and 10 per cent from private donors



ORCHARD STREET  
MOTT STREET  
LUDLOW STREET  
EAST HOUSTON STREET  
ELDRIDGE STREET  
CHINA TOWN  
LITTLE ITALY, NOLITA  
THE LOWER EAST SIDE  
BOWERY  
FIVE POINTS NYC

(WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, & FRIDAY)

04.26.19

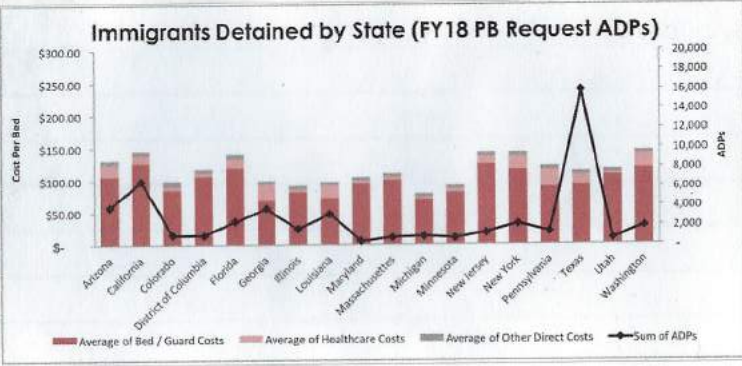
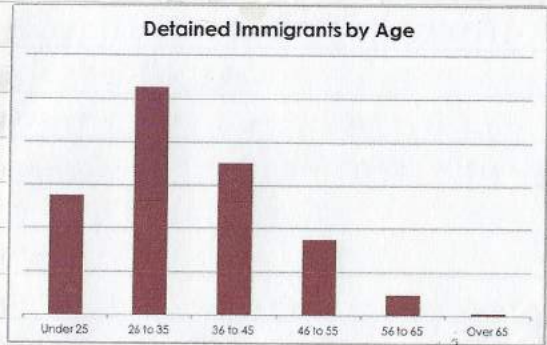
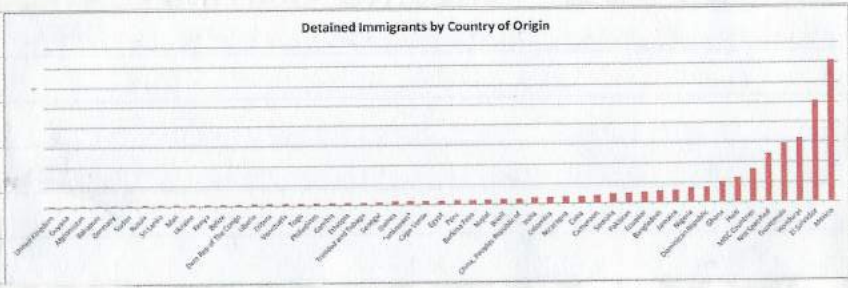
DOCUMENTATION = DAILY REFLECTIVE WRITING

I HAD MY INTERNSHIP ON WEDNESDAY AT NEW SANCTUARY COALITION WHERE I SPENT TIME ARCHIVING CABINETS OF FOLDERS WHOSE MOST RECENT RECORD OR VISIT PREDATED THE FIRST OF 2018 AND ALPHABETIZED THOSE THAT REMAINED BY LAST NAME. WHILE MAJORITY OF MY DAY AT NEW SANCTUARY WAS SPENT DECIPHERING CONVOLUTED LEGAL JARGON FROM SOME NEW OFFICIAL LAWS AND ACTIONS, I ALSO READ MORE SHORT STORIES FROM "THE DISPLACED," MY SECOND INDEPENDENT NOVEL, INCLUDING "TO WALK IN THEIR SHOES" BY MERTON HADERO, "GOD'S FATE" BY ALEKSANDAR HEMON, READING "SECOND COUNTRY" BY JOSEPH KERTES, "13 WAYS OF BEING AN IMMIGRANT" BY PROCHISTA KHAPOUR, AND "REFUGEES AND EXILES" BY MARINA LEWYCKA. I ALSO MADE CONTACT SHEETS OF THE PHOTOS I TOOK OF THE BROOKLYN BRIDGE AS WELL AS THE STATUE OF LIBERTY. ON THURSDAY FOLLOWING COHORT MEETINGS, I TRAVELED TO THE LOWER EAST SIDE, BOWERY, AND FIVE-POINTS NEW YORK CITY TO TAKE SOME MORE DIGITAL IN ADDITION TO COLOR FILM PHOTOS. ON FRIDAY, I LOOKED THROUGH SUCH IMAGES, EDITED THEM DOWN, AND BEGAN TO PHOTOSHOP A FEW.

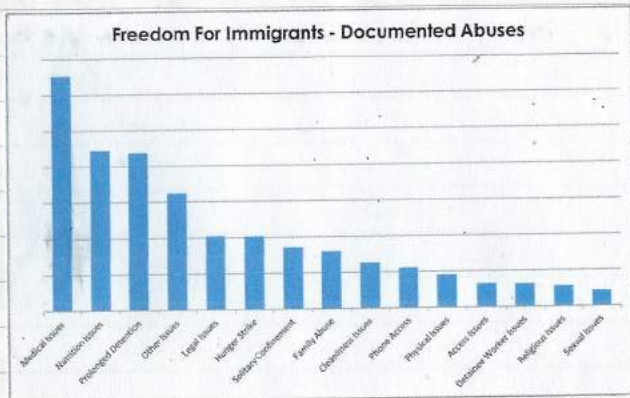
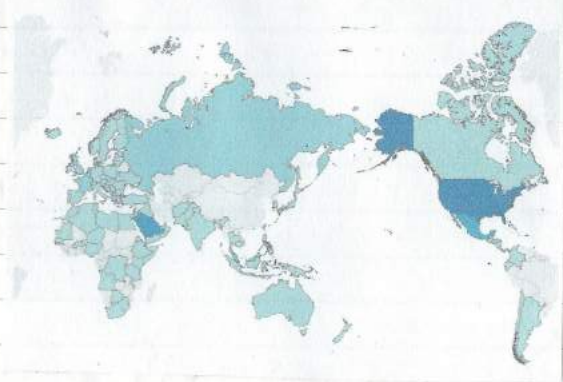


**FREEDOM FOR IMMIGRANTS**

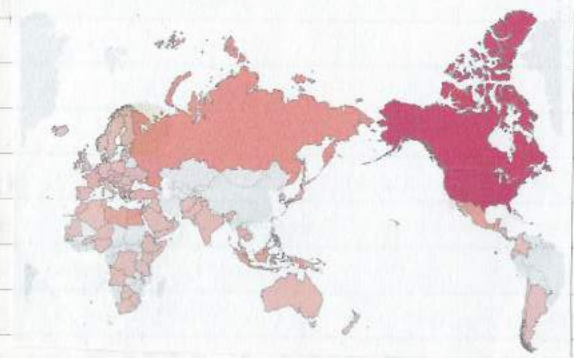




IMMIGRATION DETENTION WORLDWIDE — THE NUMBER OF OPERATIONAL DETENTION FACILITIES



THE NUMBER OF IMMIGRANTS DETAINED ANNUALLY



([HTTPS://WWW.FREEDOMFORIMMIGRANTS.ORG/DETENTION-STATISTICS](https://www.freedomforimmigrants.org/detention-statistics))

THESE MAPS WERE CREATED BY "FREEDOM FOR IMMIGRANTS" BASED UPON DATA OBTAINED BY THE



"GLOBAL DETENTION PROJECT" (THE DARKER THE COLOR IS, THE HIGHER THE NUMBER IS).

◦ THE UNITED STATES HOLDS THE HIGHEST NUMBER IN BOTH WITH 211 DETENTION FACILITIES AND 325,882 IMMIGRANTS DETAINED PER YEAR.

◦ FREEDOM FOR IMMIGRANTS AIMS TO SUPPORT IMMIGRANTS AND WORK TO END ICE DETENTION ([HTTPS://WWW.FREEDOMFORIMMIGRANTS.ORG/JOIN-US-1/](https://www.freedomforimmigrants.org/join-us-1/))

READING SHORT STORIES FROM "THE DISPLACED"

EDITED BY VIET THANH NGUYEN

◦ BACKGROUND ON REFUGEE WRITERS & THEIR INCORPORATED WORK

— "JOSEPH AZAM, FROM AFGHANISTAN, SPEAKS OF THE LONG PROCESS OF SELF-TRANSFORMATION THAT LED TO THE SHAPE OF HIS NAME INTO A MORE AMERICAN FASHION." AZAM ULTIMATELY COMES TO A CONCLUSION WHICH SUPPORTS EACH ASPECT OF HIS IDENTITY, CHOOSING TO BE CALLED "JOSEPH MOHAMMED YOUSUF AZAM;" ALL OF THE NAMES HE HAS ONCE BEEN KNOWN AS. HIS PIECE "LAST, FIRST, MIDDLE" HIGHLIGHTS HIM GRAPPLING WITH - THE IDEA OF BELONGING, HOME, AND NATIONAL IDENTITY.

— "DAVID BEZMOZGIS, FROM THE SOVIET UNION, SETTLED IN CANADA, WHERE HE DESCRIBES PRACTICING QUIET SOLIDARITY WITH A NEW REFUGEE TRYING TO GAIN PERMISSION TO STAY. IN HIS PIECE, "COMMON STORY," HE HUMANIZES REFUGEES, HIGHLIGHTING THEM AS PEOPLE WHO ARE "NOT PARAGONS OF VIRTUE, BUT FLAWED INDIVIDUALS. HE INQUIRES ABOUT WHO A CITIZEN TRULY IS, AND WHY WE HAVE ORGANIZED OURSELVES IN THE WAY WE HAVE.

— "FATIMA BHUTTO, BORN IN AFGHANISTAN TO A PAKISTANI FATHER FROM AN IMPORTANT POLITICAL LINEAGE, SUBMITS HERSELF TO A VIRTUAL REALITY VERSION OF REFUGEE EXPERIENCES, AND FINDS HERSELF UNEXPECTEDLY MOVED." SHE BEGINS HER PIECE, "FLESH AND SAND" BY DESCRIBING HER EXPERIENCE AT ALEJANDRO G. INARRITUS'S CARNE Y ARONA



A VIRTUAL REALITY INSTALLATION AND EXHIBITION — AT THE FONDAZIONE PRADA IN MILAN. IT ACTS TO SIMULATE A COMOTE (A COLLOQUIAL TERM REFERRING TO A PERSON WHO GUIDES PEOPLE OVER THE MEXICAN-AMERICAN BORDER) LEADS THE VIEWER AND A GROUP OF INDIVIDUALS, PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN THROUGH AN EXPERIENCE LIKE THIS, ALONG A ROCKY INSUFFERABLE TERRAIN, UNTIL THEY CROSS PATHS WITH AND ARE INTIMIDATED BY BORDER PATROL. IN THIS EXHIBIT, SHE SAYS THAT IT IS EASY TO LOSE THE CONCEPT OF TIME THROUGH THE EXHIBITION AND ILLUSTRATES THAT WHILE SHE HAS THE ABILITY TO LEAVE THE "MUSEUM," FOR OTHERS, THIS IS AN UNSETTLING REALITY.

— "THI BUI, WHO FLED THE VIETNAM WAR TO COME TO THE UNITED STATES, CONSIDERS THE BAGGAGE AND FRAGMENTS OF REFUGEE LIFE THROUGH SHARPLY DRAWN PICTURES." HIS ILLUSTRATION, "PERSPECTIVE AND WHAT GETS LOST," REVEALS EXAMPLES OF WHAT A REFUGEE MIGHT CARRY WHILE FLEEING PERSECUTION AS WELL AS THE PIECES THAT MAKE UP ONE'S IDENTITY.

— "ARIEL DORFMAN LEFT CHILE AND SETTLED IN NORTH CAROLINA, WHERE HE SPURNS THE POLITICS OF TRUMP AND FINDS HOPE IN A PAN-AMERICAN SUPERMARKET." HER STORY FOCUSES ON COMMERCIALISM AND AMERICA'S RELIANCE ON OTHER COUNTRIES FOR PRODUCE AS THE FIRST LINE, "HOW SUCULENT FOOD DEFEATED TRUMP'S WALL BEFORE IT HAS BEEN BUILT" SUGGESTS:

— "LEV GOLINKIN, A SOVIET JEWISH REFUGEE WHO WINDS UP IN VIENNA, DESCRIBES THE QUOTIDIAN STRUGGLE TO RETAIN HUMANITY AS THE REFUGEE EXPERIENCE TURNS ONE INTO A GHOST." SHE RELIVES THE TRAUMATIC EFFECT FAMILY SEPERATION CAN HAVE ON ONE AND HER PROMISE TO "NEVER BE A STRANGER TO HER CHILD" IN HER SHORT TALE, "THE PARENT WHO STAYS."

— "MERON HADERO, WHO CAME AS AN INFANT TO GERMANY FROM ETHIOPIA, RETURNS TO GERMANY AS AN ADULT IN ORDER TO RECLAIM THE EXPERIENCES OF DISPLACEMENT AND MIGRATION THAT SHE DOES NOT REMEMBER." HER WRITING "TO WALK IN THEIR SHOES" ACTS AS A REFLECTION ON HER REFUGEE EXPERIENCE AND WHAT IT FEELS LIKE TO SEARCH FOR SAFETY COMMUNITY AND HOME.

— "ALEKSANDAR HEMON, A CHICAGOAN FROM BOSNIA, RECOUNTS THE CANDIDE-LIKE EXPERIENCES OF A FELLOW BOSNIAN WHO HAD THE MISFORTUNE TO LIVE AN EPIC LIFE." HIS STORY, "GOD'S FATE" SPEAKS TO THE PROCESS OF OBTAINING CITIZENSHIP AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT.

— "JOSEPH KERTES, A JEWISH REFUGEE FROM HUNGARY, DESCRIBES THE UNIQUE STATUS OF CANADA AS A COUNTRY OF OUTSIDERS, NEXT TO BUT NOT QUITE LIKE THE UNITED STATES (IN A GOOD WAY). HE REFERENCES WHAT IT IS LIKE TO BE RECOGNIZED AS AN "OTHER"



AND DIVIDED BY IDENTITY IN "SECOND COUNTRY."

— "POROCHISTA KHAKPOUR OFFERS A PRECISE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF HER JOURNEY FROM IRAN TO AMERICA, INCLUDING THE PRECARIOUS STATUS OF BEING MUSLIM, BROWN, AND AMERICAN DURING A TIME OF WAR." KHAKPOUR BEGINS "13 WAYS OF BEING AN IMMIGRANT" BY REFERENCING DIFFERENT EXPERIENCES SHE HAD HAD IN AMERICA AND THE LESSONS SHE HAD SUBSEQUENTLY LEARNED ABOUT THE COUNTRY BY LIVING THERE.

— "MARINA LEWYCKA, BORN IN A "DISPLACED PERSONS" CAMP TO UKRAINIAN PARENTS, SETTLED IN THE UK AND TO A COMFORTABLE ENGLISH IDENTITY — UNTIL RISING ANTI-IMMIGRANT FEELING MADE HER QUESTION THAT IDENTITY. SHE DISCUSSES THE IDEA OF BEING CLASSIFIED AS AN "ECONOMIC MIGRANT" AND THE SEPERATION BETWEEN SOCIAL CLASSES AND GENERATIONS IN "REFUGEES AND EXILES."

— "DINA NAMERI, BORN IN IRAN, RAISED IN AMERICA, AND NOW A UK RESIDENT, CHALLENGES THE WIDELY HELD IDEA THAT REFUGEES MUST BE GRATEFUL BY SHOWING HOW GRATITUDE IS A TRAP." HER STORY, "THE UNGRATEFUL REFUGEE," HIGHLIGHTS WHAT ASSIMILATION AND ADJUSTING TO A NEW COUNTRY FEELS LIKE.

— "VU TRAN, A VIETNAMESE REFUGEE WHO CAME TO OKLAHOMA, OFFERS A TAXONOMY OF THE REFUGEE'S

MANY GUISES = ORPHAN, ACTOR, GHOST." HIS STORY, "A REFUGEE AGAIN," REVOLVES AROUND "THE SPACE BETWEEN "THE REAL" AND "THE IMAGINERY" WHERE REFUGEES RESIDE." HE ALSO MAKES A HAUNTING PARRALLEL BETWEEN REFUGEES AND GHOSTS.

— "NOVUM ROSA TSHUMA, WHOSE FAMILY LEFT ZIMBABWE FOR A SOUTH AFRICA THAT WAS BOTH HOSPITABLE AND HOSTILE, DESCRIBES THE REFUGEE'S FEAR OF PERSECUTION AS LEADING TO A DESIRE TO BE EXCEPTIONAL, AND HENCE "ACCEPTABLE." HER PIECE, "NEW LANDS, NEW SELVES," UNVEILS HOW A SOCIO-POLITICO-ECONOMIC CRISIS IN 2009 IS WHAT NECESSITATED HER FAMILY'S MOVE FROM ZIMBABWE TO SOUTH AFRICA. SHE DESCRIBES HOW ONE'S "ZIMBABWEANNESS" CAN RENDER ONE AN ANOMALY IN "SOUTH AFRICAN" AREAS."

— "KAO KALINA YANG, A HMONG REFUGEE WHOSE FAMILY CAME FROM LAOS TO MINNESOTA, DWELLS ON THE MEMORY OF HOW THE REFUGEE CHILDREN IN HER CAMP STRUGGLED AND FOUGHT TO SURVIVE." HER PIECE, "REFUGEE CHILDREN = THE YANG WARRIORS" REVEALS THAT IN ORDER FOR ONE TO SURVIVE ONE MUST VENTURE BEYOND CAPTIVITY.



(MONDAY, TUESDAY, & WEDNESDAY)

05.01.19

DOCUMENTATION = DAILY REFLECTIVE WRITING

° MONDAY MORNING I HAD MY COHORT MEETING WHERE WE SHARED ANECDOTES FROM OUR SENIOR PROJECT EXPERIENCES. IN THIS TIME I REFLECTED ON THE TIME I'VE SPENT AT NEW SANCTUARY, AND WHILE I'VE BEEN COMPLETING SEEMINGLY MUNDANE TASKS, I'VE ALSO COME TO UNDERSTAND THAT THE EFFECT ACTIONS SUCH AS THESE HAVE ARE NOT MINESCULE. LOOKING THROUGH THE FILES I'VE BEEN ARCHIVING AND ALPHABETIZING, EVENTHOUGH THEY ARE ONLY NAMES AND WORDS ON PAPER, FROM MY OWN EXPERIENCES — THOSE I HAVE SEEN AND MET — I HAVE DEVELOPED A STRONG RELATIONSHIP AND DETERMINATION TO CHANGE THIS ISSUE, WHICH HAS, SUBSEQUENTLY, CAUSED THESE PAPERS TO NO LONGER BE "FACELESS" OR WITHOUT IDENTITY BUT A CLEAR PORTRAIT OF SOMEBODY SEARCHING FOR A HOME — FOR SAFETY, FOR SANCTUARY. IN ADDITION TO THIS, I ALSO HAD A FEW ROLLS OF COLORED FILM DEVELOPED AND CONTINUED TO EDIT THE DIGITAL IMAGES I HAD PREVIOUSLY TAKEN OF THE LOWER EAST SIDE, CHINA TOWN, AND LITTLE ITALY. ON TUESDAY I WORKED AT NEW SANCTUARY COALITION WHERE I CONTINUED DATA ENTRY: IMPUTTING NEW PEOPLE AND THEIR RESPECTIVE DOCUMENTS ON AS WELL AS THE REFERRALS THAT WERE MADE. BEYOND THIS, I CONDUCTED RESEARCH ON THE DANGERS THOSE APPLYING FOR ASYLUM ARE FACING IN ORDER TO STRENGTHEN THEIR RESPECTIVE CASES LIKE INVESTIGATING

GANG VIOLENCE IN HONDURAS AND FINDING INFORMATION WHICH SUPPORTS AND REINFORCES THEIR STORIES — EXPOSING A DANGEROUS, IMMINENT THREAT WHICH HAD BEEN PLACED AGAINST THEM. I HAVE ALSO BEEN WORKING ALONGSIDE THOSE WHO ORGANIZE THE ACCOMPANIMENT PROGRAM AND FAMILIARIZING MYSELF WITH HOW NEW SANCTUARY'S CLINICS ARE RUN IN ORDER TO PROVIDE BETTER ASSISTANCE MYSELF. OUTSIDE OF MY INTERNSHIP, I HAVE CONTINUED MY MANDARIN CLASSES BUT CONTINUOUSLY FEEL BARRED BY LANGUAGE AS I DO NOT SPEAK SPANISH AND AM UNABLE TO HELP PEOPLE WHO COME INTO NEW SANCTUARY AS EFFECTIVELY AS I WOULD LIKE TO. IN MY TIME SPENT AT MY INTERNSHIP I HAVE ALSO BEEN ABLE TO SPEAK WITH THOSE WORKING ALONGSIDE ME IN ADDITION TO OTHER VOLUNTEERS — MANY OF WHOM SHARE WHAT PROMPTED THEM TO WORK AT NEW SANCTUARY AND BECOME INTERESTED IN IMMIGRATION LAW, AND MANY OF WHOM SHARE SIMILAR ANSWERS TO THIS SAME INQUIRY — "AFTER THE 2016 ELECTION, I COULD NO LONGER BE A BYSTANDER TO BIGOTRY AND INHUMANITY. I FELT THE NEED TO PLAY A ROLE IN PROTECTING THOSE WHO, ESPECIALLY AT THIS TIME, CANNOT PROTECT THEMSELVES." WHILE THIS REPRESENTS JUST A SUMMATION OF A FEW OF OUR CONVERSATIONS, IT HIGHLIGHTS A MUCH LARGER, OVERARCHING TOPIC: "HOW FAR MUST WE BE PUSHED BEFORE WE CHALLENGE THESE UNFAIR SYSTEMS?"



DOCUMENTATION = DAILY REFLECTIVE WRITING

o THURSDAY MORNING I HAD A COHORT MEETING WHERE WE MET WITH AN IMMIGRATION LAWYER, MOLLY HARRIS, WHO EXPLAINED WHAT IT IS LIKE TO WORK IN THE OCCUPATION SHE DOES AND DESCRIBE MORE ABOUT HER OWN EXPERIENCES ALONG WITH A FEW OF THE CASES SHE MUST HEAR. HARRIS EXPLAINED THAT HER WORK REVOLVED MAINLY AROUND AFFIDAVITS (A NOTORIZED SWORN STATEMENT ABOUT ANY GIVEN TOPIC) USUALLY REGARDING INSTANCES OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE AND ASSAULT ALONG WITH ASSISTING PEOPLE IN SUBMITTING I-589 FORMS (APPLICATION FOR ASYLUM AND FOR WITHHOLDING OF REMOVAL). MANY OF THOSE INVOLVED HAVE BEEN VICTIMIZED — FLEEING PERSECUTION DUE TO RACE, RELIGION, NATIONALITY, MEMBERSHIP IN A PARTICULAR SOCIAL GROUP, OR POLITICAL OPINION — IN THEIR LAST COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE AND SEARCHING FOR SANCTUARY. SHE WAS ABLE TO SPEAK ON THE "POWER AND CONTROL" SHEETS SHE ASSESSED IN HER CASES AND THE CHANGES AS WELL AS PUBLICITY THAT HAS SURROUNDED IMMIGRATION LAW UNDER THE NEW POLITICAL CLIMATE. THIS LEAD ME TO WONDER: "WHAT LEADS PEOPLE TO WANT TO WORK IN THE SERVICE OF OTHERS?"

QUOTES FROM CONVERSATIONS AT NEW SANCTUARY COALITION & RELATED ARTICLES

"THE IMMIGRATION PROCESS IS BASED UPON IF ONE HAS SUFFERED ENOUGH IN THEIR HOME COUNTRY TO THEN BE RELEASED ON BONDS WITH REQUIRED COURT HEARINGS"

"WHILE THE OUTRAGE AND VISIBILITY IS RELATIVELY NEW, NOTHING HAS FUNDAMENTALLY CHANGED"

"THE STANDARD WAS CREATED IN 1996 WHEN MANDATORY DETENTION FOR ASYLUM SEEKERS WAS ESTABLISHED"

"IT IS DIFFICULT TO BE OPTIMISTIC FOR A FUTURE WHICH CURRENTLY LOOKS QUITE BLEAK, BUT THEN THERE ARE ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS NEW SANCTUARY AND PEOPLE WHO ARE LOOKING TO HELP"

"IN THIS WORK, YOU HEAR CHILDREN'S STORIES AND YOUR CONCERN FOR POTENTIAL MEDIA EXPLOITATION BECOMES SECONDARY BECAUSE THE ALTERNATIVE IS TO INVENT THEIR STORIES" (BASED ON VALERIA LUISELLI)

"LUISELLI'S NOVEL ITSELF ENDEAVORS TO FIND A NEW WAY TO "DOCUMENT" THE PRESENT, IN A DIGRESSION OF IMPRESSIVE CREATIVE FRANKNESS, LUISELLI'S CHARACTER MILES ON THE PERILS OF MODERN STORYTELLING"

"ART IS AN ACT OF TRANSFORMATION = THE PASSAGE OF MATERIAL THROUGH AN IMAGINATIVE CRUCIBLE, AND THE CREATION OF SOMETHING NEW"



(MONDAY & TUESDAY)

05.08.19

DOCUMENTATION = DAILY REFLECTIVE WRITING

° I SHARED MY CRITICAL REFLECTIONS AND SENIOR PROJECT EXPERIENCES WITH MY PEERS DURING COHORT ON MONDAY. I BEGAN READING THE "LOST CHILDREN ARCHIVES" BY VALERIA LUISELLI IN PREPARATION FOR HER LECTURE AT THE BROOKLYN PUBLIC CENTRAL LIBRARY. ON WEDNESDAY NIGHT AND CONDUCTED FURTHER RESEARCH ON PAST IMMIGRATION LEGISLATION ALONG WITH ITS LEGAL SYSTEM. ON TUESDAY I WORKED AT NEW SANCTUARY COALITION WHERE I PREPARED FOR THEIR CLINIC AND CONTINUED DATA ENTRY FOR "EMERGENCY" CASES. I HAD MY INDEPENDENT MANDARIN CLASSES AND WORKED ON MY CHARACTER WRITING SKILLS. I DISCTED A FEW NEW YORK TIMES ARTICLES THAT SPOKE TO LUISELLI'S LIFE AND WORK — DEFINING THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN HER PAST NOVELS AND HELD A STRONG FOCUS ON HER MOST RECENT PUBLICATIONS. I ALSO DRAFTED A SERIES OF QUESTIONS TO BE ASKED OF VALERIA LUISELLI ON WEDNESDAY NIGHT AND CARMEN MARIA REY DURING OUR THURSDAY MORNING "INFORMAL INTERVIEW — CONVERSATION." HAVING THESE INQUIRIES WRITTEN IN ADVANCE ALLOWED ME TO HAVE A STRONG STARTING POINT TO WORK FROM.

(WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, & FRIDAY)

05.10.19

DOCUMENTATION = DAILY REFLECTIVE WRITING

° ON WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY I WAS AT NEW SANCTUARY COALITION WHERE I CALLED THE EOIR (EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR IMMIGRATION REVIEW) SYSTEM TO CONFIRM CLIENTS' UPCOMING COURT APPEARANCES AND SCHEDULED THEIR UPCOMING ACCOMPANIMENT PROGRAM. I TRACKED PEOPLES' RESPECTIVE MASTER COURT DATES, INDIVIDUAL HEARINGS, AND ICE CHECK-INS TO KEEP THOSE WHO COME IN UPDATED. ON THURSDAY, MY COHORT MET WITH CARMEN MARIA REY, A VISITING ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF CLINICAL LAW WITH MAJORITY OF HER CAREER FOCUSED ON IMMIGRATION LAW AND ADVOCACY FOR IMMIGRANT FAMILIES, PARTICULARLY SURVIVORS OF GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE, WHO RECENTLY SERVED AS DIRECTOR OF THE IMMIGRATION INTERVENTION PROJECT AT SANCTUARY FOR FAMILIES WHICH HAS THE LARGEST PROVIDER OF LEGAL SERVICES TO SURVIVORS OF GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE IN NEW YORK CITY. SHE CURRENTLY WORKS WITH PROFESSOR STACY CAPLOW IN THE SAFE HARBOR CLINIC WHICH HAS "SECURED ASYLUM AND/OR RELATED HUMANITARIAN RELIEF FOR 130 PRINCIPAL APPLICANTS — AND APPROXIMATELY 85 IMMEDIATE RELATIVES — IN BOTH THE ASYLUM OFFICE OF US CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION SERVICES AND IN IMMIGRATION COURT. FROM THIS DISCUSSION, I GAINED AN IN DEPTH INSIGHT INTO WHAT IT IS TRULY LIKE TO WORK IN THIS FIELD.



READING A PROFILE ON "VALERIA LUISELLI, AT HOME IN TWO WORLDS" FROM THE NEW YORK TIMES FEBRUARY 7TH, 2019

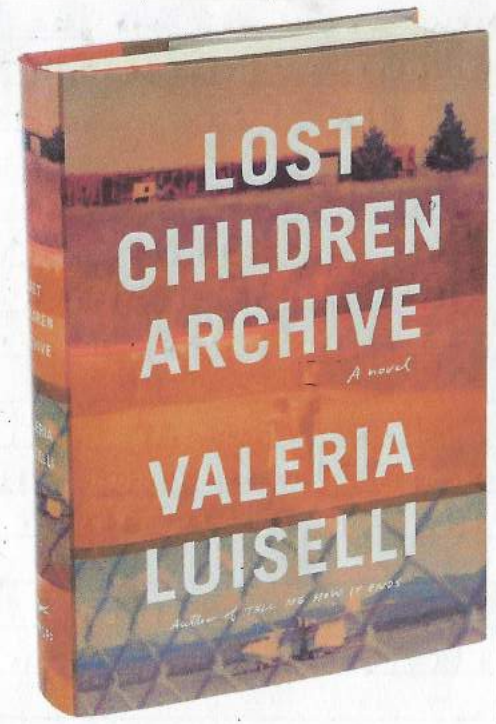
o "LUISELLI'S VISIONS ARE A CROSS BETWEEN THE LATIN AMERICAN AND THE NORTH AMERICAN VIEWS OF THE WORLD. VALERIA BELONGS TO BOTH TERRITORIES AND THEREFORE UNDERSTANDS THEIR SIGNALS, BUT AT THE SAME TIME SHE SEEMS TO ALWAYS UNDERSTAND HERSELF AS A FOREIGNER." — SHE STATES THAT MASS INCARCERATION AND IMMIGRATION DETENTION ARE THE SAME



Valeria Luiselli has a foot in Mexico and the United States, which is perhaps why her literature is charged with the lucidness of estrangement, said the Argentine novelist Samanta Schweblin. Devin Yalkin for The New York Times

Valeria Luiselli, at Home in Two Worlds - The New York Times

**The New York Times**



Sonny Figueroa/The New York Times

o "LOST CHILDREN ARCHIVE" WAS IN A LARGE PART A RESPONSE TO SEEING HER DAUGHTER TRY TO INTERPRET THE CURRENT MIGRATION CRISIS. CHILDREN CAN ADD A TINGE OF BIZARRENES TO WHAT IS POSSIBLY ACCEPTED AS NORMAL BUT IS ACTUALLY NOT," SAID LUISELLI. HER APPROACH IS NOT," SAID LUISELLI. HER APPROACH IS TO DISCUSS ISSUES WITH HER DAUGHTER "IN A WAY THAT SHE IS NOT SCARED — THAT SHE FINDS THE RIGHT BALANCE BETWEEN A CERTAIN RAGE OR OUTRAGE AND CLARITY TO IMAGINE POSSIBLE CHANGE."



## INTERVIEW QUESTIONS FOR VALERIA LUISELLI

◦ WHAT CAN WE, AS PEOPLE, DO TO ASSIST IN THIS ISSUE?

◦ HOW DO YOU BEGIN TO WRITE A MEMOIR PIECE THAT DEEPLY INTERSECTS WITH OTHER LIVES AND LARGER ISSUES WITHIN THE WORLD?

◦ WHAT LED YOU TO BECOME A TRANSLATOR? DO YOU BELIEVE THAT TRANSLATION AND INTERPRETATION COME HAND IN HAND?

◦ HOW HAS YOUR DAUGHTER COME TO INFLUENCE YOUR WRITING AND THE NARRATIVES YOU CHOSE TO TELL?

◦ HOW HAS HAVING A NETWORK OF STRONG WOMEN AFFECTED YOU AND YOUR PUBLISHINGS?

◦ WHAT DO YOU TAKE FROM YOUR EXPERIENCES AS A TRANSLATOR, VOLUNTEER, AND NOVELIST?

◦ HOW DO YOU FIND A BALANCE BETWEEN FEAR, CLARITY, AND OUTRAGE IN ORDER TO PROMPT POSITIVE CHANGE?

◦ WHAT ARE THE CONVERSATIONS YOU HAVE BEGUN TO HAVE WITH YOUR DAUGHTER TO BEGIN TO IMAGINE A BETTER WORLD AND TO CREATE THAT WORLD?

◦ WAS THERE A PARTICULAR MOMENT WHEN YOU DECIDED THAT THIS WAS WHAT YOU WERE GOING TO DO?

◦ I UNDERSTAND THAT MANY OF YOUR PUBLISHINGS ARE ROOTED IN YOUR OWN EXPERIENCES, BUT HOW WOULD YOU SAY "LOST CHILDREN ARCHIVE" DIFFER FROM YOUR "PREVIOUS"? CAN YOU SPEAK BRIEFLY ABOUT THE DISTINCTION BETWEEN NON-FICTION AND FICTION?

◦ WITH MANY OF YOUR PIECES ROOTED IN YOUR EXPERIENCES, HOW DO YOU DECIDE WHETHER TO DELVE FURTHER INTO NON-FICTION OR FICTION PIECES? WHERE IS THE BORDER OF A NOVEL LOCATION?

◦ WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO YOU TO WRITE IN DIFFERENT TONGUES?

◦ HOW DO YOUR WORKS ACT TO GRAPPLE WITH YOUR OWN NATIONAL IDENTITY AND SENSE OF SELF?



At the Border of the Novel

Claire Messud

Last Children Awake by Valeria Luiselli, Knopf, \$27.95, 307 pp. The Day After Tomorrow by Valeria Luiselli, Knopf, \$22.95, 307 pp.

The Day of My Death by Valeria Luiselli, translated from the Spanish by Christina MacDermey, Knopf, \$22.95, 307 pp.

Faces in the Crowd by Valeria Luiselli, translated from the Spanish by Christina MacDermey, Knopf, \$22.95, 307 pp.

Silence by Valeria Luiselli, translated from the Spanish by Christina MacDermey, with an introduction by Claire Messud, Knopf, \$22.95, 307 pp.

Although Valeria Luiselli lives in New York City, she isn't half American—not by birth (she was born in Mexico), nor by upbringing (her father was a diplomat, but international childhood wasn't, nor, in a significant degree, in her literary influences and style. But the five books she has written so far expand our understanding of American literature. Last Children Awake, her third novel, is the first that she has written in English. Her first two were very well translated from the Spanish by Christina MacDermey, and it is a pity, in my opinion, that American novelists, perhaps more accurately, a novel of the Americas.



Valeria Luiselli, New York City, January 2019

For all their unevenness, neither of her earlier novels could have led readers fully to anticipate this ambitious, rambly, urgent new work. Her first, Faces in the Crowd (2014), is the artfully fragmented account of a young woman who, as the writer about her husband and small children, creates geographic constellations of scenes and events from an autobiographical narrative by the (actual) Mexican poet Gilberto Owen (1904-1952). Luiselli plays with reality and literary conceits in a manner familiar from European and Latin American schools from Pirandello to Borges to Bolaño and Sábido's more recent moments, in a way popularized in contemporary North American fiction by various writers like Shalini Hett and Jenny O'Hell.

Luiselli's second novel, The Story of My Teeth (2015), is driven by the animating voice of Gustavo "Highway" Sánchez Sánchez, an auctioneer whose tall tales about the literary provenance of his own teeth (he claims one belongs to Saint Augustine, for example, and another to Virginia Woolf) and whose diverse styles of storytelling intertemporally engage the reader in a lively narrative dance. Filled with other literary allusions ("My uncle Marcos Sánchez-Frías once wrote me a letter..."), the novel was in fact commissioned by the Galería Juárez, so we get eye outside Mexico City, as a result in his story. The novel was in fact commissioned by the Galería Juárez, so we get eye outside Mexico City, as a result in his story. The novel was in fact commissioned by the Galería Juárez, so we get eye outside Mexico City, as a result in his story.

Between The Story of My Teeth and Last Children Awake, Luiselli wrote a slim, memorable volume of nonfiction, The Me How I Bled: An Immigrant Family Questioned (2017), expanded from an essay that appeared in President magazine in 2016. (This was her second nonfiction book; her first, Silences, from 2010, is an illustrated, again, cleverly fragmented series of meditations on topics ranging from Joseph Brodsky's grave, to bicycling to the empty...

THIS ARTICLE CAN BE FOUND AT [HTTPS://WWW.NYBOOKS.COM/ARTICLES/2019/03/21/VALERIA-LUISELLI-BORDER-NOVEL/](https://www.nybooks.com/articles/2019/03/21/valeria-luiselli-border-novel/)

MEETING WITH PROFESSOR CARMEN MARIA REY

05.10.19



GENERAL NEWS (NEWS/GENERAL-NEWS) Front Line Hero: Carmen Maria Rey, Immigration Intervention Project

By VALERIA LUISELLI (valeri@nybooks.com) | OCTOBER 18, 2019

SHARE: (/facebook) (/twitter) (/google plus) (/email) (/rss)

Despite a 2016 initiative by Gov. Andrew Cuomo and Mayor Bill de Blasio to protect victims of domestic violence in the undocumented immigrant community, the fear of poverty and deportation looms large over this population. Through referrals by city agencies for medical and school administrators, many find their way to Sanctuary for Families. Each year this nonprofit provides over 15,000 survivors of domestic and gender violence with shelter, legal support and job training, completely free of charge.

About 24 years ago Sanctuary launched the Immigration Intervention Project (<http://www.immigrationintervention.org>) to give undocumented survivors legal services (the Immigration-Law-vention-Project-ILP) (ILP), whose mission is to increase the pool of legal assistance in the field and to "relieve gender violence survivors of these challenges by assisting them to obtain legal immigration status, permanent residence and citizenship."

Carmen Maria Rey, deputy director of the ILP, has extensive experience helping adults and children to escape safely from forced marriages, female genital mutilation and other abusive circumstances. Many clients do not speak English fluently so language skills are a plus for these attorneys. Rey speaks four.

"Even if I could replicate myself 100 times, there would still be a shortfall in representation of the national of undocumented immigrants who are victims of abuse," said Rey. The need for qualified attorneys is becoming a big legal issue as inadequate translations may prolong delays in an intrinsically slow bureaucratic process. "In 2016 we have more stateless people than ever before due to climate change as well as political factors," Rey said, with Central Americans currently the largest cohort.

As one of Sanctuary's lead legal resources, Rey partners with government and community leaders and trains the probation divisions of top law firms in the intricacies of immigration law. "It's a complex field and without proper training it's a mine to more than just gold," she said.

Due to her training the Sanctuary team has been recognized for providing quality services to the community. Last June Sanctuary's staff accepted a recognition from the International Association for Social Work with Groups for "exemplary leadership in providing counseling and related services, and in particular, creative and innovative group therapy practices to victims of domestic violence and their families." All these services are offered at no cost to the client. Since joining the organization as an intern in 2014, Rey has devoted her time and expertise to support the needs of the burgeoning population of recent immigrants.

"Unless you want to talk about immigration, I'm very boring," Rey admitted. "I talk everyone where they came from, whether it's a cab driver or coffee vendor in the street."

Key herself arrived and committed from northern Spain following a seven-year separation from her parents while they sought U.S. citizenship. Memories of unsavory pre-dawn at city government offices with her mother inform the sensitivity with which she now handles her clients.

"I take on the burden of my clients during the consultation, and I try to assess them but I know they're not ready," she said about how she approaches the graphic nature of the "homicide" cases she hears on a regular basis, from Mistalina being killed at school to sexual violence in the home.

Rey's family obtained citizenship through President Reagan's amnesty program. Subsequently, Rey earned degrees from New York University and Brooklyn Law School. She is pleased to report that her mother is currently eyeing a degree in nursing and that her sibling, a Yale alumna, was born in New York City.

It was while volunteering as an auxiliary at Bellevue Hospital that Rey settled in a career as an immigration lawyer and activist. In conversation with a Dominican patient she discovered that due to his undocumented status he could not take time off work for medical treatment without losing pay; instead, he sacrificed his health in order to feed his family.

"The indignity of his situation made me so angry that I vowed to help immigrants without resources," recalled Rey, who could "not contain the patient to take action against his employer. I had to console myself with the fact that his children get a college education due to his hard work. I know it's difficult for it to be an immigrant and to be poor. The undocumented population faces so much indignity."

"We're proud that our services are 100 percent free," said Rey, who handles or supervises an average of 200 cases per year. She describes Sanctuary's program as a "self-empowerment factory" that moves clients from being passive recipients of skills that enable them to become independent and ultimately self-sustaining. Walking into the waiting rooms at Sanctuary she derives energy from the cross-section of women she encounters — perhaps a Dominican next to a Russian escapee from a West African, all wearing the traditional clothing of their home country. "We create community at Sanctuary, celebrating all the ways holidays that our clients bring with them," Rey said, adding that although the organization has a good base of volunteers, new recruits are always welcome during the holidays to distribute donations to children. "I suppose I was destined for this (migration law) battle because at the end of the day, I love what I do."

Editor's note: This piece has been updated to remove mention of ILP involvement with the Anti-Trafficking Initiative.

WHAT IS IT LIKE TO WORK IN CLINICAL LAW? HOW DO YOU COPE WHILST WORKING IN THESE AGGRAVATING SITUATIONS?

HOW ARE YOU ABLE TO PROVIDE FREE LEGAL SERVICES? WHERE DOES YOUR FINANCING ORIGINATE FROM?

THIS ARTICLE CAN BE FOUND AT [HTTPS://NYNMED.COM/NEWS/FRONT-LINE-HERO-CARMEN-MARIA-REY-IMMIGRATION-INTERVENTION-PROJECT](https://nynmed.com/news/front-line-hero-carmen-maria-rey-immigration-intervention-project)



## INTERVIEW SUMMARY

◦ CARMEN REY EXPLAINED TO US THAT THE IMMIGRATION INTERVENTION PROJECT AT SANCTUARY FOR FAMILIES IS FUNDED BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND LOCAL FUNDING PROGRAMS THAT REPORT ON CONTRACTS BUT ALSO STATED HOW THERE IS VERY LITTLE PRIVATE FUNDING. SHE SAID THAT ON A "MACRO-LEVEL," THE GOVERNMENT IS VERY OPPOSED TO FUNDING LEGAL ASSISTANCE FOR IMMIGRANTS BUT THAT THEY STILL PLAY A ROLE IN FACILITATING SERVICES, ADDING THAT THIS COMES FROM THE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT, WHERE FUNDING IS FOR VICTIMS OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE AND PURELY HUMANITARIAN ACTIONS: "THERE IS A THEORETICAL AND PRACTICAL COMPONENT TO LAW SCHOOL AND MY JOB LIES IN WALKING PEOPLE THROUGH AN IMMIGRATION CASE, UNDERSTANDING DOCUMENTATION, AND CREATING A COMPELLING NARRATIVE WITHIN CLASS," SHE WENT ON TO MENTION THAT THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN EUROPE AND AMERICA'S OUTLOOK AND RESISTANCE TOWARD IMMIGRATION IS QUITE DIFFERENT GIVEN THE HISTORICAL CONTEXT THAT BELONGS TO AMERICA IS ROOTED IN IT BEING SEEN AS AN "IMMIGRANT COUNTRY" WHERE EUROPE HAS NEVER BEEN KNOWN TO SHARE THAT WHERE THERE ARE GREATER INSTANCES OF BLATANT RACISM AND RACIAL PROFILING SPECIFICALLY IN FRANCE, SHE NOTED THAT MOST ILLEGAL MIGRATION TO THE UNITED STATES ARE PEOPLE FROM CANADA, BUT A CONCENTRATED AMOUNT OF FOCUS AND MEDIA ATTENTION HAS BEEN PLACED ALONG THE

SOUTHERN BORDER BECAUSE THE ADMINISTRATION WANTS TO CRAFT THE IMAGE THAT THOSE COMING INTO THE COUNTRY ARE IMPOVERISHED PEOPLE WHO CANNOT IMMEDIATELY CONTRIBUTE TO SOCIETY. REY ALSO STATED THAT THE INFUX OF PEOPLE HOLDS DRASTICALLY DIFFERENT EFFECTS IN EUROPE THAN IT DOES WITHIN THE UNITED STATES AS IT IS SMALL IN COMPARISON. WHEN SPEAKING TO HOW THE WORK HAS CHANGED UNDER THE CURRENT ADMINISTRATION, SHE STATED THAT IT HAS BECOME INCREASINGLY HARDER DUE TO THOSE IN POWER BEING DEDICATED TO CREATING THESE "MONSTERS" LIKE THE COUNTRY SAW DURING THE BUSH ADMINISTRATION WITH THE WAR ON TERROR WHICH WAS SUCCESSFUL IN SECURING HIM ANOTHER TERM, BUT POINTED TO HOW "AMERICA DOES NOT HAVE THE APPETITE TO FIGHT ANOTHER WAR." SHE ALSO MENTIONED THE PLenary POWER DOCTRINE, A MEASURE WHICH GIVES THE PRESIDING PRESIDENT POWER TO RESTRICT PEOPLE FROM COMING INTO THE UNITED STATES UNDER THE ARGUMENT OF TERRITORIAL SOVEREIGNTY AND LEGITIMIZE CONTROVERSIAL EXECUTIVE ACTIONS THAT BLOCK CERTAIN PEOPLE FROM PROTECTION, AND IS ACCEPTED. IN ORDER TO CREATE NEW LAW, THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH NEEDS CONGRESS BUT, INDEPENDENTLY, THEY HAVE A SAY IN HOW IMMIGRATION LAW IS ENFORCED WHICH MEANS THAT THERE HAS BEEN A GENERAL SLOWDOWN IN LAWFUL MIGRATION AND VISITORS TO THE UNITED STATES, TAKING XENOPHOBIC ACTIONS WHILE WORKING WITHIN THE SYSTEM. IN OUR



CURRENT CLIMATE, LAWYERS HAVE BECOME "FIRST RESPONDERS" DESPITE THEIR WORK REQUIRING PAUSE AND REFLECTION. IN MANY COURTS, 80% OF THEIR CASES ARE LOW LEVEL IMMIGRATION APPEALS. WITH THE MUSLIM BAN THERE WAS ORIGINALLY A "SUDDEN MODE OF PANIC" AND AN ABUNDANCE OF LAWYERS WERE SENT TO JFK IN ORDER TO POLITICIZE CLIENTS, HAVE THEM UNDERSTAND THAT THE GOVERNMENT IS INTENTLY TRYING TO MAKE IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR THEM TO GAIN STATUS, AND FOR THEM TO INTERNALIZE THAT THEY NEED TO FIGHT BACK. THE LAST MAJOR FORM OF IMMIGRATION LEGISLATION WAS KNOWN AS "THE ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION REFORM AND IMMIGRANT RESPONSIBILITY ACT" OF 1996 COMING FROM A PERIOD BASED OFF OF CRIMINAL REFORM, IAPA, WHICH CREATES A MANDATORY AND INCREDIBLY PUNITIVE ASPECT OF IMMIGRATION DETENTION, CRIMINALIZING ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION AND EXPEDITED REMOVAL. SHE CONTINUED TO SAY "I DON'T RECOGNIZE THE COUNTRY I LIVE IN ANYMORE. I BELIEVE IN OPEN BORDERS BECAUSE WE EXPORT OUR PROBLEMS." SHE EXPLAINED HOW THE MOST DIFFICULT CASE FOR HER WAS SEEING AN INSTANCE IN A COURTROOM OF A 15-YEAR-OLD GIRL BEING ASKED ABOUT BEING RAPED AT THE AGE OF 9, TESTIFYING FOR CASES OF SEXUAL ABUSE AND A WORLD OF TRAUMA WITHIN DETENTION — A DEHUMANIZATION OF THE MOST VULNERABLE OF IMMIGRANTS. SHE STATED THAT WE HAVE SPOKEN ABOUT IMMIGRANTS AS A DEFENSELESS MASS OF PEOPLE, WHEN IN REALITY, THEY ARE "CROSS-POLLINATING, CRUCIAL CONTRIBUTORS TO OUR SOCIETY, MOVING AWAY FROM THE NARRATIVE THAT THE WHITE

HOUSE IS SELLING US, POLITICIZING PEOPLE, AND BUILDING BRIDGES IN OUR COMMUNITY THROUGH RELIGIOUS GROUPS, THE BAIL AND BOND FUNDS FOR PEOPLE TO GET OUT OF CIVIL AND CRIMINAL DETENTION. YOUNG ADULTS HAVE MORE IN COMMON WITH YOUNG MIGRANTS THAN THEY DO WITH THE OLDER PEOPLE IN OFFICE, MOST OF WHOM CLAIM THAT NEIGHBORING NATIONS ARE NOT UNDER THEIR DOMAIN OF RESPONSIBILITY. SHE CONTINUED, DESCRIBING HOW THE FUNDAMENTAL CONCEPT OF NATION STATES — THE UNITED STATES AND MEXICO — IS ONLY A COUPLE HUNDRED YEARS OLD ALONG WITH THE SOLIDIFIED METHOD OF GOVERNMENT. AND THAT THE WAYS IN WHICH OUR SOCIETY FUNCTIONS IS REQUIRED TO CHANGE: "WHEN YOU THINK OF THE ITERATIONS AND CONCEPT OF NATION STATES, BUT WE ARE SO TIED TO IT THAT IT WOULD TAKE TREMENDOUS FORCE AND VISION, LIKE A NEW GENERATION TO ENVISION A NEW WORLD. SHE THEN DRAWS A CONNECTION BETWEEN IMMIGRATION AND CLIMATE CHANGE, REFERENCING HOW BANGLADESH WILL BE UNDER WATER WHICH SUBSEQUENTLY MEANS RESETTLING MILLIONS OF PEOPLE IN PLACES THAT ARE LESS POPULATED SUCH AS THE UNITED STATES. SHE SAYS THAT WATER RESOURCES, OR WATER WARS, NATURAL DISASTERS, AND PERIODS OF UNREST ARE ALL CONNECTED — ALL ENGENDER WAR.



(MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY)

05.15.19

DOCUMENTATION = DAILY REFLECTIVE WRITING

ON MONDAY, I COMPLETED READING "THE LOST CHILDREN ARCHIVE" BY VALERIA LUISELLI AND PREPARED QUESTIONS TO ASK OF MANNY VARGAS, FOUNDER OF THE IMMIGRANT DEFENSE PROJECT ON THURSDAY. IN THE LAST WEEK OF SENIOR PROJECT, ONE OF MY CLASSMATES WHO WAS ALSO IN MY COHORT GROUP, PURSUING A SIMILAR PROJECT TO MINE, RELATED TO IMMIGRATION WITHIN NEW YORK CITY, SARAH KATZ, SUGGESTED THE IDEA OF A FINAL PROJECT OR LASTING ACTION WE COULD MAKE FOR NEW SANCTUARY COALITION AS WE BOTH PARTNERED WITH THEM AT ONE POINT ACROSS THE SEVEN-WEEK TIMELINE. TOGETHER, WE DECIDED WE WANTED TO HOLD A FUNDRAISER FOR NEW SANCTUARY BY RAISING MONEY THROUGH A SCHOOL-WIDE BAKE SALE AS WELL AS CONDUCT A DRIVE WHERE WE WOULD COLLECT ART SUPPLIES AND LANGUAGE-INDEPENDENT BOARD GAMES TO BE USED RECREATIONALLY BY THE CHILDREN WHO ACCOMPANY THEIR PARENTS TO THE WEEKLY LEGAL ADVICE CLINIC. TYPICALLY, I AM SKEPTICAL OF BAKE SALES AS PEOPLE USUALLY SPEND MORE MONEY ON THE ITEMS THEY ARE SELLING THAN WHAT THEY BRING IN BUT IN THIS CASE, SARAH AND I BOUGHT \$80 WORTH OF GOODS, MAKING OUR TOTAL PROFIT, \$552.14 AS WE RAISED \$632.14, WHICH OUTWEIGHS THE COST BY A SIGNIFICANT MARGIN ON THIS PAST THURSDAY. IN BETWEEN THE PROCESS OF PLANNING THIS FUNDRAISER, I DID A FINAL EDIT OF MY PHOTOGRAPHY PORTFOLIO AND ADVERTISED THE "ART SUPPLIES AND GAMES DRIVE" TO THE STUDENT BODY, FACULTY, AND PARENTS. I CONTINUED MY INTERNSHIP WITH NEW SANCTUARY AS WELL WHERE I ORGANIZED FILES, COMPILED STATISTICS OF THOSE WHO VISITED CLINIC IN THE PAST MONTH, AND CALLED THE EOIR TO CONFIRM CLIENTS' COURT DATES.

(THURSDAY & FRIDAY)

05.17.19

DOCUMENTATION = DAILY REFLECTIVE WRITING

ON THURSDAY MORNING DURING COHORT MEETING I, ALONG WITH A GROUP OF FELLOW CLASSMATES, MET WITH MANNY VARGAS ABOUT THE IMMIGRATION DEFENSE PROJECT = "FOLLOWING A YEAR MARKED BY HATEFUL VIOLENCE AND THE ESCALATION OF A RACIST ANTI-IMMIGRANT AGENDA, WE ARE RE-ENERGIZING TO EXPAND THE FIGHT FOR A WORLD DEFINED BY DIVERSITY, HUMAN RIGHTS, AND JUSTICE FOR ALL. IN THE AFTER-NOON, SARAH AND I RAN THE NEW SANCTUARY FUNDRAISER AND IN THE PROCESS OF RAISING MONEY FOR ANOTHER ORGANIZATION, OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL GROUNDS, THE MAIN IMPACT, FOR ME, WAS EDUCATING PEOPLE IN THE STREETS ABOUT THE LACK OF IMMIGRATION RESOURCES IN NEW YORK CITY AND HOW NEW SANCTUARY AIMS TO ASSIST IN THE PROCESS OF IMMIGRANTS AND REFUGEES GAINING LEGAL AID.



New Sanctuary Coalition  
Donation Receipt

CONFIRMATION # 5261

DONOR

Little Red School House  
Lrei

ADDRESS

40 Charlton St, New  
York, NY 10014, United  
States

PHONE

EMAIL

[jmarks@lrei.org](mailto:jmarks@lrei.org)

EMPLOYER

OCCUPATION

AMOUNT

**\$632.14**

DATE

May 17 2019

TYPE

Credit Card

THIS DONATION IS TAX DEDUCTIBLE.



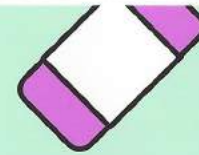


# SNACK & BAKE SALE



A Fundraiser for New  
Sanctuary Coalition

All Day Thursday 5/16



NEW

SANCTUARY

COALITION

ART SUPPLIES

& GAME DRIVE

ART SUPPLIES LIKE MODEL  
MAGIC OR CRAYONS AND  
SIMPLE LANGUAGE  
INDEPENDENT GAMES LIKE  
UNO OR CHECKERS

FROM 5/15-6/3





## BACKGROUND ON MANNY VARGAS



SHORT BIOGRAPHY: [HTTPS://WWW.IMMIGRANT  
DEFENSEPROJECT.ORG/ABOUT/STAFF/](https://www.immigrantdefenseproject.org/about/staff/)

ARTICLES: [HTTPS://WWW.IMMIGRANTDEFENSEPROJECT.ORG/](https://www.immigrantdefenseproject.org/)

IDPS - MANNY - VARGAS - NEW - YORK - LEADS - THE -

WAY - ON - IMMIGRANT - DEFENSE - HUFFINGTON - POST /

[HTTPS://WWW.HUFFPOST.COM/ENTRY/RAW-DEAL-FOR-IMMIGRANT-](https://www.huffpost.com/entry/raw-deal-for-immigrant-at-us-supreme-court)

AT - US - SUPREME - COURT

[HTTPS://WWW.IMMIGRANTDEFENSEPROJECT.ORG/IDPS - MANNY -](https://www.immigrantdefenseproject.org/idps-manny-vargas-receives-lifetime-achievement-award-nations-criminal-defense-bar/)

VARGAS - RECEIVES - LIFETIME - ACHIEVEMENT - AWARD -

NATIONS - CRIMINAL - DEFENSE - BAR /

IDP PODCAST SERIES: [HTTPS://MEDIUM.COM/@MIZUE/](https://medium.com/@mizue/)

INDEFENSIBLE - STORIES - OF - RESILIENCE - IN - THE -

FACE - OF - DEPORTATION - 7D8947C400B8

"MANNY VARGAS RUNS THE IMMIGRANT DEFENSE PROJECT (IDP). WHERE HE, ALONG WITH HIS COLLEAGUES, ARE CURRENTLY WORKING WITH UNDOCUMENTED IMMIGRANTS SEEKING TO LEGALIZE THEIR STATUS UNDER THE CURRENT REGIME. THOSE IMMIGRANTS WHO HAVE HAD CONTACT WITH THE UNITED STATES CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM ARE TARGETED. IDP RESEARCHES CRIMINAL DISPOSITIONS AND IMMIGRATION ISSUE WITH AN "IMMIGRATION CONSEQUENCES OF CRIMES SUMMARY CHECKLIST" ON HAND. THERE ARE MANY CRIMINAL OBSTACLES TO OBTAINING LPR (LEGAL PERMANENT RESIDENT, OR GREEN CARD) STATUS, AND EVENTUALLY, UNITED STATES CITIZENSHIP. PEOPLE WHO ARE HERE LAWFULLY CAN BE DEPORTED ON ADMISSIBILITY GROUNDS BY WAY OF A "CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE OFFENSE," "CRIME INVOLVING MORAL TURPITUDE" (POORLY DEFINED ACTS OF EVIL OR CORRUPTION DECIDED UPON THROUGH A LEGAL ANALYSIS OF STATUTES), THEFT

## What is New Sanctuary Coalition?

New Sanctuary Coalition is a non-profit organization based in New York City that offers support to hundreds of immigrants facing detention and deportation. NSC provides legal support and builds community through programs and clinics staffed by lawyers and trained volunteers. NSC fights for justice by spreading knowledge of immigrants' rights, assisting with asylum applications, giving advice on *pro se* (individual) defense court appearances, advocating to increase detained immigrants' access to legal defense tools, and much more.

Scan the QR Code to learn more



OR LARCENY, OR CONVICTION OF AN AGGRAVATED FELONY, WHICH USUALLY RESULTS IN A MANDATORY DEPORTATION ORDER, THE CONSEQUENCES ARE ALSO DEPENDENT ON THE STATE IN WHICH THE OFFENSE WAS COMMITTED AND TRIED, MEANING STATE COURTS CAN DETERMINE THE SEVERITY WITH WHICH EACH CASE IS CONSIDERED. FOR CITIZENS, THERE IS A "STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS" ON MOST CRIMES, BUT THIS DOES NOT APPLY TO IMMIGRANTS. THEY CAN BE DEPORTED BASED ON A MINOR CRIME COMMITTED DECADES AGO, THEY HAVE NO RIGHT TO A SPEEDY TRIAL, OR ABILITY TO RELEASE ON BAIL. THERE ARE IMMIGRATION JUDGES, AND THEN THERE IS THE BOARD OF IMMIGRATION APPEALS; WHILE A JUDGE CAN ORDER REMOVAL, ONE CAN FILE AN APPEAL TO THE BOARD FOLLOWING THIS ACTION. IN IMMIGRATION COURT, BECAUSE IN CIVIL COURT, MOST CANNOT AFFORD REPRESENTATION AND THEREFORE DO NOT FILE AN APPEAL DUE TO A LACK OF RESOURCES.

IDP WAS FOUNDED IN 1997, A YEAR AFTER CONGRESS PASSED A SET OF HARSH IMMIGRATION LAWS UNDER THE BILL CLINTON ADMINISTRATION, ROOTED IN THE RACIST AND PUNITIVE TENETS OF THE WAR ON CRIME: EXPANDED POLICING, UNFORGIVING SENTENCES, AND MASS IMPRISONMENT, WITH DEPORTATION AS AN ADDITIONAL PUNISHMENT FOR A WIDE RANGE OF OFFENSES. IT IS AN ORGANIZATION COMMITTED TO COMBATING AN EMERGING HUMAN RIGHTS CRISIS: THE TARGETING OF IMMIGRANTS FOR MASS IMPRISONMENT AND DEPORTATION. IDP'S MAIN INITIAL GOAL IS TO HAVE PEOPLE UNDERSTAND THE DIFFERENCES AND INTRICACIES OF IMMIGRATION LAW IN COMPARISON TO CRIMINAL LAW BY EDUCATING IMMIGRANTS

ON THE RIGHTS THEY HAVE AND LAWYERS ON HOW TO ADVISE THOSE FACING CRUEL REMOVAL GROUNDS BY ORDER OF THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM. IT ULTIMATELY MAKES A CONNECTION AND DISTINCTION BETWEEN CRIMINAL AND IMMIGRATION LAW. STATES CAN MODIFY THEIR CRIMINAL LAWS IN ORDER FOR THEIR RESIDENTS TO NOT BE SUBJECTED TO A HIGH CONVICTION OR DEPORTATION DUE TO A MISDEMEANOR. THERE WAS A CAMPAIGN TO REDUCE A POTENTIAL SENTENCE FOR A MISDEMEANOR FROM ONE YEAR TO 364 DAYS SO THAT THIS MINISCULE ACTION WAS NOT A BASIS FOR DEPORTATION BECAUSE THAT ONE DAY DIFFERENCE AFFECTS HOW IMMIGRATION LAW CAN INTERPRET THE CONVICTION. A FAMOUS PIECE OF LITIGATION COMPLETED THROUGH IDP WAS PADILLA V. KENTUCKY, A 2010 UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT CASE WHERE IT WAS DECIDED THAT CRIMINAL DEFENSE ATTORNEYS MUST COMMUNICATE WITH NON-CITIZEN CLIENTS ABOUT THE IMMIGRATION CONSEQUENCES OF A CONVICTION AS WELL AS THEIR DEPORTATION RISKS OF A GUILTY PLEA. THIS CASE EXTENDED THE SUPREME COURT'S PRIOR DECISIONS ON CRIMINAL DEFENDANT'S SIXTH AMENDMENT RIGHT TO COUNSEL TO IMMIGRATION CONSEQUENCES. IT STATES THAT ONE'S CONVICTION CAN BE VACATED IF THEY ARE POORLY EDUCATED ON THE SYSTEM. THIS CAUSES PUBLIC DEFENSE OFFICERS AND IMMIGRATION LAWYERS TO BE HELD CONSTITUTIONALLY ACCOUNTABLE FOR THE ADVICE THEY GIVE AND ENCOURAGES THEM TO CORRECTLY INSTRUCT THEIR CLIENTS. ANOTHER PENDING CASE CURRENTLY BEING BRIEFED BY THE SUPREME COURT IS BARTON V. BARR WHOSE ISSUE REGARDS WHETHER A LAWFULLY ADMITTED PERMANENT RESIDENT WHO IS NOT SEEKING ADMISSION TO THE UNITED STATES CAN BE



RENDERED INADMISSIBLE FOR THE PURPOSES OF THE STOP-TIME RULE, IT CONCERNS THE CANCELLATION OF REMOVAL WHICH A GREEN CARD HOLDER MIGHT BE ELIGIBLE FOR IF THEY HAVE HAD A SEVEN YEAR RESIDENCE WITHIN THE UNITED STATES. THE ARGUMENT FOR THIS CASE IS THAT THE "CLOCK" IS STOPPED ONCE THEY COME IN CONTACT WITH THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM, CREATING A GROUND FOR INADMISSIBILITY, BUT BECAUSE THE PERSON IN QUESTION IS ALREADY LAWFULLY ADMITTED INTO THE UNITED STATES DEPORTATION SHOULD NOT BE CONSIDERED.

• THE DETAILED FACTS OF THE CASE = [HTTPS://WWW.OYEZ.ORG/CASES/2019/18-725](https://www.oyez.org/cases/2019/18-725)

THE INSPIRATION FOR MY SENIOR PROJECT = THE JUNIOR CLASS TRIP

TITLE = PERSONAL ESSAY: CITIZENSHIP AND PRIVILEGE AT THE BORDER

BORDER PATROL IS RUN LIKE A MILITARY ACADEMY WHOSE WEBSITE ADVERTISES THEIR MISSION STATEMENT IN BOLD LETTERS: "CBP'S TOP PRIORITY IS TO KEEP TOURISTS AND THEIR WEAPONS FROM ENTERING THE U.S. WHILE WELCOMING ALL LEGITIMATE TRAVELERS AND COMMERCE. CBP OFFICERS AND AGENTS ENFORCE ALL APPLICABLE U.S. LAWS, INCLUDING AGAINST ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION, NARCOTICS SMUGGLING AND ILLEGAL IMPORTATION." I FOUND READING THESE SENTENCES TO BE PARTICULARLY UNSETTLING AND BITTERLY UNCOMFORTABLE. THE ORGANIZATION PRESENTS IMMIGRANTS AS VILLAINS—CRIMINALIZING AND CLASSIFYING THEM AS DANGEROUS THREATS. ALTHOUGH, THEY ANNOUNCE THAT ALL "LEGITIMATE TRAVELERS" ARE WELCOME, THOSE WHO ARE GRANTED SUCH ALLOWANCE TEND TO ONLY BE A SLIM FEW.

DURING THE SPRING OF 2018, I VISITED A BORDER PATROL CENTER IN TUCSON, ARIZONA, WITH FELLOW STUDENTS FROM LITTLE RED ELIZABETH IRWIN HIGH SCHOOL FOR OUR JUNIOR CLASS TRIP ABOUT IMMIGRATION AND BORDER POLICY. A CBP OFFICER MET US AT THE MAIN OFFICE IN HIS IMMACULATE UNIFORM AND DROVE US OUT TO THE FENCE WHICH MARKS THE BORDER. IN THE TONES OF A MUSEUM TOUR GUIDE, HE BOASTED ABOUT THE PLACEMENT OF THE FENCE AS WE ALL BAKED IN DESERT POWDER. AFTER A WHILE, I



ASKED, "HOW DOES DOING THIS JOB AFFECT YOU?" HE RESPONDED, "IT DOESN'T. I DON'T TAKE IT PERSONAL. I DON'T THINK OF MY WORK WHEN I LEAVE HERE. I GO HOME AND TURN ON THE NBA PLAYOFFS, IT'S LIKE ANY OTHER JOB REALLY." HIS TONE SOUNDED STRANGELY LIGHT AND CHEERFUL, BUT I REALIZED THAT HE HAS PROBABLY BECOME IMMUNE TO THE STORIES THAT SURROUND HIM. HE BELIEVES THAT THIS LINE OF WORK AND THE TREATMENT OF PEOPLE INVOLVED IS NORMAL NECESSARY BEHAVIOR. ONE OF MY PEERS ASKED, "HAS THE SITUATION AROUND OR DYNAMICS ALONG THE BORDER CHANGED SINCE THE CASE OF JOSE ANTONIO?" TO WHICH HIS RESPONSE WAS "NO, WHO'S THAT?" AS WE MOVED ON TO EXPLAIN HOW SIXTEEN-YEAR-OLD JOSE ANTONIO WAS FATALLY SHOT SIXTEEN TIMES THROUGH THE FENCE WHILE ON MEXICAN SOIL FOR ANGERING A U.S. BORDER PATROL AGENT, HE SUDDENLY FOUND THAT OUR WORDS SOUNDED VAGUELY FAMILIAR. HE THEN SAID, "OH YES, BUT WE DON'T TALK ABOUT THAT SORT OF THING; IT IS NOT OUR BUSINESS," EVEN THOUGH THIS HAPPENED THREE MILES FROM WHERE HE WAS STANDING. I COULD SEE THE OVERWHELMING JUSTIFICATIONS THAT HAVE BEEN DRILLED INTO HIM AS HE EXPLAINED HIS TRAINING, DEFENDING HIS ACTIONS BY SAYING "HE ONLY DOES WHAT HE MUST," HIS WORDS ROLLING OVER THE EMPTY, ORANGE HILLS.

WITH THIS, I THINK TO A FEW DAYS PRIOR, WHEN WE TRAVELED DOWN TO THE BORDER, WHERE MY PRIVILEGE AS A CITIZEN GREW CLEAR, I COULD

FEEL THE HEAT TRAVEL ALONG MY ARMS AS I NAVIGATED THROUGH A STRING OF BOULDERS AND THE UNEVEN CANYON BENEATH ME. THE ROUGH TERRAIN BEGGED US TO STOP, YET WE CONTINUED TO WALK SOUTH, TOWARD THE BORDER LINE. I PULLED OUT MY ICE COLD WATER AND LET IT GLIDE DOWN, SOOTHING MY PARCHED THROAT. I REMEMBER FEELING A SLIGHT STABBING ON THE BOTTOM OF MY FOOT AND REMOVING MY SHOE, AS I BALANCED ON ONE SNEAKER TO DISCARD A SMALL PEBBLE, WEDGED IN ITS SOLE. RAISED OFF THE GROUND, I COULD SEE THE ABANDONED AND TORN SHOES ALONG THE ROAD AND BECAME AWARE OF THE INDIVIDUALS WHO JOURNEYED OVER THIS AGGRESSIVE TERRAIN BAREFOOT, WITHOUT COMPANIONS AND RESOURCES LIKE THE WATER I TOOK FOR GRANTED. THE SLIGHT DISCOMFORT CAUSED BY THE PEBBLE IN MY OWN SHOE SEEMED INSIGNIFICANT, I COULD FEEL THE POWER OF MY PASSPORT POUR INTO ME THROUGH THE SPOT ON MY FOOT WHERE THE ROCK HAD ONCE BEEN, MY CITIZENSHIP MAKES ME UNTOUCHABLE, AND MY WHITENESS LEAVES ME UNDETECTED BY THE BORDER'S INTIMIDATING SENSORS. IT IS A POSITION THAT ONLY FEW WHO HAVE WALKED HERE WILL KNOW. THE BOUNDARY MARKER OF MEXICO CAME INTO FOCUS AS WE PASSED THE BUSTED SHOES OF OTHERS AND A MANGLED BARBED WIRE FENCE LAID AT OUR FEET. I GLANCED DOWN TOWARD THE BASE OF THE SMASHED DIVIDER, CRUSHED BY HEAVY RAINS, TO SEE A PAIR OF PANTS, ENTANGLED IN THE ILL-DEFINED LINE AND I WONDERED: HOW DID THIS GARMENT GET HERE?



WHAT MADE THEM LOSE THEIR BATTLE TO THIS FENCE? WHERE IS THE PERSON WHO WORE THEM? DID THEY CROSS THE BORDER SUCCESSFULLY, AND IF THEY DID, HOW DID THEY MAINTAIN A SENSE OF DIGNITY WITHOUT THEIR USUAL CLOTHING?

MORE QUESTIONS LINGER IN THE DEPTHS OF MY CURIOSITY ABOUT THIS JOURNEY, BUT ABOVE ALL I WANT TO ASK: HOW MANY MORE IMMIGRANTS WILL HAVE TO BE DETAINED, HOW MANY MORE WILL HAVE TO RISK THEIR LIVES BEFORE THE SYSTEM IS SEEN FOR WHAT IT TRULY IS: DRACONIAN AND UNJUST? LOOKING BACK ON THIS EXPERIENCE NOW, I STILL GRAPPLE WITH ANSWERING THIS BECAUSE THE SITUATION HAS REMAINED LARGELY UNCHANGED. OVER A YEAR LATER, I STILL HAVE SIMILAR INQUIRES AS I DID THEN, HOWEVER, THEY HAVE MORPHED INTO QUESTIONS ABOUT WHAT I CAN DO WITH THE KNOWLEDGE AND PRIVILEGE I HAVE: HOW CAN I TRANSLATE THE ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS AND EXPERIENCES OF MY JUNIOR CLASS TRIP TO INFORM MORE CURRENT ACTION AND ULTIMATELY HELP THE VICTIMS OF THIS UNJUST SYSTEM, WHAT MORE CAN I LEARN ABOUT THE CURRENT LEGAL SYSTEM AND ITS INTERACTIONS, AND WHAT ELSE CAN I LEARN ABOUT MYSELF AND HOW CAN I USE THE POWER I HAVE AS AN INDIVIDUAL AND CITIZEN TO CREATE MEANINGFUL, POSITIVE CHANGE IN OUR WORLD, STEMMING BEYOND SENIOR PROJECT AND MY HIGH SCHOOL CAREER?

FOOTNOTES & ENDNOTES

1. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION

TITLE = PERSONAL ESSAY = DETENTION NARRATIVES

ACCORDING TO ENDISOLATION.ORG, "THE UNITED STATES MAINTAINS THE LARGEST IMMIGRATION DETENTION INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE WORLD, DETAINING APPROXIMATELY 380,000 TO 442,000 PERSONS PER YEAR." THIS INCLUDES PEOPLE WHO HAVE PERMANENT LEGAL RESIDENCY, PEOPLE WITH SUBSTANTIAL FAMILY AND COMMUNITY TIES, PEOPLE SEEKING ASYLUM, AND PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING. THESE ARE THE PEOPLE WHO HAVE EXPERIENCED THE WORST, YET CONTINUE TO SEEK THE BEST IN OTHERS. THESE MIGRANTS ARE CAPTURED BY IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT UNITS, AND CAN FACE ABUSE AND ISOLATION IN DETENTION CENTERS FOR DAYS, WEEKS, MONTHS, AND MORE OFTEN THAN NOT, YEARS.

THE DETENTION CENTER IN FLORENCE, ARIZONA IS SECLUDED, AS IF IT IS MEANT TO BE HIDDEN FROM THE PUBLIC EYE. AS I ENTER THE FACILITY, I AM FACED WITH A TWENTY-FOOT TALL BARBED WIRE FENCE. AND, WHILE 17 INCH CLOSER TO THE INTIMIDATING GATE, I CAN HEAR THE WHISPERS OF DETAINEES AS THEY ARE DROWNED OUT BY THE SOUNDS OF CORRECTION OFFICERS DISCUSSING THEIR OWN SCHEDULES. I PASS THROUGH A COLLECTION OF BUILDINGS, METAL DETECTORS, AND PAT-DOWNS BEFORE WALKING OVER TO A BARE TABLE TO MEET VALENTINE. AS I JOIN HER, SHE TELLS ME THAT SHE IS EMBARRASSED BY HER ENGLISH SO SHE WILL ONLY SPEAK TO ME IN SPANISH. SHE INSTRUCTS US TO CALL HER VALERIE, AND I NOD QUIETLY AS I SIT DOWN ACROSS FROM HER. SHE IS DRESSED IN



A BLUE JUMPSUIT AND HER LONG, DYED HAIR, ONCE A VIBRANT PURPLE, IS FADING, EVEN THOUGH SHE HAS PROBABLY BEEN RATTLED WITH FEAR FOR THE PAST TWO WEEKS IN DETENTION, A LARGE SMILE SPREADS ACROSS HER FACE AS WE BEGIN TO TALK. SHE TELLS ME THAT SHE IS FINE WITH ANY PRONOUNS. SHE TELLS ME OF HER DREAMS: LEARNING THE MAKE-UP AND FASHION INDUSTRY IN NEW YORK CITY. SHE TELLS ME SHE IS LOOKING FORWARD TO THE DAY SHE CAN GAZE UPON THE CITY SKYLINE. SHE SPEAKS OF HOW SHE DESERTED HER HOME AND PAID A COYOTE SIX-THOUSAND DOLLARS TO MAKE IT INTO THE UNITED STATES TO JOIN HER SISTER IN QUEENS. SHE IS TRAPPED WHERE NO ONE WILL BE ABLE TO HEAR HER STORIES AND IN THE END, THE DETAILS OF HER LIFE WILL PROBABLY BE BURIED IN SILENCE. I BECOME FRUSTRATED AS VALERIE CONTINUES TO SHARE HER JOURNEY ABOUT HOW SHE SPENT SEVEN DAYS WALKING TO THE BORDER, LEAVING HER FAMILY IN PUEBLA, MEXICO. ON HER TRIP, SHE FACED UNIMAGINABLE DEHYDRATION AND PHYSICAL STRAIN, ONLY TO BE PICKED UP BY ICE FIVE DAYS AFTER CROSSING INTO NOGALES, ARIZONA. HER INNOCENT TEARS AT MY HEART AND A FEELING OF HELPLESSNESS SENDS A CHILL DOWN MY SPINE, SETTLING DEEP IN MY BONES. AS MY DISAPPOINTMENT IN THE IMMIGRATION SYSTEM GROWS I THINK OF AN ENCOUNTER I WITNESSED AT THE SAME FACILITY.

WE ENTERED THE DETENTION CENTER WITH ANOTHER FAMILY, A MOTHER AND HER YOUNG CHILD OF

FOUR YEARS, AT MOST. EACH OF THEM WERE DRESSED UP FOR THE OCCASION, THE MOTHER IN HER FINEST HEELS AND THE BOY IN A FRESHLY-PRESSED SUIT. I WOULD LEARN LATER THAT THEY WERE VISITING THE BOY'S FATHER, WHO WAS DISCOVERED TO BE UNDOCUMENTED AROUND SIX MONTHS EARLIER. THEY WERE POSITIONED AT A TABLE ACROSS FROM VALERIE AND ME. WHEN I GLANCED OVER TO THEM, I COULD SEE THE BOY BARELY CONTAINING HIS OWN EXCITEMENT, SQUATTING ON THE TOP OF THE CHAIR TO BE CLOSER TO THE MAN, LOOKING LIKE A STRANGER, ON THE OTHER SIDE. THE CHILD'S ENTHUSIASM WAS CLEAR, BUT THE MOTHER'S NERVOUSNESS WAS UNVEILED IN THE VIGOROUS TAPPING OF HER LEFT SHOE UNDERNEATH THE TABLE. DESPITE HER BEST EFFORTS TO MUSTER A LAUGH AND CONCEAL HER WORRY, HER SHAKING HANDS GAVE HER AWAY. I SAW AS THE BOY BEGAN TO REACH ACROSS THE INVISIBLE BARRIER STRETCHING OVER THE MIDDLE OF THE SMALL TABLE, AND AS THE HANDS OF FATHER AND SON COLLIDED, I WATCHED AN OFFICER LEAP UP AND YELL THE SUPPOSED NAME OF THE DETAINEE ONLY TO FIND THAT THE NAME DIDN'T EVEN BELONG TO HIM. NEVERTHELESS, HIS PALMS WERE TORN FROM THE EMBRACE OF HIS CHILD'S DELICATE FINGERS. A FEELING OF HELPLESSNESS WASHED OVER ME; I WITNESSED A FAMILY BE PRIED AWAY FROM ONE ANOTHER BY THE WORDS OF AN AGENT AND ALL I COULD DO WAS STAY SEATED. WHAT GIVES SOMEONE THE PRIVILEGE TO SEE ANOTHER IN PAIN AND CONTINUE TO LOOK ON?



THAT AFTERNOON, I LEAVE VALERIE BEHIND IN DETENTION. I FEEL I HAVE ABANDONED HER, LEAVING HER IN THE HANDS OF THE BORDER PATROL AGENT. SHE IS FACED WITH AN ARDUOUS TASK OF NAVIGATING A COURT SYSTEM THAT SHOULD BE MORE ACCESSIBLE TO INDIVIDUALS. AND WHILE HER VOICE IS A QUIET ONE, IT CARRIES A POWERFUL STORY THAT FEW WILL HEAR. SHE WHISPERS A DECISIVE "GRACIAS" IN MY EAR, AS IF SHE KNOWS I WON'T BE ABLE TO SEE HER AGAIN WHEN I LEAVE THE BUILDING. I FEEL POWERLESS AND BEWILDERED. I AM ABLE TO LEAVE THESE PLACES AND RETURN HOME, AWAY FROM HER ORDEAL. I DON'T WANT TO FORGET VALERIE. I WANT HER TO SHARE HER STORY WITH PEOPLE, WITH THE WORLD, BUT THE PROCESS OF AMNESIA HAS ALREADY BEGUN. HER IMAGE HAS RECEDED INTO THE BACK OF MY MIND. I FEEL HER DISAPPEARING FROM MY MEMORY, HER WIDE SMILE AND PURPLE TRESSSES OF HAIR. I AM LEFT WITH HER STORY ALL TO MYSELF, AS IF IT IS ALMOST TOO PRECIOUS AND PERSONAL TO REVEAL TO ANOTHER. WHILE PART OF ME WANTS TO KEEP THIS EXPERIENCE TO MYSELF, I KNOW THAT WOULD BE A SELFISH ACT. I WANT TO TELL HER THAT EVERYTHING WILL BE ALRIGHT AND THAT SHE WILL GET HER DAY OF RELEASE, THAT THE SYSTEMS IN PLACE ARE FAIR, BUT I KNOW THIS TO BE UNTRUE; THEY ARE IMPERMEABLE AND TOXIC. I WANT TO TELL HER THAT I WILL SEE HER AGAIN, FULFILLING HER WILDEST DREAMS, BUT I AM SILENT, MAKING NO PROMISES BECAUSE I KNOW THAT THEY HAVE VERY LITTLE CHANCE OF COMING TRUE AND I DON'T WANT TO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ENCOURAGING

FALSE HOPE FOR THE FUTURE. I SEARCH HER FACE AS MY TIME WITH HER DRAWS TO A CLOSE, AND GIVE A SLIGHT SMILE AS I AM ESCORTED FROM THE EMPTY TABLE. HOW DO I PRETEND EVERYTHING IS NORMAL WHEN I KNOW THAT THERE ARE THOUSANDS MORE LIKE VALERIE, WAITING FOR OTHERS TO DETERMINE THEIR FATE? I HAVE SEEN EXAMPLES OF THEIR HOPES. I HAVE HEARD STORIES AND BORNE WITNESS TO THEIR PAIN. PEOPLE MUST KNOW THEIR STORIES, AND I REFUSE TO IGNORE THEM. IN THE WORDS OF JOSE GONZALEZ, A HIGH SCHOOL TEACHER FROM TUCSON, ARIZONA, "WHEN THE OLD SYSTEM FALLS, AND IT WILL FALL, WE NEED TO BUILD SOMETHING BEAUTIFUL THAT IS REPRESENTATIVE OF OUR BEAUTY AS PEOPLE" IN ITS PLACE. HIS VOICE ECHOS IN MY HEAD AND, TO ME, HIS VISION OF BEAUTY GIVES US, AS HUMANS, THE RESPONSIBILITY TO RESTORE COMPASSION AND HUMILITY IN OUR OWN COMMUNITIES.



CONCLUDING THOUGHTS

◦ WHILE MY INITIAL THOUGHT HAD BEEN TO INTERVIEW OTHERS ABOUT THEIR EXPERIENCE, IT MORPHED INTO ONE THAT SURROUNDS MY OWN ACTIONS AND ENDEAVORS. MY SENIOR PROJECT ULTIMATELY ALLOWED ME TO DISCOVER HOW TO USE THE POWER I HAVE AS A CITIZEN: TO HELP SHARE STORIES THAT MUST BE TOLD, USE MY VOICE IN OUR DEMOCRATIC SOCIETY, AND BUILD A STRONG CONNECTION BETWEEN MYSELF AND THOSE OUTSIDE OF MY IMMEDIATE COMMUNITY.

THE QUESTIONS THAT NOW REMAIN WITH ME CENTER ON THE INVOLVEMENT OF OTHERS AND HOW I CAN CONTINUE MY OWN, WHILE I PLAN ON VOLUNTEERING WITH NEW SANCTUARY COALITION PAST SENIOR PROJECT, TAKING CARE OF AND PLAYING WITH THE CHILDREN DURING TUESDAY NIGHT CLINIC, I ALSO WANT TO CONTINUE USING MY VOICE AS A CITIZEN. THIS WORK HAS GIVEN ME A DEEPER INSIGHT INTO THE IMMIGRATION LEGAL SYSTEM AND THE PROGRESS THAT STILL HAS TO BE MADE. MY RECENT EXPERIENCES IN THIS FIELD HAVE INSPIRED ME TO CONSIDER A CAREER IN LAW WHERE I CAN IMPLEMENT REAL CHANGE AS OPPOSED TO ONLY ASSISTING IN THE TREATMENT OF SYMPTOMS THAT BELONG TO A MUCH LARGER PROBLEM.

PROVOKING IMAGES FROM LANDMARKS AND NEIGHBORHOODS THAT PERTAIN TO IMMIGRATION

◦ PIECES ARE NAMED AFTER THEIR LONGITUDINAL AND LATITUDINAL LOCATION OR STRONG CHARACTERISTICS THE BROOKLYN BRIDGE



"40.7061°N, 73.9969°W"

A PORTFOLIO = OUTSIDE OF MY INTERNSHIP, I TRAVELED TO ELLIS ISLAND, THE STATUE OF LIBERTY, CHINATOWN, LITTLE ITALY, AND THE TENEMENT MUSEUM ON THE LOWER EAST SIDE. GOING TO THESE LOCATIONS ALLOWED ME TO VIEW LANDSCAPES RELATED TO THIS TOPIC WITHIN NEW YORK CITY AND EXPLORE THE OVERARCHING HISTORICAL CONTEXT OF IMMIGRATION WITHIN OUR COUNTRY. THE UNITED STATES IS CONSIDERED A MELTING POT WHILE NEW YORK IS A SANCTUARY CITY.





"40.6959°N, 73.9956°W"



"40.6959°N, 73.9956°W"



"40.6959°N, 73.9956°W"

REACHING

for

Luminous Light

BORDER CROSSING

DEPARTURES



Brooklyn Law School

ESTABLISHED 1901



OMINOUS SCENES IN NATURE



"43.1939°N, 71.5724°W"



"43.1939°N, 71.5724°W"

HAD THE POLICE KNOWN ABOUT THE BARBED wire

ON THE FRONTIER OF DISASTER. PREDOMINANTLY

a dream

REVELATORY



DOCUMENTARIES



"43.1939°N, 71.5724°W"





"41.8240°N, 71.4128°W"



"41.8240°N, 71.428°W"

THE STATUE OF LIBERTY



"41.8240°N, 71.4128°W"



"40.6892°N, 74.0445°W"



MAY 2019  
WHAT'S NEWS.

A DIGITIZED SOCIETY

JOURNAL.

Equality  
in the  
Digital Age

1 0 6

AN ISSUE

YOU CAN'T FORGET

BEYOND

all generations



"40.6892°N, 74.0445°W"



"40.6892°N, 74.0445°W"



CHINATOWN



"65 BAYARD STREET 10013"

AT HOME  
IN THE  
WORLD

NEW YORK

A NEW

PLACE



ITINERARY AT A GLANCE



"40.7158°N , 73.9970°W"





"LIGHTS"



NEWS

found

IN

HUNGRY HEARTS

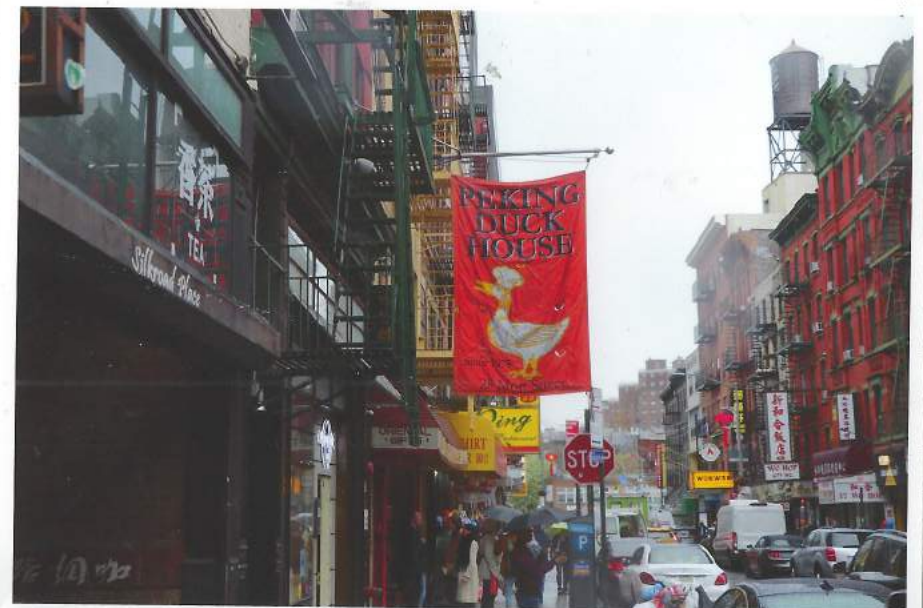


"40.715°N, 73.9970°W"

THE

artists

4



"A RAINY STREET"





"COLD HORIZONS"

**NEW YORK CITY**

Fresh and Fabled Faces

*behind the cover*

"All of these plays wrap brutal honesty with giddy humor; all of them eschew self-seriousness and easy didacticism and yet are deadly serious in intent. They're playing for keeps instead of playing it safe."

NEW YORK MAGAZINE

**IDEAS!**

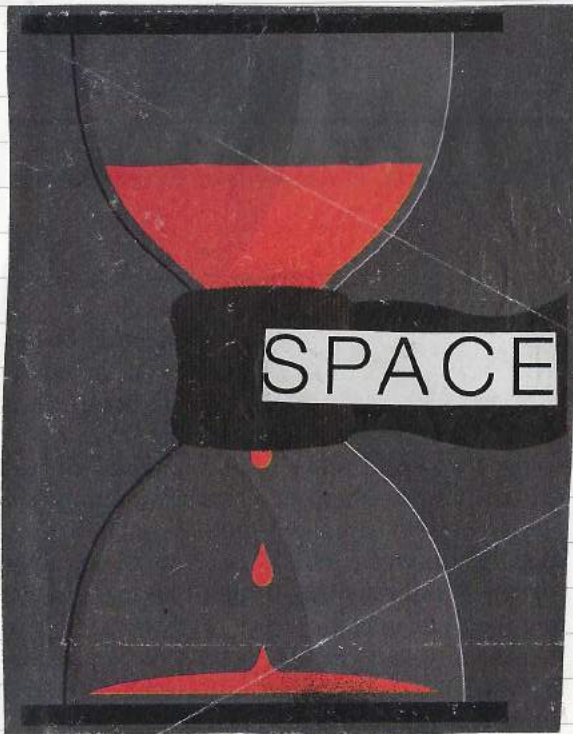


"SWEET COFFEE"



"98 BAYARD"





### Practice Advisories

Guidance on developments in "crim-imm" law



### Charts + Checklists

Up-to-date, easy-to-use information for attorneys



"STRINGS OF LANTERNS"



"SWARMS OF BRIGHT SIGNS"

# THE NEW YORKER





"MOTT STREET"



"SILENT MELODY"



"BLUE"



"UNINTERRUPTED CHAOS"





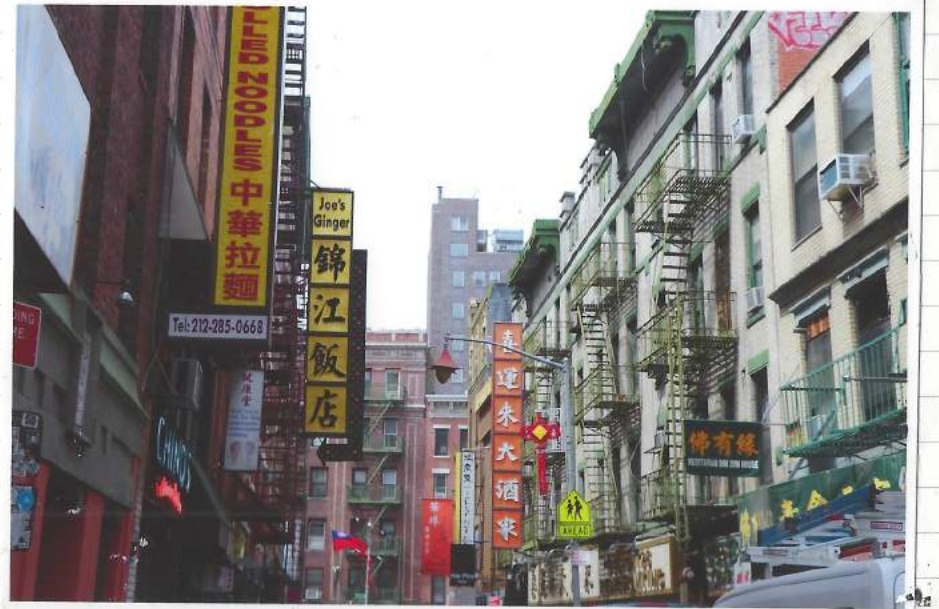
"NOM WAH TEA PARLOR"



"AROUND"



"LOWER 10 MANHATTAN"



"ECHOES THROUGH BUILDINGS"





"MOVEMENT"



"MULTIRACIAL"



"A SKY COVERED IN BILLBOARDS"



"A PEACEFUL WORLD"





"A CANOPY OF BRANCHES"



"AFTER THE RAIN"



GilderLehrman.org/Constitution-Play

Call

THE NEW YORKER TODAY

these pages







"CONCRETE YOUTH"

HATE AND LOVE

remains

with



YOU

n

LIFE

THE LOWER EAST SIDE



"10002 TO 10009"



"ORCHARD STREET"



the bad guys

# THE TALK OF THE TOWN

## Get into

## wealth

A PIECE OF A MUCH LARGER  
MACHINE AND OPPRESSIVE SYSTEMS



"LUDLOW STREET"



"WILD PIGMENT"



"MARKED BRICK"



# MEND



"KATZ'S DELICATESSEN"

DARKNESS

[newyorker.com/go/today](http://newyorker.com/go/today)



THE GILDER LEHRMAN  
INSTITUTE of AMERICAN HISTORY  
[GilderLehrman.org](http://GilderLehrman.org)

What the  
**Constitution**  
Means to Me

*RISING*

**MAGIC**

individual *S*

**FOR IMMEDIATE  
RELEASE**





"SHORT BUILDINGS"

little



BIOGRAPHIES

AND

BOOKS

BREAKING

bread

WITH



STRANGERS



"A PLACE OF SANCTUARY"



# HOSTING FRIENDS



"THE TENEMENT MUSEUM"



"STAINED GLASS WINDOWS"

# THE JOURNEY



"KATZ'S DELICATESSEN"  
LITTLE ITALY



"40.7191° N, 73.9973° W"

**moves you**



NO ARTIFICIAL

WELCOME



"WALKING THROUGH CROWDS"

Next

TO

DARKNESS

IS

LIGHT



"COLORFUL ESCAPES"

BRIGHT

&

GOLDEN





"WELCOMED INTO AMBIGUITY"



"FATALISM"

**INTENSE**

Intake

**FORMS THAT**

**STRIKE** You

DEEP

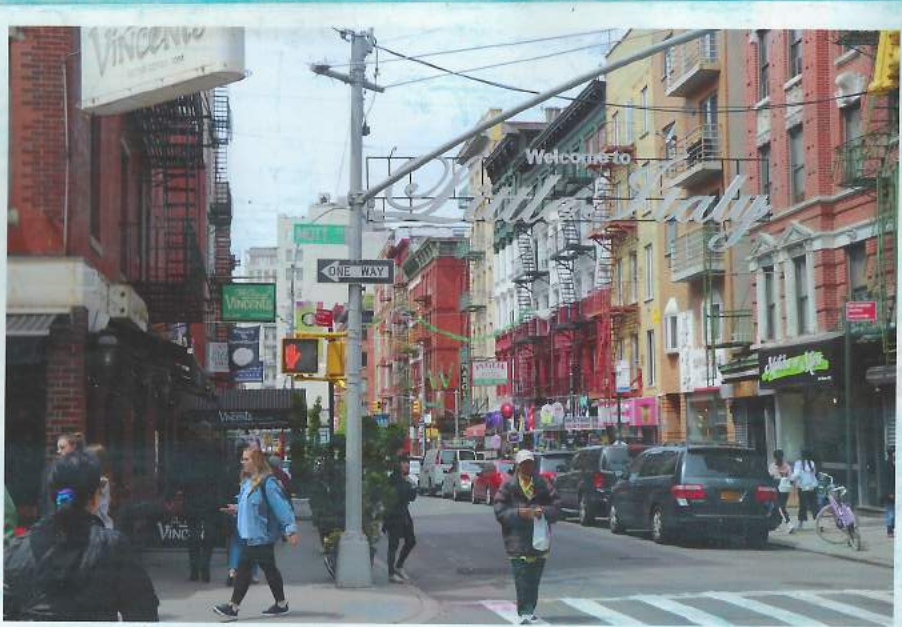
**i** **N**

**Your**

**CORE**

**THE FIGHT IS ON**





A

Need

SUPPORT

for

social

solution

2019

change



What

DOES

IT

mean

to

be

A

CITIZEN ?

*what*

DOES

IT

MEAN

TO

BE

AN

AMERICAN ?



FIND

News

RECONCILING  
WITH ONE'S

NATIONAL IDENTITY

RECKONING WITH

SOCIAL

SYSTEMS



"CENTRE MARKET"



"TRAFFIC LIGHTS"



## A BACKGROUND ON IMMIGRANT NEIGHBORHOODS AND HISTORIC LANDMARKS IN NEW YORK CITY

### THE STATUE OF LIBERTY AND ELLIS ISLAND

- FROM ITS DEDICATION, THE STATUE OF LIBERTY HAS BEEN AN ENIGMATIC MONUMENT, A POWERFUL SYMBOL OF THE TENSIONS BETWEEN NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE AND UNIVERSAL HUMAN RIGHTS. IN LATE OCTOBER OF 1886, THE INTRODUCTION OF THIS MONUMENT OCCURED FOLLOWING A FRENCH DELEGATION'S ARRIVAL IN NEW YORK. IT WAS DESIGNED BY AUGUSTE BARTHOLDI (1834-1904) AS A GIFT AND ICONIC FIGURE OF AMERICAN FREEDOM STANDING OVER NEW YORK HARBOR. WITHIN THE SHADOW OF THE STATUE OF LIBERTY IS ELLIS ISLAND, A PORTAL THROUGH WHICH OVER 12 MILLION IMMIGRANTS ENTERED FROM 1892 TO 1904, BUT ITS CURRENT STATUS IS AS A NATIONAL MONUMENT.

[HTTPS://PLACESJOURNAL.ORG/ARTICLE/SENTINEL—THE STATUE OF LIBERTY/?GCLID=CJOKCQJWITPNBRCQJWITPNBRCQARISAA5N841ZQ92M7MDPDB5VNQTR0KM444PMQ552](https://placesjournal.org/article/sentinel—the-statue-of-liberty/?gclid=CJOKCQJWITPNBRCQJWITPNBRCQARISAA5N841ZQ92M7MDPDB5VNQTR0KM444PMQ552)

### CHINATOWN AND LITTLE ITALY

- NEW YORK'S CHINATOWN CAME INTO BEING IN 1870 AS THE CHINESE POPULATION ROSE FROM APPROXIMATE 150 IN 1859 TO OVER 2,000 BY THE 1870s WITH MANY IMMIGRANTS BEING DRIVEN OUT OF THE WEST DUE TO A VIOLENT, ANTI-CHINESE MOVEMENT FUELED BY WHITE ANXIETY OVER EMPLOYMENT. THIS GROUP OF IMMIGRANTS, BARRED FROM CITIZENSHIP AND ITS PROTECTIONS CARVED OUT CHINATOWN IN

THE LATE 1800s AS A SANCTUARY FOR SURVIVAL.

AFTER ITS ESTABLISHMENT, WHITE AMERICANS EXOTICIZED IT, CONTRIBUTING TO AN INFLATION OF TOURISM ANOTHER COMMUNITY WHICH NEIGHBORS CHINATOWN IS LITTLE ITALY IN LOWER MANHATTAN, ONCE KNOWN FOR ITS LARGE POPULATION OF ITALIAN-AMERICANS DURING THE LATE 1800s INTRODUCING DIFFERENT CUSTOMS, FOOD, AND LANGUAGE WHOSE HERITAGE REMAINS EMBEDDED IN THE STREETS. BOTH ARE CLOSE IN PROXIMITY, YET VARY IN IDENTITY.

### THE LOWER EAST SIDE AND TENEMENT MUSEUM

- THE LOWER EAST SIDE, OR LES, IS A NEIGHBORHOOD IN THE SOUTHEAST PART OF MANHATTAN LOCATED BETWEEN THE BOWERY, EAST RIVER, CANAL, AND HOUSTON STREET. IT IS CHARACTERISTICALLY KNOWN AS AN IMMIGRANT, WORKING CLASS NEIGHBORHOOD WHICH UNDERWENT RAPID GENTRIFICATION IN THE MID-2000s. THE MAJORITY OF IMMIGRANTS WHO ARRIVED IN NEW YORK CITY FROM THE LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURIES SETTLED IN UNKempt HOMOGENEOUS TENEMENTS. ON THE LES, HOME TO PEOPLE OF MANY IDENTITIES, THE TENEMENT MUSEUM IS A REMINDER OF THE CONTEXTUAL HISTORY OF OUR COUNTRY AND ALLOTS ONE TIME TO EXPLORE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS TOPIC WHICH BRINGS IT TO LIGHT AND HUMANIZES IT. THAT "OUR NATIONAL IDENTITY HAS BEEN SHAPED BY THE ENERGY, OPTIMISM, AND AMBITIOUS BELONGING TO EACH SUCCESSIVE GENERATION OF IMMIGRANTS."



EXPLORING



A



**Fragile Land**

CHALLENGING



OPPRESSIVE

SYSTEMS

& COMMUNITY

ENGAGEMENT



THE

# Constitution

VOICES

POWERED BY ANY LIGHT

ARTIST

journalist

OF

POWER

ENGAGEMENT

NEW

we strengthened our compliance procedures and controls around hiring and reinforced the high standards of conduct expected of our people," the representative said.

well," Dr. Zervas said. Dr. Zervas, together with Michael Luca, associate professor at Harvard Business School, has published research on the same day at a mailing exchange rate. The commission said individuals at the firm banks in a consumer team and cloud infrastructure is quicker than getting personal. Yet Microsoft's artificial-intelligence app pushed the company in recent years, but prices fell sharply.

g the quarter of the traders knew her outside trading market," it said. HSRC Holdings said, the possible collusion global banks to manipulate U.S. dollar-denominated supra-sovereign, declined to

By MEGH MAIDENBERG

Baidu Inc. warned of fallout from the slowing Chinese economy and swung to a loss in the latest period as spending rose.

The Beijing-based internet search company said its online market share fell to a range of 30% in the first quarter, down from 35% in the same period last year.

Overall, Baidu reported revenue of 24.12 billion yuan (\$3.6 billion) in the first quarter, slightly less than what analysts expected, according to Refinitiv.

But in line with its prior forecasts, Baidu's operating profit jumped 5% to 25.06 billion yuan (\$3.73 billion) in the first quarter.

Total operating profit was 25.06 billion yuan, or 73% of revenue in the first quarter.

The company's operating profit was 25.06 billion yuan, or 73% of revenue in the first quarter.

COLLECTIONS

Start the conversation

London. The chat rooms, with colorful names such as "Three Way Banana Split" and "Semi Grumpy Old Men," were kept open on the traders' screens all day, and they would post regular updates on their trading activities, the commission said.

Online chat rooms, in which change trading markets that first came to light in 2013 and made the total tab paid by banks to more than \$11 billion.

tions in the U.S. commission said whether and when to "The commission's fine-tuning of procedures conducted in the trading market," it said.

HSRC Holdings said, the possible collusion global banks to manipulate U.S. dollar-denominated supra-sovereign, declined to

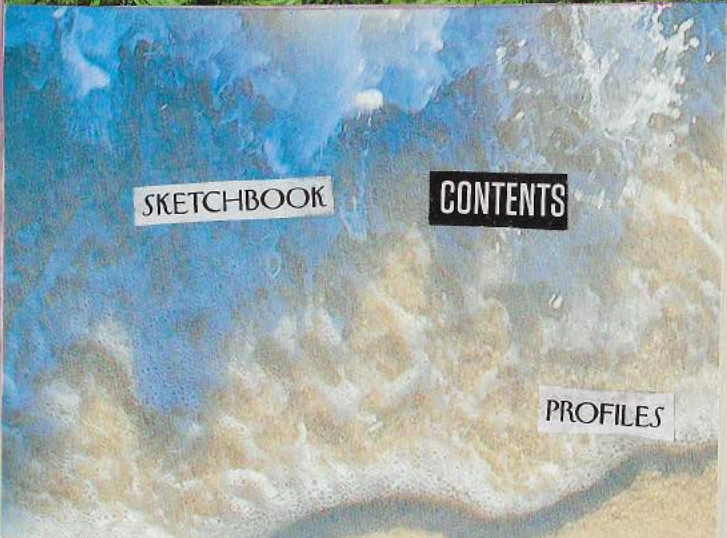
my health plan based on unique needs," the representative said.

same man's photo also online as the face for companies' products and such as men's skin Botox for men and women.

Dr. Zervas, together with Michael Luca, associate professor at Harvard Business School, has published research on the same day at a mailing exchange rate. The commission said individuals at the firm banks in a consumer team and cloud infrastructure is quicker than getting personal. Yet Microsoft's artificial-intelligence app pushed the company in recent years, but prices fell sharply.

g the quarter of the traders knew her outside trading market," it said. HSRC Holdings said, the possible collusion global banks to manipulate U.S. dollar-denominated supra-sovereign, declined to



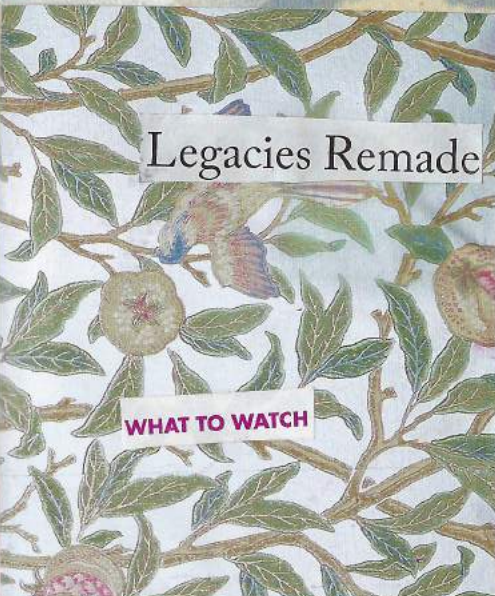


SKETCHBOOK

CONTENTS

PROFILES

UNDERSTANDING  
AND  
REMEDYING A  
HUMANITARIAN  
CRISIS  
WHICH  
CONCERNS US  
ALL



Legacies Remade

WHAT TO WATCH

... we like the reflecti  
... explains in her book,  
... ing personal and pr  
... ously left with the it  
... another entails shopping for  
... a gesture that seemed romantic at t  
... but in hindsight was an indicator of controlling behavior  
... But there are empowering moments as well, such as late

NOT ALRIGHT

All moments



EVERY

ISSUE

This

CHALLENGING

MOVEMENT

WHICH PLACES

DREAM

OF



THE

AND

NAMELESSNESS

ENGAGEMENT

OF

Home



# Immigration & Migration

## TENEMENT MUSEUM

Few things have shaped the American identity as decisively as migration and immigration. Our country is, as Walt Whitman once described, a "teeming nation of nations" — a place defined as much by our differences as our similarities, yet brought together by the shared belief in the possibility of a better life.

Throughout our history, our country has benefited greatly from the continuous arrival of new people. Their influence is seen in our vibrant, multi-ethnic society. Yet we live in a time when the issue of immigration has emerged and become a sharply divisive issue politically. Skepticism about whether new arrivals will integrate into the fabric of our nation remains an ongoing theme in the public debate on immigration policy.



**43%**

Percentage of Fortune 500 companies that were founded or co-founded by immigrants or their children as of 2017.



**86.4 Million**

Population of immigrants and their American-born children in the U.S.



**\$2 Trillion**

Estimated contribution of immigrants to the U.S. gross domestic product (GDP) in 2016.



**49%**

Number of immigrants who are naturalized citizens.

## CLOSING STATISTICS

HTTP://DEFINEAMERICAN.COM/FACTSMATTER/?GCLID=CJWK  
 CATWS83NBRBWEIWA7MKVOEA84EJON4EA84EJONAMGIJZDW  
 QALWHWJGKLNWNBR3LTJGWPLQDNP082\_QX\_N4MKXOC4IU  
 QAVD\_BWE



If you are undocumented (even with DACA), there is no clear way to adjust your legal status.



The Trump administration is uniquely focused on limiting legal immigration.





"THE FACTS ON IMMIGRATION: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW IN 2019"

CBS NEWS  
FEBRUARY 4TH 2019

° BETWEEN 10.7 AND 11.3 MILLION UNAUTHORIZED IMMIGRANTS WERE LIVING IN THE U.S. AS OF 2016

° APPROXIMATELY 100,000 IMMIGRANTS BEGAN ASYLUM PROCEEDINGS THROUGH FILING "CREDIBLE FEAR" CLAIMS WITH THE U.S. CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION SERVICES LAST YEAR, A RECORD HIGH IMMIGRATION JUDGES DECIDED ABOUT 42,000 ASYLUM CASES DURING THE SAME PERIOD, BUT ASYLUM DENIALS ALSO HIT A RECORD HIGH WITH JUDGES REJECTING 65% OF THE ASYLUM CLAIMS IN 2017.

° UNDOCUMENTED IMMIGRANTS ARE INELIGIBLE FOR GOVERNMENT WELFARE BENEFITS AND DOCUMENTED IMMIGRANTS ONLY QUALIFY FOR FEDERAL BENEFITS ONCE THEY'VE RESIDED IN THE U.S. FOR FIVE YEARS, UNDOCUMENTED IMMIGRANTS ARE BARRED FROM MOST PUBLIC BENEFITS SUCH AS FOOD STAMPS, REGULAR MEDICAID, AND TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES (TANF), ACCORDING TO THE NATIONAL IMMIGRATION LAW CENTER.

AN EXPLANATION OF ASPECTS OF THE IMMIGRATION SYSTEM AND OBTAINING CITIZENSHIP

CREDIBLE FEAR AND ASYLUM APPLICATIONS: CREDIBLE FEAR IS A CONCEPT IN UNITED STATES ASYLUM LAW WHERE A PERSON WHO DEMONSTRATES THAT HE OR SHE HAS CREDIBLE FEAR OF RETURNING TO HIS OR HER HOME COUNTRY CANNOT BE SUBJECT TO DEPORTATION FROM THE U.S. UNTIL THEIR ASYLUM CASE HAS BEEN PROCESSED.

° SPECIAL IMMIGRANT JUVENILE STATUS (SIJS): AN IMMIGRATION CLASSIFICATION AVAILABLE TO CERTAIN UNDOCUMENTED IMMIGRANTS UNDER 21 WHO HAVE BEEN ABUSED, NEGLECTED, OR ABANDONED BY ONE OR BOTH PARENTS.

° DEFERRED ACTION FOR CHILDHOOD ARRIVALS (DACA): AN AMERICAN IMMIGRATION OPTION FOR UNDOCUMENTED IMMIGRANTS WHO CAME TO THE UNITED STATES BEFORE THE AGE OF 16. ALTHOUGH DACA DOES NOT PROVIDE A PATHWAY TO LAWFUL PERMANENT RESIDENCE, IT DOES PROVIDE TEMPORARY PROTECTION FROM DEPORTATION, WORK AUTHORIZATION, AND THE ABILITY TO APPLY FOR A SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER.

° DREAM ACT: AN AMERICAN LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL FOR A PROCESS FOR GRANTING RESIDENCY STATUS TO QUALIFYING IMMIGRANTS WHO ENTERED THE UNITED STATES AS MINORS.



ARTIST STATEMENT

THE PREVIOUS PORTRAITS AND MIXED MEDIA  
 PIECES REPRESENT IMMIGRANT COMMUNITIES  
 AND HOW THEY FUNCTION WITHIN OUR  
 SOCIETY AS AN IRREPLACABLE MECHANISM  
 MAKING POSITIVE CONTRIBUTIONS. THEY ARE  
 A CULMINATION OF INTERVIEWS I CONDUCTED,  
 CRITICAL REFLECTIONS, PERSONAL ANECDOTES AND  
 THOUGHTS OVER THE COURSE OF SENIOR  
 PROJECT THROUGH AN ARTISTIC LENS. IT IS  
 COMPRISED OF IMAGES TAKEN ON BOTH A DIGITAL  
 AND FILM CAMERA ALONG WITH EXCERPTS  
 FROM MAGAZINES AND ARTICLES. MY GOAL WAS  
 TO REPRESENT MY EXPERIENCE AND ASPECTS  
 OF THIS HUMANITARIAN CRISIS IN A  
 DIFFERENT MEDIUM.

LOOKING INTO THE FUTURE AND EXPLORING  
 SOLUTIONS OR HOW TO REMEDY THIS GLOBAL  
 TOPIC, WE SHOULD BE DEDICATED TOWARD  
 MAKING THE PATH TO CITIZENSHIP MORE  
 OBTAINABLE AS THERE HAS BEEN A SEVERE  
 BACKLOG ON SUCH ALONG WITH A HIGHER  
 LEVEL OF LEGAL REPRESENTATION AND ACCESS TO  
 LEGAL DEFENSE TOOLS. THERE MUST ALSO BE AN  
 INCREASED LEVEL OF SUPPORT FOR IMMIGRANTS  
 AND THEIR FAMILIES AS THEY BECOME ACCUMATED  
 TO A NEW PLACE.

AND SO

OUR VOICES WILL NOT

DISSIPATE INTO THE WIND,

BUT THEY WILL ECHO


MATERIALIZING WITH THE STRENGTH OF

A RAGING FIRE

AND CARRY THE MESSAGE

LIKE A PROCESSION OF DREAMERS

TO REMAGINE

OUR WORLD 

AS ONE WHERE WE ARE ALL

WELCOME AND SAFE. ONE WHERE WE ARE ALLOWED

TO BASK IN ITS PEACEFULNESS,

SWADDLED LIKE NEW BORN BABIES AND

LAI D TO REST IN THE PROTECTION OF A PLACE

CONSIDERED HOME.



T  
P  
A  
S  
M  
A  
CR  
TH  
PR  
CO  
AN  
FR  
TO  
OF  
DIE  
  
LO  
SO  
TO  
MA  
OB  
BA  
LEV  
LE  
IN  
AND  
TO  
PK

THE FINAL PAGE OF A PERPETUALLY UNFINISHED STORY

COMPLETED HOME



