

My position on the complex issue of illegal Immigration on my 2006 web page received many compliments from sitting members of the Democrat Legislative delegation. A Guest worker program is another wedge issue that automatically incites controversy and disagreement; therefore I oppose it because it fails to gain consensus, which is necessary to be successful.

The first thing people must realize is that immigrants' are Human beings and therefore the issue must be debated as such. I remember sitting in the living room of a Hispanic women who asked where I was from. I told her that I was from a small farming community in Iowa. She then asked about my family which I responded that I had 11 aunt and uncles and 36 first cousins. She then asked why I was not in Iowa. I responded that most kids in Iowa must leave to find good jobs else where. She then asked if I visited them often, and I responded no because it is too expensive and hard to take time off from work. She then said don't you miss them, and I responded yes very much so, and that most Iowan's don't want to leave their home state. I completed having her sign my nomination petition and she gave me a \$5 Clean Election Contribution, then I excused myself and went on my way. As I was getting up I noticed she had a tear in her eye, and as I walked down the side walk I started wondering what I might have done wrong to make you cry. I started recapturing my conversation and analyzing my responses and hers. I then came to realize that my plight leaving my home and family was identical to hers, and at that point I came to understand that their plight is no different from ours.

I believe that any Mexican should be able to get in their Chevy, and drive across the American border to go to work and return the same way that Friday night to be with their loved ones, just as my grandpa who raised me had to work away from home doing bridge construction and returned Friday night, then he was gone again when I awoke Monday morning, which is sad enough in it's self.

We must have a comprehensive system that completes an adequate background check of immigrants' so they can do this, while their employer "Farmer John" must be accountable as their host while they are in our country, after all it is Farmer John who needs the workers and who profits from their services. I envision farmer John as a host, like a foreign exchange student has when they come to American. Framer John must be responsible to assure they have auto insurance, workers comp, or any other requirements that an American is required to have. The real problem is Farmer John and politicians' for sale not the immigrants.

A temporary guest worker program fails to engage or enter into dialogue, about the many underlying elements involved in this issue, yet in my opinion it is an easy fix if all representatives would address the issue as I do, through understanding!

I AM,

Martin James Monroe