In June 2012, President Obama instituted the DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) policy. It allows individuals brought to the U.S. as minors to, if approved, legally work in the U.S. and be protected from deportation. In a recent issue of Loyola Marymount University’s magazine, one of their graduates shared her story of how DACA has allowed her to work in a field she is passionate about: engineering.

“Being able to put my degree and education to work has been the most rewarding part of this journey,” she writes. “I now am able to contribute to our community and provide for my family. I have two small children, and I am the primary breadwinner for my family. This could all disappear if the DACA program is not continued by President Donald Trump.”

If forced to deport, she would be faced with either moving her U.S.-born children to a foreign country or leaving them behind. Without a clear path to legalization, DACA students (also known as “Dreamers”) and undocumented immigrants live with this and other fears every day. Criminalizing immigrants, building walls, and separating families by deporting parents are not long-term solutions to today’s immigration challenges. What are the solutions? See the “Issues and Actions” section on the back page.

Find Answers to FAQ About Migrants and Immigration:

Why don’t they enter legally? 
Short answer: It’s harder than you think. bit.ly/GettingInLine

Are most migrants Hispanic/Latino?  
Short answer: Not quite. Less than half are and over a quarter are Asian or another race/ethnicity. bit.ly/FactsAboutImmigration

Do immigrants pay taxes? 
Short answer: Yes, they all do. bit.ly/MythsAboutImmigrants

Do migrants take away jobs from native-born Americans? 
Short answer: No. In fact, they tend to fuel job growth for everyone. bit.ly/DebunkingImmigrationMyths

Can’t immigrants just “get legal”? 
Short answer: It’s a long, difficult process. bit.ly/FAQImmigration101

Does the economy suffer because of immigration? 
Short answer: No. Actually, it helps our economy to function. bit.ly/ImmigrationFAQs
**Issues and Action**

**The DREAM Act** - S. 1615 seeks to protect immigrant youth who entered the U.S. as children and know America as their only home. It offers qualifying immigrant youth “conditional permanent resident status” and a path to lawful permanent residency and eventual citizenship.

**Action:** Protect DACA (bit.ly/DACAbystate) and Support the DREAM Act (bit.ly/SupportDream)

**RAISE Act** - If passed, would permanently cap refugee admissions, make family reunification inaccessible and eliminate the ability of U.S. citizens to sponsor their brothers and sisters.

**Action:** Reject the RAISE Act: bit.ly/OpposeRAISE

**Deportation and Detention** - President Trump has requested billions of dollars for indiscriminate deportations of community members and an unprecedented number of immigrants in detention.

**Action:** Cut Funding for Deportations, Detention and Border Militarization: bit.ly/DefundDeportation

**Refugee Resettlement** - From now until the end of September, the Trump Administration must consult with Congress to determine how many refugees to resettle in Fiscal Year 2018.

**Action:** Affirm the Importance of Refugee Resettlement: bit.ly/ResettleRefugees

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**Resources**

- **4 Key Issues to Keep in Mind:** bit.ly/4ImportantAsks
- **Catholic Immigrant Initiative Conference**
  October 12-13, 2017
cmsny.org/event/2017-ciii
- **Symposium on Migration and Immigration**
  January 23-25, 2018
academics.lmu.edu/csjcenter
- **Pastoral Letter on Migration from the Bishop of El Paso:** bit.ly/BishopSeitz

**Know Your Rights**

- **CLINIC:** cliniclegal.org/resources/know-your-rights
- **CHIRLA:** www.chirla.org
- **CAIR:** www.cair.com/images/Know-Your-Rights-Pocket-Guide.pdf
- **Detained Immigrants:** bit.ly/ImmigrantRightsManual

**Other Helpful Sites**

- **Immigration Summit:** csjorange.org/ministries/justice-center/immigration-summit-2017
- **How are children affected?** bit.ly/FamilyImpact

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