

# KENOSHA NEWS

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## **Immigration editorial replete with falsehoods**

Lydia Spottswood

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English was my Jewish Oma's second language. In the wake of World War II, her German immigrant family faced overt hostility from people who knew nothing of the horrors her family had faced in Nazi Germany. The attacks being waged on Hispanic immigrants seeking safety and a hopeful future belie a simple fact. Most of our own families were once immigrants seeking the same things.

"The cost of illegal immigration," a Kenosha News editorial based on Heritage Foundation data, characterized undocumented immigrants as parasitic abusers of American's safety net. In a time when President Trump refers to them as vermin and animals the caustic effect of this editorial cannot be overstated.

It took less than an hour to discover this "data" was replete with falsehoods.

I learned undocumented immigrants are not eligible for Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, workers compensation, TANF, CHIPS, Obamacare, federal housing assistance and food stamps. They are paying over \$11.6 billion annually in state and local taxes. They contribute between \$6 and \$7 billion into Social Security and Medicare annually. Without the flow of payroll taxes from wages paid to illegal immigrants, the system's long-term funding hole over 75 years would be 10 percent deeper.

Economic experts from the libertarian Cato Institute to the non-partisan Economic Policy Institute and former chief actuaries of the Social Security Administration have excoriated Heritage Foundation reports for data manipulation and violations of basic analytic standards.

How did America become a nation whose leaders would intentionally torment children to manipulate their immigrant parents? Their age has been exploited to coerce families into giving up their lawful right to seek asylum.

The Kenosha News adding unfounded attacks to their misery is distressing beyond words.