

# Daily Camera

## Immigration order smacks of corruption

Don Mayer

February 10, 2017

In Monday's Camera, a reader applauded the recent immigration ban as an important step for national security. He has been tricked by Donald Trump's rhetoric. In fact, the immigration process is already extremely rigorous, taking two years for folks from the Middle East to be vetted. We should not be tricked by fear-mongering into sacrificing what makes us a great nation, a people who value liberty and have a fundamental sense of justice.

In fact, those most affected by the ban are children from around the world, fleeing violence and despair. Five of the seven countries where children are most imperiled are on the suspended visa list, including Syria and Yemen. Not only does common decency require that we help these children, so does justice. We have, after all, been deeply involved in creating the horror from which these children flee.

Another fact: Not one terrorist has come from any of the seven banned countries. *And*, curiously, Mr. Trump has no business interests in any of those countries. (See the report from the conservative Cato Institute). In contrast, the three countries not included in the ban (e.g. Saudi Arabia) have in fact been the source of terrorists (e.g. on 9/11). Moreover, each unbanned country is a place where Mr. Trump has hotels. Corruption occurs when factors irrelevant to some decision become key to making that decision. That someone gave you a bunch of money should not affect the decisions you make, when your job is to protect the interests of the country. Not only is the Muslim ban uncharitable, unjust, and un-American, it smacks of the corruption that is emerging as a key feature of the current administration. Shame on anyone who defends it.

Don Mayer

*Boulder*