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YOUR IMMIGRATION STORY

A DOCUMENTATION PROJECT ON SOUTH ASIANS AND THE IMMIGRATION SYSTEM

SAALT invites members of the South Asian community to convey their personal experiences and problems encountered with the immigration system. Such stories are important for policymakers, the media and community members to hear in order to learn about the challenges that South Asians confront under current immigration laws.

Why should you share your immigration story?

- Immigration reform may happen this year and any change in policy will impact South Asians.
- South Asians can play a role by sharing real-life stories of how we are impacted by the immigration system.
- Policymakers, the media, and the community can learn more about the immigration challenges South Asians face.
- You can be connected to an immigration lawyer in your area who may be able to assist you.

What kind of stories should you share?

SAALT is interested in collecting stories about any types of challenges that South Asians are facing with the immigration system. These stories include:

- Delays in processing family- and employment-based visa applications
- Delays in naturalization applications
- Inability to work due to visa restrictions
- Detention and deportation issues
- Challenges accessing services and benefits (including health care, police assistance, drivers' license) because of immigration status
- Employer abuse because of immigration status

Confidentiality Note: Please be assured that the information that you submit on this form will remain confidential and, at your request, anonymous. In addition, your story will not be shared without your permission. If you have any questions about confidentiality concerns, contact saalt@saalt.org or call (301) 270-1855.

Tell Your Immigration Story

If you have encountered a problem with the immigration system, please fill out the brief form on the other side. Feel free to include as much information as you feel comfortable sharing.

Name: _____
City: _____ State _____
Country of Origin: _____
Immigration Status: _____

Please describe the immigration problem that you are facing (use back page, if necessary):

Would you like to be connected to an immigration lawyer in your area? (Please note that **SAALT cannot provide legal advice regarding your specific case.**) _____

Would you be willing to share your story with the media or with legislators? _____
Can we use your story in our advocacy or community education materials to show examples and patterns? _____

If you are interested in sharing your story, please answer the following questions:

- Would you prefer to use your real name or have your name changed? _____
- Would you prefer that we direct media outlets to you directly or have SAALT participate in the interview with you? _____
- Would you be willing to share your story on camera? _____
- Would you be willing to share your story as a speaker at an immigrant rights rally? _____

Email address: _____
Phone Number: _____
Is this a phone number where we can reach you at? _____
Are there certain times of day when we should or should not call you? _____

Thank you for taking the time to fill out this form and share your immigration story. **Please return the completed form either to a SAALT representative; via fax at (301) 270-1882; or via email at saalt@saalt.org.**

