

## **Illegal Immigration/Security/Rule of Law**

By Allan Erickson, Restore America Board Member

"Give me your tired, your poor, Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,  
The wretched refuse of your teeming shore. Send these, the homeless, tempest-tossed to me,  
I lift my lamp beside the golden door!"

Statue of Liberty, 1903 plaque, part of a poem by Emma Lazarus, written in 1883

"There can be no divided allegiance here. Any man who says he is an American, but something else also, isn't an American at all. We have room for but one flag, the American flag.....We have room for but one language here, and that is the English language...and we have room for but one sole loyalty and that is a loyalty to the American people."

--Theodore Roosevelt, 1919

The stark and simple truth of the matter is our government has not done the will of the people. It has not carried out its charter. It has not enforced the law, and its officials have renounced their oath, accommodating illegal immigration for years, resulting now in about 12 million people living in the United States without legal status.

The entire situation is unfair to illegal aliens as it is to legal citizens. And since government appears impotent to solve the problem it created, once again, it will be up to The People to vote conscience, and solve the problem.

Illegal immigrants live in the shadows. They are mostly allowed lower paying employment, and there, they are often exploited. They pay certain taxes without the benefit of full citizenship. Their lot is largely their own doing, coming here illegally, and partly our doing, for accommodating illegal behavior.

It has been said many times, and rightly, that this Republic exists only to the extent we preserve the rule of law and cultivate good citizenship. Allowing illegal immigration, even encouraging it as the Left is wont to do, erodes the rule of law, promotes bad citizenship, and thereby assaults the Republic. How do people self-govern when they have no self-control. Illegal immigration is by definition lacking in self-control, as is the unwillingness to enforce our laws.

But there are two more dangerous dimensions to this illegality: the attack on sovereignty and the Balkanization of America. The open borders crowd---personified by Governor Kate Brown in Oregon---is glad to provide sanctuary to illegals, motivated by easy voter recruitment via entitlements to win elections. But in the lust for power and control, people like Brown don't seem to care they put the country at grave risk forfeiting border control, security and proper, legal immigration processes and procedures.

It must be stated again: the open borders/sanctuary city crowd is being entirely unfair to illegal residents, holding out false hope and leaving them living in the shadows. The open borders crowd is also being completely unfair to citizens, especially those who went through the long and difficult process of becoming legal citizens, patriots who assimilate and work with us to improve liberty and justice for all.

The problems caused by illegal immigration are further aggravated by Gov. Brown and others who knowingly or not encourage the Balkanization of our country, that is, the creation of countries within the country, segments of populations hostile to one another, welcoming people who have no interest in becoming assimilated into American culture. In fact, we see this more and more, huge groups of people coming here to live who are glaringly hostile to our way of life. These people often come illegally, or they are actually financed by taxpayers (read---Obama slash U.N. collusion). We've all seen the pictures of demonstrators engaging *in-your-face* protests complete with digital salutes, even as they enjoy food stamps, welfare payments, healthcare and subsidized housing.

These various pressures, combined with heightened instances of violent crime by illegals, and the growing threat of terrorism thanks to weak immigration enforcement and poor border control, point to a day when armed conflicts appear inevitable.

It will be a day when no one can find sanctuary.

May 2, 2017 --- The Department of Justice released a report about crime and incarceration in the U.S. involving illegals. It reads in part: "The data shows that about 24 percent of the federal prison population are foreign born, 45,493. Of those, just 3,939 are U.S. citizens, and the remaining 41,554 are illegally in the United States."

In that same report, Attorney General Jeff Sessions sums up the situation:

"Illegal aliens who commit additional crimes in the United States are a threat to public safety and a burden on our criminal justice system," Sessions stated. "This is why we must secure our borders through a wall and effective law enforcement, and we must strengthen cooperation between federal, state and local governments as we strive to fulfill our sacred duty of protecting and serving the American people."

Running completely against reality and common sense, violating federal law, is Gov. Kate Brown of Oregon. By executive and legislative action she has created barriers to law enforcement doing its job by controlling what information police and sheriffs may share, and the extent to which they can coordinate with federal authorities. By preventing lawful investigation and enforcement, the Oregon governor is shielding illegals from deportation, and thereby putting citizens and law enforcement at risk.

Billy J. Williams is the United States Attorney for the District of Oregon, appointed in 2015. Notice his unequivocal statements published on OregonLive, Aug. 6, 2017: "Simply put, Oregon's sanctuary status declaration directly contravenes federal immigration law and threatens

public safety. This has put many sheriffs in the position of choosing whether to violate state or federal law. It's an untenable position.”

Williams cites an example: “A man who successfully evaded detection and detention by immigration officials is charged with assaulting two innocent women in Portland; his alleged crimes are tragic. That he was able to commit the alleged crimes at all defies the law and insults common sense.” The suspect had been deported several times before his recent arrest for raping these women.

How many violent crimes will Oregon citizens suffer at the hands of illegals before the point is made?

How many times will the state interfere with lawful federal enforcement putting law enforcement and citizens in harm's way?

What responsible person endorses a continuing situation allowing for mistreatment of illegals and their exploitation in the name of providing sanctuary, so that the powerful can win elections?

And when will we finally admit it unwise to ignore President Roosevelt's insistence that immigrants assimilate for the sake of all?

Lady Liberty applauds legal immigration, welcoming people who dream of becoming Americans. She does not cheer the destruction of the rule of law, the erosion of sovereignty, and the mounting lawlessness and attending violence.

People with common sense and good will must vote according to conscience, in view of the common welfare, and support candidates that reject sanctuary cities, open borders and illegal activity. We must also work against all those who would put our lives and our country at risk, especially people like Gov. Kate Brown, whose radicalism eclipses that of Barack Obama.