

# ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

A Global Network of Community Volunteers

DESOTO, KANSAS

October 3, 2003

Guest Speaker:

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## Current U.S. Immigration Law and Policy: Problems and Solutions

### A. Introduction

#### The 4-Way Test

1. Is it the TRUTH?
2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
3. Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIP?
4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

### B. Problems and Solutions

#### 1. Family Separation

- a. Visa Bulletin - Allowable Levels of Immigration, Appendix A

#### Problems:

A Legal Permanent Resident must wait for over five (5) years to reunite with spouse and minor children;

Daughter of a U.S. citizen cannot bring spouse and children with her to the U.S. - once she immigrates, must file a petition for them and wait at least 5 years.

- b. Refugee Permanent Residency Chart, Appendix B

Problems:

A refugee must wait at least for 12 years to become a Legal Permanent Resident

Additional problems (a) and (b) cause: illegal immigration

Solutions:

\_\_\_ further restrict levels of immigration

\_\_\_ increase levels of legal immigration

c. 3 and 10 year bars, "Illegals" including "Out of Status"

Problems:

EWI (Entered Without Inspection) Alien married to a U.S. citizen - problem solved - NO!

Inconsistent policy on illegal entrants: marriage to USC and three kids not enough to cure illegal entry but Temporary Protected Status (TPS) is OK

Problem: Once out of status, always out of status!

Children brought here without inspection and raised here, thinking they are Americans?

Solutions:

\_\_\_ Deny citizenship to children born to parents without status, or

\_\_\_ Remove bars and re-introduce 245(I), DREAM Act for Children, Appendix C

d. Impact on Economy and Business - Appendix D

Alan Greenspan,  
Chairman of the Federal Reserve  
Congressional Testimony on Feb. 27, 2003:

**“As you know, the aging of the population in the United States will have significant effects on our fiscal situation. In particular, it makes our Social Security and Medicare programs unsustainable in the long run, short of a major increase in immigration rates... Immigration, if we choose to expand it, could prove an even more potent antidote for slowing growth in the working-age population. As the influx of foreign workers in response to the tight labor markets of the 1990s showed, immigration does respond to labor shortages... An expansion of labor force participation by immigrants and [the] heightened growth of output per worker... presents the greatest potential to boost the growth of gross domestic product.”**

Problems:

Employment-based work visas:

H-1B Employers currently have to pay \$1,000 per petition, comply with paperwork requirements, and H-1B program will expire in 2004;

H-2Bs: compels certification process, inflexible categories, does not help employers with employees already in the country

Green cards based on employment: takes years, process is restrictive, expensive, sometimes absurd

Restrictions and costs cause reverse brain-drain and outsourcing to

foreign countries

Price to Pay for Businesses:

IRCA Regulations

Criminal and Civil Sanctions

Law Suits by competitors (Commercial Cleaning case) and  
employees (Mendoza case)

Solutions:

\_\_\_ ban any employment-based visas and immigration

\_\_\_ facilitate work visas and immigration for needed professional and  
essential workers

e. Other Radical Solutions: e.g., Current Policy to Deny Benefits Even to  
Legal Immigrants - Appendix E

C. Conclusion - Be Informed, Make Your Own Decision

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## APPENDIX A

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## APPENDIX D

## APPENDIX E

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