

THE DAILY SENTINEL

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Travel ban affects more people than immigrants and refugees

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President Trump's travel ban not only affected immigrants and refugees coming to the United States to begin new lives, or to escape religious and political persecution. It's also affecting qualified international students who passed the stringent vetting system and are paying to attend our universities, business and tradesmen representing American corporations, the entertainment industry, doctors and nurses who travel the world to provide medical care to people in third world countries, those who have been approved to visit family members that went through the lengthy process to become American citizens and American tourists who have worked and saved to travel to exotic places.

Our world is not just the United States: it's an international world. International trade, international agreements, international communication, and international travel have replaced isolationism.

During CNN's program GPS, host Fareed Zakaria gave these astonishing figures from the Cato Institute, a think tank. Of the seven banned countries during a 40-year period from 1975 to 2015 and that includes 9/11, not one American was killed by a citizen from those countries. The other side of the coin, the numbers of Americans killed from countries not on the banned list are: Saudi Arabia 2,369, UAE 314, and Egypt 162. Not one predominantly Muslim country that has a Trump Hotel, Trump office building, or Trump business is on the banned list.

I am 100 percent for a stronger and better immigration system to keep out those who want to do harm to our country. Temporary or not, we have to use common sense when applying these mandates. Think of who is actually benefitting from the ban and whom it's harming.

