

DEFENDING MIGRANTS

FOR SOUTH ASIAN ADVOCATES & INDIVIDUALS

GUEST SPEAKERS



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BEFORE WE BEGIN...

TODAY'S HEADLINES



- Maoist violence
- Flooding
- Migrant worker's death in Saudi Arabia
- Temporary Protective Status in the U.S.



- Lynching of Dalit, Adivasi, and Bahujans
- Jammu and Kashmir violence
- Flooding
- Murder of tribal women
- Political conflict



- Jammu and Kashmir
- Fighting Taliban at Afghanistan border
- Flooding
- Political conflict
- Sedition



- Dengue outbreak
- Reporters targeted
- Political conflict
- Repatriation of Rohingya refugees
- Flooding

FLOODING / CLIMATE CHANGE

VIOLENCE AGAINST MINORITY GROUPS

VIOLENCE BECAUSE OF POLITICAL GROUPS

TRENDS

REASONS FOR MIGRATION TO U.S.



- Violence from Maoist government
- Natural disaster
- Hindu extremists targeting Tibetan Buddhist
- Caste discrimination
- LGBT identity



- Hindu extremists targeting Dalit, Bahujan, Adivasi, Sikhs, Jain, and Muslims
- Political, military and police violence
- Caste discrimination
- LGBT identity



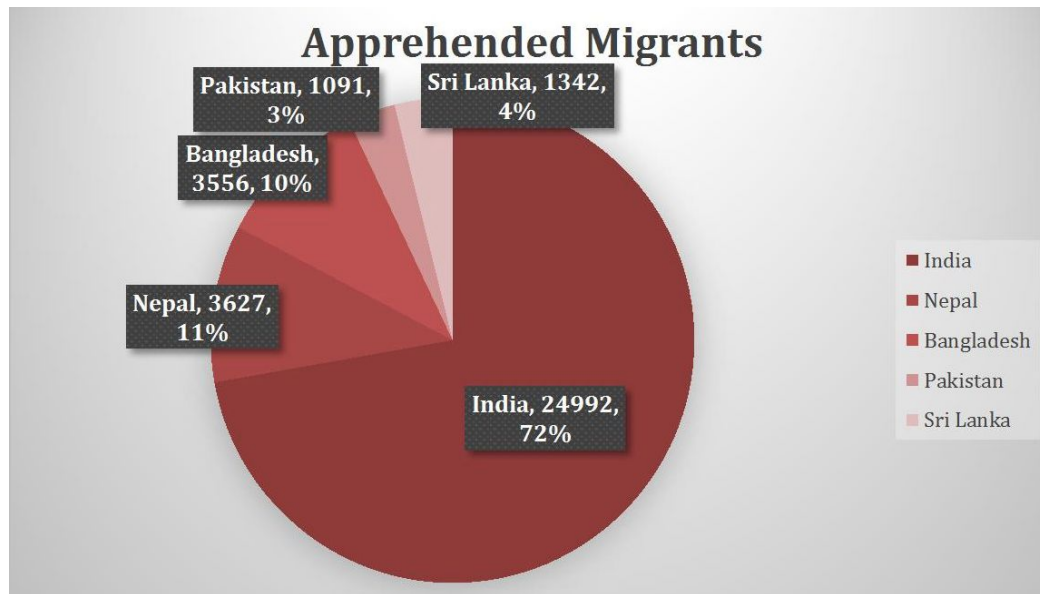
- Political, military and police violence
- Violence against Christians and Ahmadis
- Blasphemy laws
- LGBT identity



- Climate change and land loss
- Political violence
- Blasphemy laws
- Violence against tribal and indigenous groups
- LGBT identity

SOUTH ASIAN MIGRATION PATTERNS

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- Between October 2014 – April 2018, Customs and Border Protection (CBP) arrested over 17,000 South Asians (12,670 Indians; 1,752 Bangladeshis; 1,744 Nepalis; 659 Pakistanis; 292 Sri Lankans; 2 Bhutanese)
- As of 2017, we know that there are at least 630,000 undocumented Indians alone in the United States, marking a 72% increase in undocumented Indians since 2010. Much of the increase can be attributed to visa overstay with nearly 250,000 Indians overstaying their visas in 2016

THE U.S. IMMIGRATION SYSTEM

AND HOW IT LEADS TO
UNDOCUMENTED, ASYLEE, AND
REFUGEE COMMUNITIES
GROWING

- The Lottery System
- Wait times for visa
- Profit
- Denial rates of judges
- Negative stereotypes
and political rhetoric
about migrants

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In one hearing, an attorney for a detained respondent argued that his client was neither a threat to society nor a flight risk.¹⁹ In this hearing, IJ Cassidy rejected the respondent's request for bond, stating broadly that "an open border is a danger to the community." He then analogized an immigrant to "a person coming to your home in a Halloween mask, waving a knife dripping with blood" and asked the attorney if he would let that person in. The attorney disagreed with IJ Cassidy, who then responded that the "individuals before [him] were economic migrants and that they do not pay taxes." The attorney again disagreed with both claims. IJ Cassidy concluded the hearing by stating that the credible fear standard is not a proper test for review of asylum seekers, wholly disregarding the established legal standard for such cases.²⁰ In a private conversation after this case, IJ Cassidy told the observer that the cases that come before him involve individuals "trying to scam the system" and that none of them want to be citizens. He also remarked that he thought the U.S. should be more like Putin's Russia, where "if you come to America, you must speak English."²¹ In another hearing, IJ Wilson told a respondent that "this case is like every case . . . came in from Mexico for medical treatment then try to claim asylum."²²

DETAINED MIGRANTS

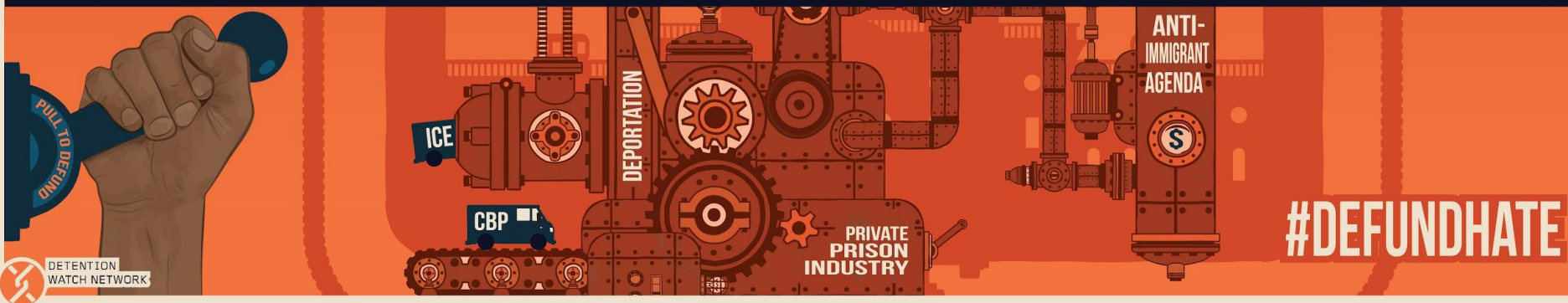
- Denial of court date or meeting with attorney
- Use of solitary confinement as a form of retaliation
- Medical neglect
- Denial of religious accommodation
- Inadequate or non-existent language access
- South Asians have higher bond amounts

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“trying to scam the system”



WE HAVE THE POWER TO DEFUND THE DETENTION AND DEPORTATION MACHINE



Defund Hate is a coalition committed to fighting mass detention and deportation by working to stop the flow of money to ICE and CBP

- ACLU
- American Friends Service Committee
- Asian Americans Advancing Justice
- Bend the Arc: Jewish Action
- Coalition for Humane Immigrants Rights (CHIRLA)
- CREDO
- Detention Watch Network
- Friends Committee on National Legislation
- Indivisible
- La Red
- Move On
- Nakasec
- National Immigrant Justice Center
- National Immigration Law Center
- **South Asian Americans Leading Together**
- Southern Border Communities Coalition
- UndocuBlack
- United We Dream
- And more...

Why Defund Hate?

For too long, our representatives have said they care about our communities while simultaneously funding aggressive immigration enforcement and deadly immigration jails. Trump wants to use your tax dollars to finance his anti-immigrant agenda, all while making devastating cuts to things like health and education that are critical to healthy, thriving communities. Money is one of the only barriers to Trump's DHS fully enacting its hate-fueled detention and deportation regime. Stopping the flow of money is critical to stopping Trump's anti-immigrant agenda.

Plus, this strategy works! Defund Hate has played a part in blocking over \$7 billion in funding to ICE and CBP!

How we work: The Congressional Budget + Appropriations Process

Budget

Congress must first divide the total budget among 12 appropriations subcommittees that represent different areas of government spending like Homeland Security, Defense, Financial Services, Health and Education, etc.

Defund Hate works to cut the overall amount of funding to DHS, the larger agency that houses ICE and CBP. We call upon Congress to invest in programs like health care, education, and green infrastructure and not border militarization, detention and deportation.

Appropriations

The appropriations subcommittees must decide how to spend that money between different agencies and programs (like detention, a border wall, or agents!). These decisions are then put into a bill that must pass the House, Senate, and signed by the President to avoid a shutdown!

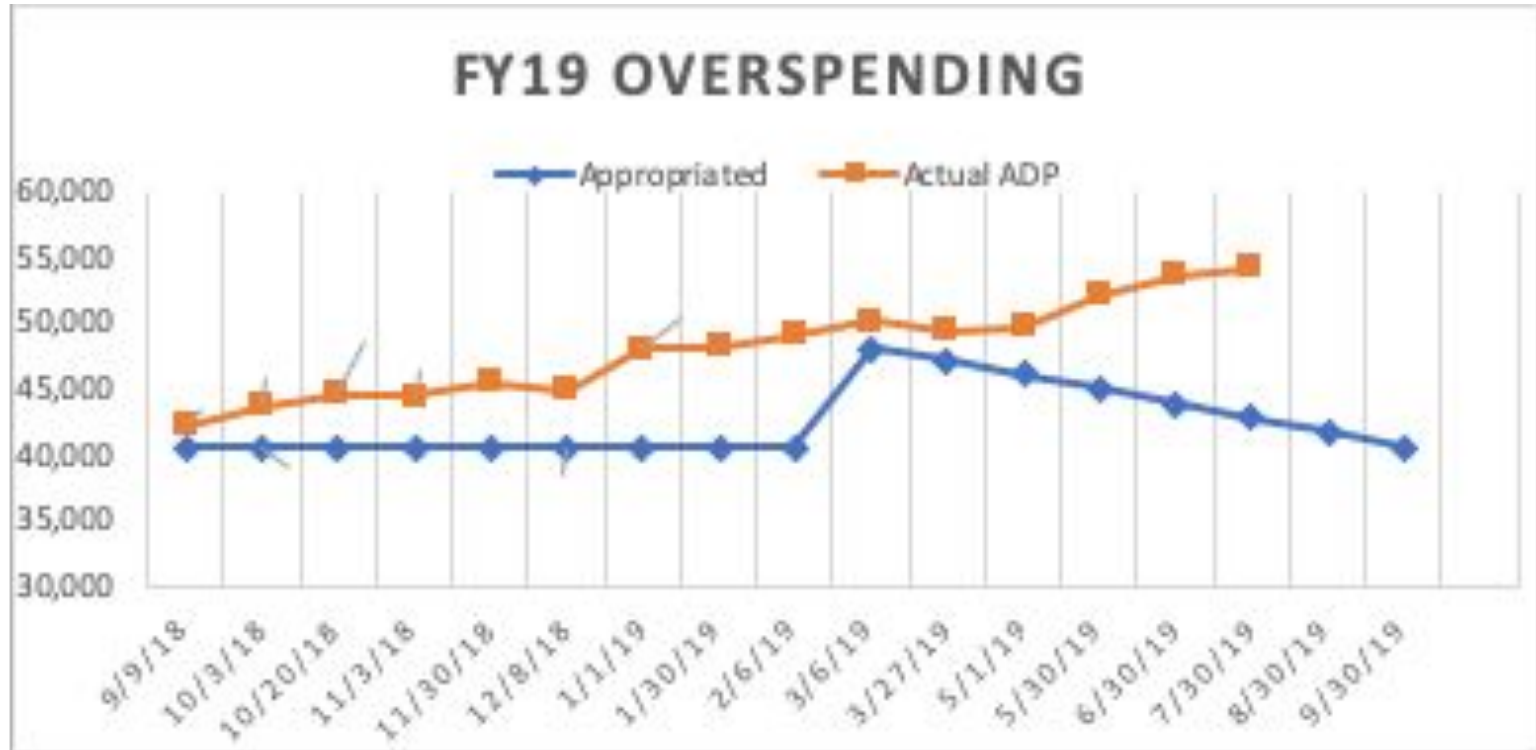
Defund Hate works to influence the division of overall DHS funds to decrease funding for detention, ICE and CBP agents and border militarization.

Accountability

ICE and CBP keep finding new, sneaky ways to get more money to expand the detention and deportation machine.

Defund Hate works to eliminate the loopholes that ICE and CBP have used to get extra money outside the appropriations process and educate Members of Congress on the agency's abuse and fiscal irresponsibility.

Where we are now:



Congressional State of Play

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- ICE overspending SO much - 55K!
- House: DHS Bill is a mixed bag:
 - Cuts to CBP
 - ICE detention cut to 34,000
 - Overall increase in ICE funding (because of new detention ombudsman)
 - Detention Slush fund
- Senate: nothing at all
- Congress on recess now until September 9
- Continuing Resolution (flat funding) highly likely come October 1

Defund Hate Priorities:

- In a Continuing Resolution
 - No Anomaly (lump sum)
 - No exception apportionment (advance on funding)
- In an actual bill
 - Cuts to ICE and CBP
 - Eliminate ICE's transfer and reprogramming authority

Digging into the details...

- During a continuing resolution, agencies can petition for an additional pot of money above what flat spending levels would provide, known as an **anomaly**. Small anomalies are intended for ordinary spending increases like higher health care costs for government employees. We have seen political anomalies for ICE approved in the past and expect the agency will seek one again this year.
- Agencies can also petition the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for an increased amount of funds provided at the start of a CR period, an advance on their funding known as an **exception apportionment**. Agencies are only supposed to use this process when their spending needs differ dramatically during different seasons of the year or in truly extraordinary circumstances. OMB has previously approved an exception apportionment for ICE's detention account based on xenophobic claims about public safety concerns posed by releasing immigrants from detention.
- After ICE overspends in the first part of a year, the agency uses its **transfer and reprogramming authority** to raid other DHS accounts. In FY18 for example, a year in which communities across the United States were ravaged by hurricanes and forest fires, ICE took \$10 million from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to cover for its own overspending (and \$190 million from other accounts throughout DHS).

Take Action!

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During August recess:

- Set up a meeting with your Member of Congress
- Go to a Town Hall
- Find them wherever they are and bird-dog!

After August recess:

- Keep up the pressure!
- Calls, social media, rallies, etc!

Remember our asks!

- In a Continuing Resolution
 - No Anomaly (lump sum)
 - No exception apportionment (advance on funding)
- In an actual bill
 - Cuts to ICE and CBP
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- *Moving Allies Towards Action*

Now more than ever, it is important for U.S. Citizens/allies to support the immigrant community by taking real actions if they witness a raid or an arrest by Trump's Deportation Force.

- Toolkit for Allies to Record and Report
 - [IF YOU SEE ICE](#)
- Close the Camps LITERALLY!
 - [Take Action Against Detention](#)
 - Utilize the tracker to [Expose ICE and CBP](#)



- *Raids Rapid Response Support*
 - *Mississippi Current Needs*
 - *Over 300 people released, folks still have pending deportation proceedings*
 - *Legal Support: Need Attorneys and Paralegal to support families*
 - *Fundraiser for local teams providing on the ground support*
 - *Hotline for families affected 978-993-3300*
 - *Legal & Volunteers Sign Up Form*
- *I-9 Audits and Future Work Site Raids*
 - *What do we know?*
 - *How can we help ?*
 - *Next Steps and NILC toolkit for Worksite*

Know Your Rights Information

QUESTIONS

Please type in your chatbox

THANK YOU

