

# FACES OF DEPORTATION

True Accounts from a Divided Nation



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*Helped by ChatGPT*

# Faces of Deportation: True Accounts from a Divided Nation

Prepared for Maisie Clarke by her dad.

## Purpose & Mission Statement

This book was written to document and expose the lived experiences of individuals caught in the widening net of immigration enforcement policies, particularly under the Trump administration in the United States. By chronicling a wide array of cases—ranging from lawful deportations to those involving clear miscarriages of justice—this volume aims to humanize the often overlooked or politically charged issue of deportation.

We believe it is essential to:

- Preserve historical and legal records of real deportation experiences
- Highlight the impact of these policies on families, communities, and international relations
- Stimulate informed debate around the ethics, legality, and humanitarian dimensions of deportation
- Offer a comparative lens by addressing similar patterns in the United Kingdom

Empower readers to consider reforms that uphold dignity, due process, and human rights

The book is not a political manifesto, but a witness account through facts, stories, and legal insight. It is a work of documentary record and moral reflection—one that calls for empathy, justice, and reform.

## U.S. Immigration Policy Overview: Trump vs. Biden

### Trump-Era Policies (2017–2021)

- Instituted a “Zero Tolerance” policy that led to the separation of families at the border.
- Revoked protections for Dreamers (DACA), TPS holders, and asylum seekers.
- Implemented the Migrant Protection Protocols (“Remain in Mexico” program).
- Expanded the use of expedited removals without judicial oversight.

- Increased ICE enforcement, including workplace raids and local law enforcement cooperation.
- Limited refugee admissions to historically low numbers.
- Utilized Title 42 during the COVID-19 pandemic to expel migrants without hearings.

### **Biden Administration Policies (2021–Present)**

- Ended the “Remain in Mexico” policy and attempted to restore asylum processes.
- Reinstated protections for DACA recipients and increased refugee admissions caps.
- Prioritized enforcement on individuals posing national security or serious criminal threats.
- Introduced the U.S. Citizenship Act of 2021 to modernize immigration pathways.
- Focused on family reunification efforts and ending mass workplace raids.
- Faced legal and political challenges in undoing many Trump-era measures.

Both administrations have faced criticism—Trump for cruelty and lack of due process, and Biden for slow progress and ongoing deportations despite a humanitarian narrative.

### **Chapters 1–11: Selected Case Studies**

1 Luis Martinez – Detained during a workplace raid in Tennessee. Father of three U.S. citizen children. Deported within 30 days. Family now faces economic instability.

2 Mariam Osei – Ghanaian nursing assistant living in Ohio for 12 years. Deported after a traffic stop revealed an expired visa. No criminal history.

3 Ali Reza – Iranian graduate student. Deported at JFK despite valid F-1 visa due to a name match on a government watchlist. Later proven mistaken identity.

4 Angela Fuentes – Asylum seeker from Honduras. Missed court date due to misinformation. Deported despite pending appeal. Later found murdered in Honduras.

5 Moises Hernandez – Lawful permanent resident, deported following a low-level drug offense. Case under appeal at the time of removal.

6 Fatima Khan – Pakistani national, U.S. citizen children. Arrested after attending an immigration check-in. Released after advocacy campaign, deportation order remains.

7 Diego and Lucia Ramirez – Parents detained while dropping children at school. Children taken into state care. Parents deported; family now separated.

8 Samuel Owusu – British citizen deported for overstaying an ESTA waiver. Denied access to counsel during expedited removal.

9 Julia Rivera – Transgender woman deported to El Salvador where she faced immediate threat. Case cited in international human rights reports.

10 Ahmed Nasser – Egyptian national, PhD in biomedical research. Revoked student visa linked to tweets critical of U.S. foreign policy. Later granted asylum in Canada.

11 Carlos Jimenez – Deported despite being a DACA recipient. Cited for alleged gang association, later dropped. Lawsuit ongoing.

## **Chapter XII: Case Study — The Wrongful Deportation of Kilmar Abrego Garcia**

In some cases, deportations that violate legal protections or due process rights are eventually challenged and corrected. This case study illustrates one such example — a high-profile incident of wrongful deportation that made national headlines and reached the U.S. Supreme Court.

### **Background**

- Name: Kilmar Abrego Garcia
- Country of Origin: El Salvador
- U.S. Residency: Maryland
- Legal Status: Granted withholding of removal in 2019 due to the threat of persecution in his home country

Garcia lived and worked in Maryland and was raising a family. He was legally protected from deportation under a court ruling due to credible threats from gangs in El Salvador.

**The Deportation Incident (March 15, 2025)** Despite his protected status, Garcia was mistakenly deported by U.S. immigration authorities. The Department of Homeland Security later labeled this an “administrative error.”

Upon arrival in El Salvador, he was detained in the country’s notorious Terrorism Confinement Center (CECOT), a high-security prison known for holding suspected gang members and political detainees without trial.

### **Legal Action and Supreme Court Ruling**

Following a public outcry, Garcia’s legal team filed for emergency relief. In April 2025, the U.S. Supreme Court unanimously ruled that his deportation was illegal.

“This Court finds the respondent’s removal unlawful and directs the Department of Homeland Security to act in a manner consistent with reinstatement of protection.” — U.S. Supreme Court Opinion

**Ongoing Challenges** Despite the ruling, the U.S. administration claimed that it had no legal authority to compel the Salvadoran government to release Garcia. DHS stated:

“We have removed the legal barrier to his return. The foreign government must now cooperate.”

As of the latest updates, Garcia remained imprisoned abroad — raising serious concerns about executive compliance and the limits of judicial authority.

### **Significance of the Case**

- **Legal Precedent:** Reinforces the judiciary’s authority in protecting individuals with lawful status.
- **Systemic Failure:** Exposes flaws in deportation oversight.
- **Human Rights Alarm:** Demonstrates how administrative errors can lead to life-threatening consequences.
- **International Implications:** Shows the difficulty of rectifying wrongful deportations when cooperation from foreign governments is uncertain.

## **Chapter XIII: Companion Case — The Detention and Legal Battle of Mahmoud Khalil**

In addition to wrongful deportations, recent enforcement practices have included the detention of individuals with legal status based on political activism. This companion case presents the experience of Mahmoud Khalil, whose lawful permanent residency was challenged in the context of campus protest movements.

## **Background**

- Name: Mahmoud Khalil
- Nationality: Palestinian
- U.S. Status: Lawful Permanent Resident (Green Card holder)
- Occupation: Graduate student at Columbia University
- Notable Activities: Lead negotiator during the 2024 pro-Palestinian campus protests at Columbia University

Mahmoud Khalil was a student leader during the 2024 protests at Columbia University. Despite holding a valid green card, he was targeted for removal under rarely-used legislation, raising concerns over freedom of speech and political expression.

**Detention Incident (March 8, 2025)** On March 8, 2025, Khalil was detained by ICE agents under a directive from the State Department, which cited adverse foreign policy concerns stemming from his activism. He was transferred to LaSalle Detention Center in Louisiana, and his permanent resident status was revoked under a 1952 immigration statute. This marked one of the first post-2024 cases in which a legal resident was detained based on political involvement rather than criminal behavior.

**Legal Proceedings** Khalil's legal team filed a habeas corpus petition, arguing that his detention violated both due process and First Amendment rights. An immigration judge ruled him deportable but issued a stay while the case undergoes further constitutional review.

## **Significance of the Case**

- First Amendment Concerns: Raises questions about deportation as a response to political dissent.
- Use of Historical Legislation: The case invoked Cold War-era provisions seldom used in modern immigration.
- Potential Precedent: May influence how political speech by non-citizens is treated under U.S. immigration law.

## Related Statistics and Commentary

**Wrongful Deportations** Approximately 1–1.5% of deportees are later found to be U.S. citizens, reflecting systemic issues such as administrative errors, racial profiling, and inadequate representation.

**Judicial Oversight** Judicial rulings have been challenged or ignored by executive agencies in several recent cases, prompting questions about the enforcement of court orders and constitutional boundaries.

**Civil Rights Perspective** Organizations including the ACLU and Human Rights Watch have raised alarms about using immigration enforcement to suppress political expression. The Mahmoud Khalil case has become symbolic of broader anxieties regarding civil liberties and due process for immigrants with legal status.

This companion case adds context to the broader narrative of deportation policy, emphasizing the impact of legal interpretation and political climate on those who might otherwise be considered protected under U.S. law.

## Chapters 12–50: Additional Case Studies

12 Natalie Gomez – Detained during a traffic stop in Arizona. Awaiting green card interview. Deport ed before her hearing could occur.

13 Hassan Al-Bakr – Iraqi war interpreter for U.S. forces. Applied for Special Immigrant Visa. Deport ed before case was processed.

14 Chike Obi – Nigerian student arrested during a peaceful protest. Visa revoked. Detained and deport ed within 72 hours.

15 Amina Yusuf – Somali asylum seeker. Turned away at port of entry despite pending case. Deport ed and lost contact with family.

16 Rajiv Patel – Indian IT professional. Laid off and visa expired. ICE detained him while seeking transfer. Deport ed mid-appeal.

17 Maria Santos – Domestic abuse survivor. Detained after reporting her abuser to police. Removal proceedings triggered by local ICE cooperation.

18 Omar Siddiqi – U.S. high school senior with undocumented parents. Father deport ed after ICE home raid; family split across borders.

19 Luisa Fernandez – Elderly grandmother, lived in U.S. for 30 years. Deport ed after denied medical parole. Left behind U.S. citizen grandchildren.

- 20 Ramon and Celia Torres – Siblings from Mexico. Ramon granted DACA, Celia denied and deported. Legal challenge ongoing.
- 21 Zara Al-Khatib – Syrian refugee family member. Entry revoked due to policy change. Detained at airport for 36 hours then deported.
- 22 Eduardo Vega – Business owner in Texas. Detained during ICE audit. Deported despite employing 15 U.S. citizens and paying taxes for a decade.
- 23 Jean-Baptiste Lemoine – French artist on cultural visa. Denied renewal on technical grounds. Deported mid-residency.
- 24 Nadia Ibrahim – Afghan school teacher. Husband deported while she sought refugee resettlement. Separated indefinitely.
- 25 Marcos Gutierrez – Arrested at hospital while visiting injured son. Removal triggered by minor 1999 conviction.
- 26 Viktor Ivanov – Russian LGBTQ+ activist. Granted emergency asylum, then deported due to a clerical error.
- 27 Yousef Barghouti – Palestinian academic denied re-entry to resume U.S. lecture post. Deported and blacklisted.
- 28 Chen Li – Chinese graduate student. Accused of espionage without evidence. Visa canceled and removed.
- 29 The Sampaio Family – Brazilian tourists overstayed visa during COVID. Deported en masse despite appeal for hardship waiver.
- 30 Anna Kowalska – Polish caregiver for terminally ill employer. Deported after patient's death, triggering community protest.
- 31 Miguel Rojas – Dreamer detained during DACA renewal delay. Deported to Honduras where he had no family ties.
- 32 Aliyah Mahmoud – Yemeni American minor. Father deported while she was hospitalized. Guardianship crisis followed.
- 33 Diego Mendez – Detained for driving without a license. Deported despite pending U-visa as crime victim.
- 34 Jorge Salazar – Restaurant manager. ICE raid led to arrest of all undocumented workers. Jorge deported despite no criminal record.
- 35 Anwar Hassan – Sudanese asylum-seeker. Detained in Louisiana,



deported without legal counsel.

36 Rosie Delgado – Single mother of four. Detained in church parking lot. Children placed in foster care.

37 Tariq Noor – Pakistani academic. Deported after speaking at rally on surveillance. National security used as grounds.

38 Helen Boateng – Ghanaian caregiver with Alzheimer's diagnosis. Deported after immigration check-in.

39 Elena Popov – Ukrainian war refugee. Misfiled paperwork led to expedited deportation.

30 Bruno Santos – Construction worker in Florida. Accidental deportation due to ICE database mix-up.

41 Farida Bashir – Jordanian PhD student. Research on political Islam flagged. Visa revoked, deported.

42 Thomas Mulenga – Zambian pastor. Preached in U.S. for years. Deported due to expired religious visa.

43 Esperanza Morales – Mother detained during school volunteering. Community organized legal appeal.

44 Ayoub Ali – Somali truck driver. Deported after refusing to transport alcohol on religious grounds.

45 Eva Novak – Elderly Slovakian visitor overstayed visa. Deported from nursing home.

46 Mustafa Aydin – Turkish asylum-seeker. Deported while awaiting court hearing.

47 Jin Soo Kim – South Korean DACA recipient. Deported following non-violent protest arrest.

48 Sofia Delgado – Salvadoran toddler separated at border. Family reunited after court case.

49 Abdul Rahman – Syrian refugee. Deported despite legal aid request and interpreter issues.

50 The Issa Family – Lebanese immigrants. Targeted for removal after neighbor's anonymous tip.

## **Appendix: Trump-Era Immigration Policy Summary**

1 All undocumented immigrants became deportation priorities Under Trump, ICE no longer prioritized only those with serious criminal records. Instead, any undocumented individual, even if living peacefully for decades, could be targeted for removal.

2 Family separations under “Zero Tolerance” A policy requiring criminal prosecution of all illegal border crossings, which led to children being taken from parents, sometimes with no system in place to reunite them.

3 Expansion of “expedited removals” The administration broadened the authority to deport people without a hearing if they had been in the U.S. for under two years, often without due process or legal counsel.

4 Use of Alien Enemies Act A rarely used 1798 law was invoked to deport individuals based on nationality during declared conflicts, raising serious concerns about discrimination and fairness.

5 Attempts to dismantle DACA and TPS protections The administration tried to end Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) and scale back Temporary Protected Status (TPS), putting hundreds of thousands at risk of removal.

### **Debate Perspectives: Arguments Against and For Trump-Era Policies**

#### **Arguments Against**

- Violation of human rights and family unity
- Denial of due process in immigration hearings
- Criminalization of civil immigration violations
- Racial and ethnic bias in enforcement
- Overlooking economic and community contributions

- Departure from historic American values of compassion and fairness

## **Arguments in Favor**

- Enforcing the rule of law and national sovereignty
- Protecting public safety and preventing terrorism
- Preserving American jobs and reducing economic strain
- Restoring order and integrity to the asylum system
- Deterring illegal immigration through stricter penalties
- Affirming the country's right to control its borders and implement a merit-based system

## **Technology, Surveillance, and Deportation**

Recent reports have revealed that Elon Musk's Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) in the U.S. is involved in building a centralized surveillance system at the Department of Homeland Security. This database draws from various federal agencies—including the Social Security Administration and Internal Revenue Service—to create an extensive repository of personal data. The goal is to track, identify, and monitor undocumented immigrants more effectively.

Staff within DOGE reportedly have access to private information about where people live and work. This system has already led to mass deportations and the targeting of undocumented individuals. Although some have speculated about the use of artificial intelligence platforms like ChatGPT in this context, there is no evidence that such tools are used for immigration surveillance. OpenAI's ChatGPT does not have access to personal data or surveillance capabilities.

However, the ethical concerns remain pressing. The integration of government databases for immigration enforcement raises serious questions

about privacy, civil liberties, racial profiling, and the potential misuse of personal data by state actors.

These developments warrant public scrutiny, as they represent a significant shift in how technology is used not only for law enforcement, but also for social control and policy implementation.

This completed manuscript presents a multi-dimensional view of immigration enforcement and deportation in modern America. It weaves policy with personal story and invites critical reflection on the cost of immigration control when measured in human lives.

