



\* Floating island capital of Earth conceived of by Troy Davis. <http://www.worldcitizen.org>



THE IMMIGRATION DEBATE

Now imagine the opposite. Imagine if our world were the United States of Earth. All the world's states would be balanced in infrastructure. All the World's citizens would be free to cross any border. No more stateless refugees fleeing genocide, third world poverty and war. No more fears of mega-cities being incinerated in a nuclear holocaust. No more preemptive strikes by crusading nations or suicide bombers killing in the name of their tribal God. No more trillion dollar defense budgets to prepare for the next great battle of Earth and no more war on terror.

Picture a world system of parks, protecting the Amazon rain-forest from further development and other natural treasures that should be saved for future generations to enjoy. Imagine a world culture and universal second language for world citizens so we can all understand each other and communicate effectively.

Until we come to a collective realization that leads us to understand the root cause of our

problems, we will be like someone trying to keep the Titanic from sinking with buckets. We may delay the inevitable for a little while until everyone eventually goes down together. What better way to avoid this scenario then to truly comprehend the reasons why we are having problems with a flood of illegal immigrants.

## [www.earthpledge.net](http://www.earthpledge.net)

"The love of one's country is a splendid thing. But why should love stop at the border?"

-- Pablo Casals

"The first day or so we all pointed to our countries. The third or fourth day we were pointing to our continents. By the fifth day, we were aware of only one Earth."

-- Sultan bin Salman Al-Saud, astronaut

"If the name of the country has such a nature as to create bonds between those who have a common country, why do not men resolve then that the earth should become the country of all?"

-- Desiderius Erasmus

Deporting illegal aliens to solve the immigration problem is about as effective as trying to remove flood water on the Titanic with buckets. Each method just looks at the surface situation but fails to address the root cause. Immigrants will continue flowing into America by the droves because what they are trying to escape never changes; a world of imbalances that threaten to sink our Earth ship. Until these holes in our world are repaired, they will continue to create vast numbers of stateless people prepared to go anywhere for a better life.

It may be argued that these problems have always been with humanity and so it is hopeless to seek solutions. This argument can be refuted by seeing the success various nations have had solving these problems within their own borders.

In the United States, we don't have to worry about California waging a preemptive strike on West Louisiana. We don't have to worry about millions of refugees fleeing South Dakota to escape a horrendous genocide. There's no fears of brutal dictators in the mid-west crushing opposition parties seeking democratic reform.

We have eliminated war within our borders and the balance of resources along with the infrastructure keeps millions of people content in their own state rather than inciting them to flee in a mass exodus to another.

Taking this model a bit further, imagine if America was like the world:

Imagine the absurdity of California deporting illegal immigrants when millions of midwesterners survive on a dollar a day or less. Imagine the impossibility of expecting millions of east Louisiana refugees to return to New Orleans when suicide bombings have killed thousands of people. Now imagine that all America's states spend close to a trillion dollars a year preparing for the next continental war which they believe can be won with weapons of mass destruction. Picture the dire situation of this America frag-

mented, living under the shadow of nuclear anarchy while resentment towards California's imperialistic use of force across the continent continues to build. In this alternate universe, wouldn't you love to pull the blinders away from every face on the continent of those perpetuating this insanity? If only they would wake up and open their eyes enough to see how they could be united, living in peace and prosperity. Such a shame their narrow patriotism makes it impossible to realize their full potential.

