Trump Vows to End Immigration Crisis 'Once and for All'

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The claim, published on a conservative website, was repeated on social media throughout the week as President Donald Trump faced criticism over his administration's "zero tolerance" immigration policy, which has left more than 2,300 children separated from their parents at the USA border since May. But the event, in all of its exploitative weirdness, also had a weird (but very Trumpian) aesthetic flourish: as each Angel Parent spoke, they displayed a blown up photo of their murdered loved one.

He was flanked at the White House event by relatives of those who have been killed so that they could share stories that "people who are weak on immigration don't want to discuss".

Public backlash grew over a "zero-tolerance" policy that led to the separation of families at the southern border, and on Wednesday, Trump signed an Executive Order to end family separations by detaining children and parents together. He said the families are the victims of crimes committed by illegal immigrants.

Some 2,300 children were taken from their parents since May under the Trump administration's "zero-tolerance" policy.

Seeking to counter the intense criticism of his border policies, Trump invited families of Americans killed by undocumented immigrants to tell their stories of being "permanently separated" from loved ones.

Trump backed up his complaint with the unsupported claim that undocumented immigrants are more unsafe than the general population and shared statistics on crimes committed by undocumented immigrants without any context.

But his assertion has been contradicted by a number of studies, including one by the Cato Institute and another in the journal Criminology that found that places with higher percentages of undocumented immigrants do not have higher rates of crime.

The White House on Friday also accused media and opposition Democrats of pushing an agenda by misrepresenting a photograph linked to the policy. One mother recalled that her son had been repeatedly strangled and set on fire after he was dead. It was widely published, ending up on newspaper front pages.

President says media are ignoring the pain and suffering of "*Angel Families*" and human toll of illegal immigration pledges action.

Sanders tweeted Friday: "It's shameful that dems and the media exploited this photo of a little girl to push their agenda". The separation here is from the facts.

What is unclear, though, is whether the president realizes the moderate Republicans he is alienating by shunning their immigration overhaul are among those most endangered in the midterm elections.

Her youngest, a 2-year-old boy, can't give her any information. "I want Border Patrol, I want ICE". She said that she cried when the two were reunited and that she is never going to be away from him again.

Trump, in a tweet Friday, said: "We can not allow our Country to be overrun by illegal immigrants as the Democrats tell their phony stories of sadness and grief, hoping it will help them in the [November] elections".

All 435 seats in the House and a third of the 100-member Senate will be contested in the November election.

Trump's tweet, GOP aides said, could make the task of corralling votes for the bill significantly more hard, though House Republican leaders said negotiations would continue.

The tweet came after two GOP immigration bills faced trouble in the House of Representatives.

Earlier in the week, the president had called for Congress to quickly approve sweeping immigration legislation.

But House Republicans are moving forward as planned with efforts to pass immigration legislation, said Represenative Steve Scalise of Louisiana, the majority whip.

"Forty-four (44) percent of voters said in April that Trump is doing a good or excellent job handling issues related to immigration", Rasmussen pointed out.

"You just fear that tweet in the morning", said Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen of Florida.