

DAILY REVIEW ATLAS

Community Roundtable: What about Trump's immigration order?

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Shouldn't have been a surprise

Trump operates with a chain saw, not a scalpel. This order was rushed out to fulfill a campaign promise. It was hasty and not thoroughly vetted and caused a lot of short-term chaos. The president does have wide authority on immigration issues and it will probably withstand a court challenge.

The response by the media and opponents was equally predictable. If Trump had ordered that all American breathe air with at least 20 percent oxygen, demonstrators would have been in the streets shouting "No Nitrogen, No Peace!" and decrying him as a "gascist."

Trump is a very polarizing figure who is impulsive and not very thoughtful. No one should have been surprised by this order. We say we want honest politicians. Well, he told us he was going to do this and he did. I have my doubts about its effectiveness, but I'm willing to wait and observe the results. -Harry Bulkeley

Sad for this message to world

I feel sad for those caught in the turmoil, and for what it says to the world. We used to be confident enough to be welcoming. People with entrance documents have already been through lengthy checks and rechecks. To stop, turn back, or detain them is unfair, stupid, and a boon to ISIS. After steadily losing territory and troops, now they and al-Qaida can recruit new fighters using this ban to show that the United States is indeed at war with Islam.

It is always irrational to judge people by group. According to the Cato Institute, our chance of dying in a terrorist attack by refugees is 1 in 3.6 billion! If we're going to say to desperate people escaping war that our door is closed, we'd better put a shroud on the Statue of Liberty. The ban has also effectively distracted us from the dangerous change to the National Security Council, with the director of National Intelligence and the chair of the Joint Chiefs of Staff losing their automatic seats, and Stephen Bannon gaining one! - Laurie Muelder

Poorly executed, but it's working

The fuss that followed was far out of proportion to the action. It was not a ban as some tried to characterize it, but the suspension of a very specific kind of visas and refugees from countries whose support of terrorism has caused havoc in Europe. What a surprise! Unlike Democrats and some Republicans, Trump actually did what he promised. President Trump said that he would stop people from coming into our country unless they could be properly vetted. Very few were actually sent back and most of the rest were cleared in relatively short order. It should have been better communicated and executed, but it is working.

It's amazing how soon we forget when it's convenient to do so. I guess most of the protesters are completely unaware that former President Obama issued a similar executive order a number of years ago. What's OK for Democrats to do drives them nuts when done by Republicans! - Charlie Gruner

More of Trump's 'fear agenda'

Americans have been conditioned to believe the word "Muslim" means anti-American violence. In a report from the Cato Institute, "Nationals of the seven countries singled out by Trump have killed zero people in terrorist attacks on U.S. soil between 1975 and 2015." The problem with Trump's executive order is it uses more of this all inclusive blaming of a certain group for a larger problem as he did framing Mexicans as rapists, drug dealers and illegals.

The best way to rationally discuss this topic is with facts. Americans might be surprised to learn in just 2017, as Feb. 1, there have been 5,123 violent gun incidents, 1,341 deaths, 28 mass shootings including 20 officers shot or killed. That's the eminent threat Americans still don't want to address. To combat this so-called eminent Muslim threat, Trump has pushed that we need to spend more on an over bloated military budget to keep Americans safe. Think about who actually benefits from his agenda. Sen. Bernie Sanders rightly chided Trump's "cabinet of billionaires" at his inauguration. Folks, we are being played by a con-artist. Trump's "fear agenda" will only line his pockets and his billionaire crony friends. - John Hunigan