



National Latina/ Psychological Association

Asociación Nacional de Psicología Latina

Statement in Response to the Election of Donald J. Trump, 45th President of the United States

Following the results from the 2016 presidential election, and as the nation prepares for an uncertain path forward, there is an overwhelming sentiment of discontent, shock, fear, and rejection of the president-elect among many historically marginalized communities and their allies. The one undeniable conclusion is that the United States is deeply divided, even more so than most would have ever predicted.

One area that has greatly contributed to the division and of particular relevance to our membership is that of immigration; especially as it pertains to immigration from Mexico and Central and South America. The following are some of President-elect Trump's campaign promises to be enacted during his first 100 days in office:

1. **Terminate** the *Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals* (DACA) of which approximately 740,000 individuals have received approval.
2. **Eliminate** the *Deferred Action for Parents of Americans and Lawful Permanent Residents* (DAPA). This program is currently awaiting disposition in the Supreme Court, and has the potential to affect 5 million individuals.
3. **Introduce** the *End Illegal Immigration Act* which includes his promise to "build a great, great wall on our southern border" and "have Mexico pay for that wall", and a series of penalties for immigration violations.

The US has long been recognized as a safe refuge for diverse immigrant communities fleeing economic, political, and social unrest. We are gravely concerned that the proposed anti-immigrant actions will negatively impact individuals currently in the US as well as those who in the future would seek to contribute to the vitality of our country. Additionally, the harm caused by this xenophobic, racist, and discriminatory sentiment only serves to isolate and marginalize, impacting the mental health of untold numbers. We are a country built on the hopes, dreams, sacrifices, and hard work of millions of immigrants who have played a significant role in making this country a beacon of prosperity and humanity across the world. This includes the immense intellectual and economic contributions made throughout the decades. We are proud of this legacy and must preserve this long-standing tradition of ours.

We, at the NLPA are ready to assist the Trump Administration in crafting sensible immigration legislation that is grounded in the principles of dignity and respect. As an organization guided by social justice as our moral compass, we are also prepared to stand up in one unified voice and challenge any attempts by President-elect Trump to implement divisive, racist, and anti-immigration promises made during the campaign.



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We recognize that healing needs to occur and that it will take time, but are confident that it can begin if our leaders join in a spirit of mutual respect and with recognition and understanding for the humanity and dignity of all people.