



## **Illegal migrants exploit U.S. weaknesses**

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To everyone who loves this country: Don't get played by the haters spinning lies about the border "crisis." Legitimate seekers of asylum go to one of the 48 legal ports of entry bordering Mexico — from California, Arizona, New Mexico and Texas. That's one every 41.43 miles. If someone can make a 1,500-mile-plus trek to the U.S. border, they can certainly hit one of these numerous locations. Ask yourself why they do not.

Criminals don't seek the legitimate entry points because they know they have no legal way to enter the U.S. They trample our borders in between with the help of coyotes, using children — often not their own — as pawns to do it. America and its border officers are helping children in many, many cases by rescuing them from the treacherous hands of these adults.

There are a lot of lies being spun by craven pols and pundits who are insulated from the consequences that come from broken borders and the assault on law and order that inevitably results. I'll get to a few.

First, some facts. According to U.S. Customs and Border Protection, there were 408,870 apprehensions at the southwest border in fiscal year 2017. That's close to the number apprehended in fiscal year 2013. However, the crossings of individuals went down while the number of family units went up by a staggering 520 percent in the space of those four years.

Why? Because America has a soft spot for families. And illegal migrants and the coyotes they employ are exploiting that to our undoing.

Keep in mind we have only 21,000 border officers. Also keep in mind, these are the apprehensions. For every apprehension, how many illegal migrants elude the CBP? The Cato Institute worked out the probability of apprehension rate for 2015: 54 percent between ports of entry and 39 percent at ports of entry. That translates to a staggering 46 percent and 61 percent of illegal crossings not caught. In other words, roughly one illegal migrant getting away for each apprehended, bringing the total number of illegal migrants to 1 million per year. Add to that the

illegal visa overstays and the northern and coastal borders. These are issues untouched by recent “crisis” coverage.

Now to the lies:

**Lie No. 1.** Adults with children crossing the border are all families. While it may look that way, especially on TV, as someone who has interviewed thousands of immigrants — including unaccompanied minors and trafficked children — in my 20 years as an immigration attorney, I have learned it’s most often not the case. I am not alone among my peers in this discovery. Reporters report what people tell them, and pundits can make things up. I have represented migrant children who ended up in foster care because adults ditched them at the border or along the way. Adults with children could be a family, or they could be traffickers using unrelated children to cross the border illegally, knowing naive Americans will assume the best and the irresponsible press will follow suit.

And for those who are true parents? The separation lies squarely on their shoulders, not America’s. Go to a legitimate port of entry or stay home. That is the message that we need to send in order to maintain any kind of sovereignty. Otherwise, chaos will rule.

**Lie No. 2.** It is not a crime to cross the border illegally. Yes. It. Is. It carries a six-month jail sentence. Previously, those in favor of illegal immigration would refuse to admit this fact. Now, some admit it, but they’ve modified their talking point to, “Well, it’s a misdemeanor.” Yeah, and beating your wife is a misdemeanor in some states. Doesn’t make the perpetrator a good guy. This minimization of crime is galling and needs to stop.

**Lie No. 3.** All of these migrants are asylum seekers. Don’t you believe it. Judicial statistics show that courts denied 90 percent of the cases presented by unrepresented asylum seekers, and denied 48 percent of represented ones. Having interviewed hundreds of asylum applicants myself, I’ve caught more than 85 percent in outright lies, including holding fake passports, marriages, birth certificates, et al. Very few people who are truly persecuted by their government ever make it to the U.S. They more often are murdered, like David Kato in Uganda, or jailed, like Nelson Mandela, in their home countries.

Those in favor of illegal migrants point to releasing everyone as the only answer. Sure. Ask Kate Steinle and Officer Brandon Mendoza what could go wrong.