



Pledge and Endorsement

Drop the I-Word!

“Illegals” is a damaging term that divides and dehumanizes communities and is used to discriminate against immigrants and people of color. The i-word is shorthand for illegal alien, illegal immigrant and other inaccurate and harmful racially charged terms. No human being is “illegal.” Human beings need to be central in immigration discussions in order to move towards a more civilized and humane public discourse, to arrive at humane solutions and policies.

We can stop unintentionally fueling racial profiling and violence directed toward immigrants when we drop the i-word and its related terms, which are:

- Dehumanizing and racially charged.
- Meaningless in the context of immigration court proceedings.
- Not respectful of due process and a person’s constitutional rights.
- Promoted by restrictionist advocacy organizations like Numbers USA and the Federation for American Immigration Reform (FAIR), founded by eugenicist John Tanton.

With this endorsement, we:

- Affirm the dignity and human rights of all persons
- Use accurate language that reflects our most basic values
- Promote racial equity, justice and unity for a brighter future

We urge our colleagues to join us to ask all media outlets and journalists to uphold ethical and professional journalism standards by dropping the i-word today.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Name: _____ Title: _____

Media Outlet/Organization Name: _____