

# **The Center Robert C. Powers**

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March 21, 2006

## **Immigration, National Security and Culture The Middle Ground**

**The current “Immigration Problem” is one of both national security and national culture. There’s a lot of yelling going on between conservatives (nationalists) and liberals (globalists). The President, after too long, is finally leading and seeking a middle ground. Where is it?**

### **National Security**

**As a sovereign state, the U.S. has the absolute right under international law to maintain and protect its borders against illegal immigration. We have not done it well for a variety of reasons. The problem is worse at the Mexican border because of the poverty and government corruption that exists in Mexico. Poor Mexicans don’t want to wait and immigrate legally... they want access to the American economy, so they come across the border illegally. They get a job illegally and send much of our wealth back to Mexico to shore up the corrupt and poorly distributed Mexican economy. Many of them get comfortable in America and don’t return to Mexico (currently 11 million plus). We don’t have that problem with any other nation. Our border has remained porous due to Government inattention and the desire of liberal globalists to allow an “open” border with Mexico. They see the U.S. not as a sovereign nation but as a state within an open “global system”. This view is welcomed by the Government of Mexico which actively encourages illegal immigration to the U.S. (in spite of outward appearances) to bolster its sagging economy. That view is very dangerous with respect to the current War on Terror in that it allows the free passage of terrorists across our borders, not to mention drugs and other illegal matter. It also tends to bring crime into our country (if a country won’t enforce its laws, it must be a good place for criminals!) We simply cannot tolerate this.**

**The right things to do are:**

- 1. Closely control the entire length of the border. Don't compromise... put the resources needed there! Use fences and high technology surveillance. Militarize the border if necessary... but use the National Guard as a resource in a support role to the Border Patrol.**
- 2. Enforce all laws in the U.S. with respect to the existence of illegal aliens and companies that hire them**
- 3. Allow no amnesty for the illegal aliens who are here. Return them to their homeland. Make it a criminal offense if they return illegally and put them in jail.**
- 4. Establish a "national identification card" system as proof of citizenship and status.**

#### **The impact:**

- 1. More resources in the southern border. We can afford it and we can't afford not to.**
- 2. With respect to the economy, very little. There will be some price increases due to the need to hire more expensive labor, but that will settle out as the economy adjust to the new situation.**

#### **The Middle Ground:**

- 1. Closely control the entire length of the border (we can achieve this politically).**
- 2. Enforce all laws in the U.S. with respect to the existence of illegal aliens and companies that hire them (we can achieve this politically).**
- 3. Allow some amnesty for the illegal aliens who are here, requiring them to pay a fine and enter a program leading to citizenship. Return criminal offenders to their homeland. Make it a criminal offense if they return illegally and put them in jail. (this is a compromise that can be politically achieved).**
- 4. Establish a "guest worker" program that allows people to work in this country while a citizen of another country. It has to be for a defined period of time. (This is required politically to placate the globalists.) We must take into account that once these people get into the country they will try to stay... how do we handle that?**
- 5. Establish an "immigrant identification card" system as proof of citizenship and status. (Liberals will oppose a national ID card as it makes everyone "too accountable")**

## National Culture

**Yes, we are a nation of immigrants. However, the current immigration problem does not resemble the immigration of the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> Century. In those past years, immigrants came, primarily from Europe, to become Americans. Now, Mexicans come to America to gain economically, but remain Mexicans. They seek to establish a Spanish speaking culture within the U.S. and make America a dual culture nation. This is not universally so, but is for the most part. Do we want this to happen?**

### **The Middle Ground:**

**Or, should we, as we always have, welcome selected immigrants who have good records to enter the country and become English speaking “Americans”. What is an “American”? Traditionally, immigrants have leaned English, assumed “American” ways and retained many parts of their own culture. Indeed, parts of their culture have gradually become a part of being “American”.**

**Americans should DEMAND that our government solve this problem... and quickly. If we must compromise to get action... so be it. But keep the pressure on to do what is right with respect to REALITY not Utopian globalism. We are a sovereign nation!**

**We should remember that nations have gone to war in circumstances similar to this. For folks on both sides of the issue, support the middle while acknowledging what is “right”... we can’t afford to have an argument instead of progress!**

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