

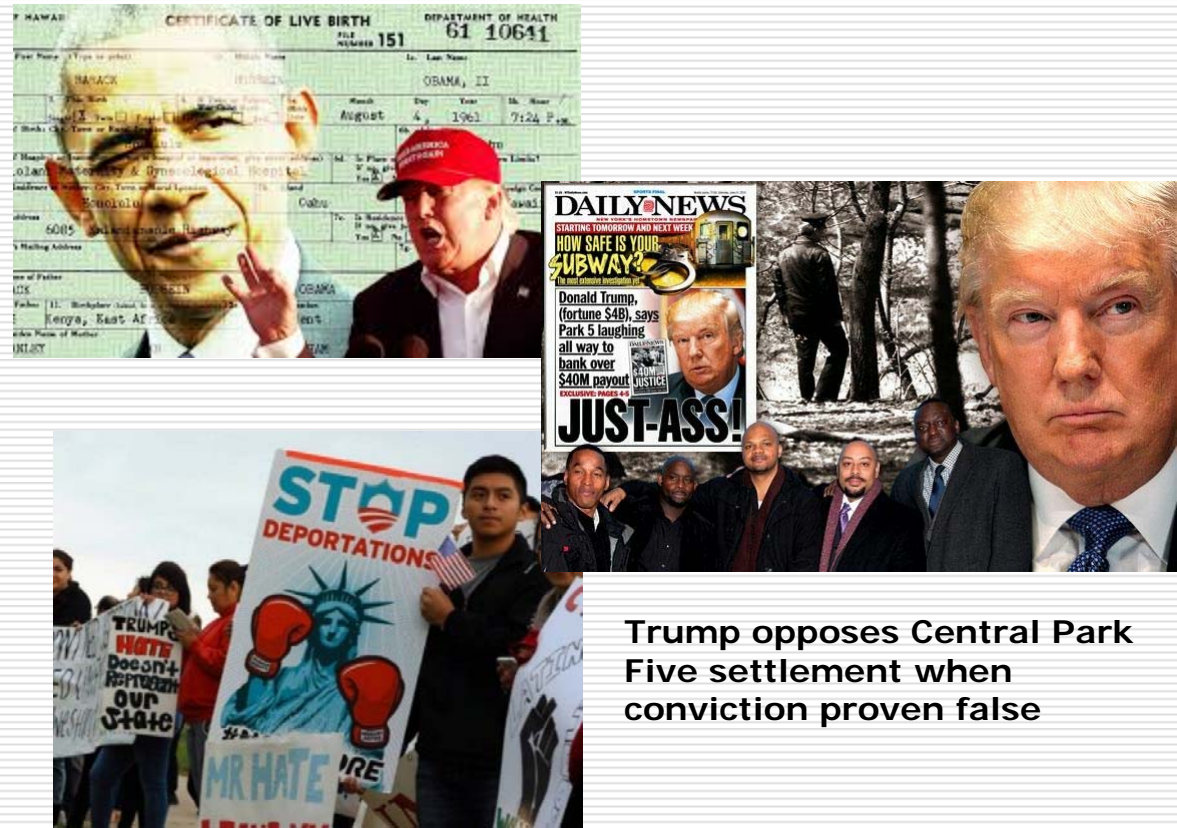
Crossing Borders: The Clear and Present Danger of Trump

Fear of Immigrants,
the Rise of Rightwing
Populism and the
Danger of Fascism



How Trump Used Rightist Division to Launch and Grow His Political Brand

- Start With Racism: The Central Park Five and Obama 'Birtherism'
- Add a Large Measure of anti-Mexican Chauvinism on Immigration
- Top Off with a Wide Layer of Fear Against Muslims



Trump opposes Central Park Five settlement when conviction proven false

What Has Trump Promised to Do?

- ❑ Round Up, Detain and Deport Up to 12 Million Undocumented Immigrants
- ❑ Build a 1000-Mile Unscalable Wall Along the Southern Border, Paid for by Mexico
- ❑ Change the Constitution on Birthright Citizenship
- ❑ Exact a 'Temporary' Ban on All Muslims Seeking to Enter the US
- ❑ Enhanced Surveillance of Islamic-American Neighborhoods and Mosques



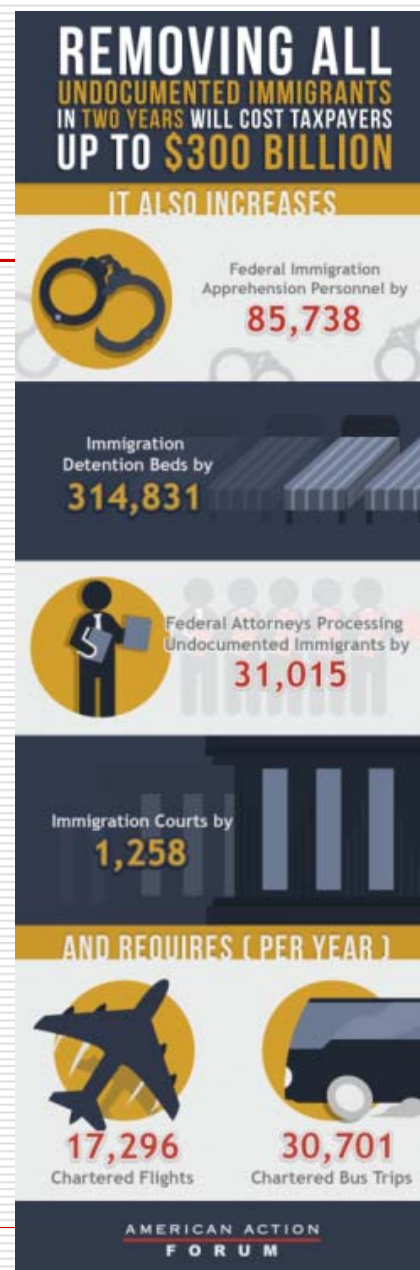
Above: Deportees from 'Operation Wetback' in the 1950s. Below: More Recent Raid in Iowa



What Would It Take?

- ❑ At Least \$200-300 Billion Overall
- ❑ Federal immigration apprehension personnel to increase 18-fold from 4,844 positions to 90,582 positions. Trump calls this his 'Deportation Force'
- ❑ The number of immigration detention beds to increase tenfold from 34,000 to 348,831. Trump wants these to be punitive, 'no vacation motels.'
- ❑ The number of immigration courts to increase 22-fold from 58 to 1,316. Trump urges 'speedy' attention to due process
- ❑ The number of federal attorneys legally processing undocumented immigrants to increase 22-fold from 1,430 to 32,445
- ❑ A minimum of 17,296 chartered flights and 30,701 chartered bus trips each year.

Source: American Action Forum, February 2016



What are the Side Effects?

- ❑ There were approximately 6.8 million employed undocumented immigrants in the private sector in 2012.
- ❑ Although there were quite a few unemployed native and lawful foreign-born workers in, there were not nearly enough to make up for the reduction in labor that would result from removing all undocumented immigrants
- ❑ Fully enforcing current law towards all undocumented immigrants would cause private sector employment to decline by 4 million to 6.8 million workers.
- ❑ As a result, the labor declines by themselves would reduce real private sector output by 2.9 % to 4.7 % or \$381.5 billion to \$623.2 billion.
- ❑ The negative consequences would be particularly harmful to the industries that employ these workers, such as agriculture, construction, and leisure and hospitality.

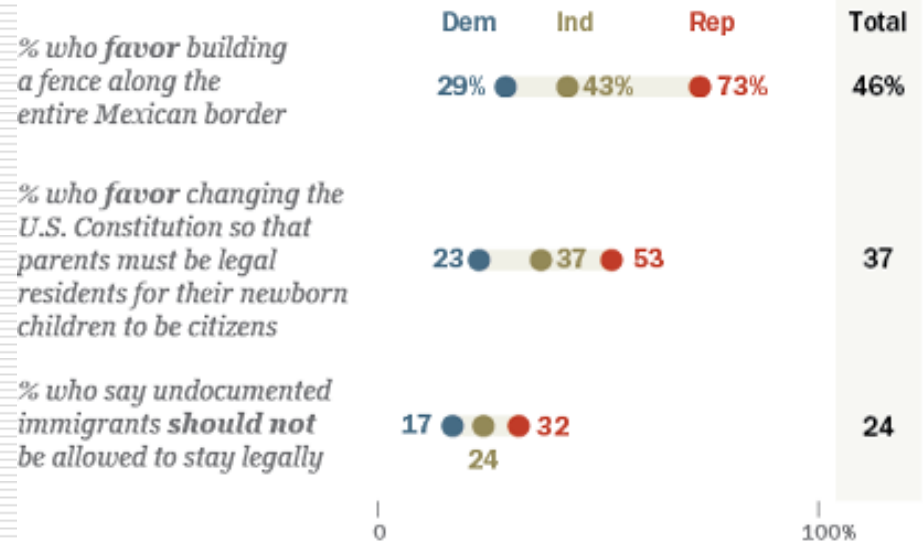


Immigrant labor in the fields, processing plants and construction sites

What Does the U.S. Public Think About This?

- ❑ 54% oppose 'The Wall'
- ❑ 63% for keeping birthright citizenship
- ❑ Large majorities in both parties favor a way for the undocumented stay in the U.S. legally, if certain requirements are met. Republicans agree by 66% and Democrats by 80%
- ❑ The result? Trump has polarized a militant fear of the 'Other' in the GOP

Partisan Gaps on Immigration Issues



Survey conducted Sept. 22-27, 2015.

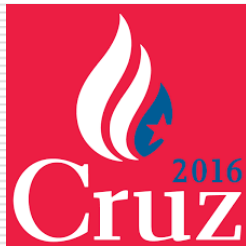
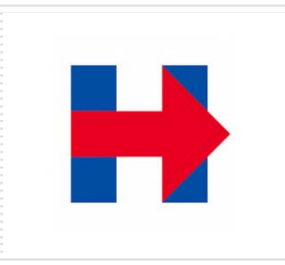
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Trump Supporters Prone to Fear

- ❑ Over half of Trump supporters today look at illegal immigration as a very serious problem in their communities, compared with 17 percent overall. (Actually, for 5 years, a net outflow)
- ❑ Two-thirds of Trump supporters now believe illegal immigrants are more likely to commit violent crimes, compared with 29 percent overall and 54 percent of all GOP voters.
- ❑ Half think the chances of a terrorist attack in the next 12 months are 'very likely' compared with one quarter overall. — 56 % think more than half of all Muslim worldwide support ISIS, compared with 28 % of US overall.
- ❑ 88 percent think of Mexicans as "having lots of problems...bringing drugs...bringing crime...rapists."



Trump Is Part of the Fracturing of US Politics into a 6-Party System



- ❑ The Six 'Party/Factions' Operate Under Two Tents, 3 GOP and 3 Democratic
- ❑ The Earlier 'Tea Party' has split into two groups, Trump's Rightwing Populists and Cruz's Theocratic Right.
- ❑ The GOP 'Establishment' Multinationalists Remain But Have Lost Their Grip
- ❑ Under The Dem Tent: Clinton's Wall St 'Third Way New Democrats', the AFL-CIO Keynesian Liberals and the Sanders Social Democrats

Understanding Trump's Irrationalism: Rightwing Populism Is More Than Anti-Immigration

- ❑ **Producerism.** Producers—workers, small business, realtors—vs parasites. ie, the unemployed, immigrants, people of color. Oppose 'parasites', above and below. Trump as 'the builder,' immigrants as 'takers'
- ❑ **Demonization.** Making 'the other' inhuman. Immigrants are all rapists and Muslims all murderers and terrorists
- ❑ **Scapegoating.** Picking false adversaries to deflect blame. Attacks on media.
- ❑ **Conspiracism.** Obama and Birtherism, Cruz and JFK Assassination, Mexico and China are smart, our leaders are stupid
- ❑ **Apocalypticism.** Europe overrun by Islam, Iran with Nuclear Weapons.



Is Trump a Fascist? Does It Matter?

- ❑ Fascism is 'essentially contested', defined in a variety of ways
- ❑ One common point is that fascism is revolutionary, aiming at the overthrow of a bourgeois democratic order for an anti-democratic new order, and using violence and terror to do so
- ❑ Trump's rightwing populism feeds the growth of fascist organizations
- ❑ Trump mobilizes extreme nativism, racism and sexism within the current order with the goal of using a captured GOP to take power.
- ❑ He has yet to form a paramilitary force, although he flirts with them



Above: 'Oathkeepers' patrol in Missouri.
Below: 'Minutemen Project' patrols border with Mexico



Conclusion: Keys to Defeating Trump and His Social Base

- ❑ Emotional Dimension: Fear of being 'played' and 'hustled' But also make the economic case
- ❑ Defend those attacked on the bottom, shift to the adversaries on top
- ❑ Narrow the target, unite the many, build base organizations on diversity
- ❑ Show how racialized politics is a burn holding all workers down
- ❑ Widen the electorate in key demographic, mobilize voters in November

