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Absent from trading cards and memorabilia for more than 15 years, one of the NBA's most iconic players and personalities



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Southern DAILY

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Southern Daily News is published by Southern News Group Daily

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Address: 11122 Bellaire Blvd., Houston, TX 77072
E-mail: News@scdaily.com

Thursday, August 02, 2018 | www.today-america.com | Southern News Group

Grannies Across The U.S. Unite To Caravan To The Southern Border To Protest

Nearly 30 grandparents will pack into two 15-seat vans to caravan from New York to the U.S.-Mexico Border at the end of this month to protest President Donald Trump's immigration policies. The week-long caravan comes after more than 2,000 immigrant children were separated from their families at the southern border, a result of the Trump administration's "zero-tolerance" immigration policy. Trump has since signed an executive order to end the policy but numerous families remain in detention or separated. "When the children started being separated from their parents at the border, I just couldn't believe it. I was horrified," said Michelle Clifton, a 74-year-old grandmother. "I thought, 'what am I going to be able to do as an individual to have an impact on this and to bring attention to it?'"



The route taken by the "grannies."

The result: Grannies Respond, also referred to as Abuelas Responden, a group of grandparents and supporters which formed three weeks ago and says its ready to take to the road to protest. "It's deeper than that," said Dan Aymar-Blair, creator of Grannies Respond. "Those are just specific demands but this is about respecting human dignity. This is about respecting human life and caring for every member of our society."

Aymar-Blair says he came up with the idea when he was studying effective methods of protest. He claims that protests similar to a "journey" are "powerful" because they collect build momentum, empathy and people for a cause.

"To me, grannies mean something very, very, strong towards children just in terms of what we grannies and grandpas are," Claire Nelson, a 66-year-old grandmother said. "[We are] strong, we're elderly, we're wise, we have unconditional love for our children and children of the world. I felt like that we could respond and make a difference in many ways."



Demonstrators protest during a national day of action called "Keep Families Together" to protest the Trump administration's "Zero Tolerance" policy in Los Angeles, June 30, 2018.

Barry Nelson, 70, wants to set an example for his five grandchildren. "People are being treated poorly and are being denied entrance into this country," Barry said. "Even people who are seeking political asylum and that's just wrong and something we have to change and really work on to call attention to this and to everybody in this country." (Courtesy https://abcnews.go.com/)

Related
Thousands Nationwide Protest Family Separations At U.S.-Mexico Border

Thousands of people joined rallies across the country Thursday to protest the federal policy of separating children from their parents at the



Southern border.

Marches and rallies took place or were planned for later in the day in more than a dozen states, including California, Texas, Michigan and New York, to draw attention to what organizers characterized in a statement as the Trump administration's "cruel and inhumane treatment of immigrants and asylum seekers."

About 60 cities and towns across the country were expected to participate, said Anna Tarkov, communications director for Families Belong Together, a group opposed to the family separations.



Gabriela Domenzain, director of the Latino Policy Institute at Roger Williams University in Bristol, Rhode Island, was among several dozen people who rallied Thursday in nearby Warwick.

Domenzain told NBC affiliate WJAR of Providence that she took part because "putting kids or parents in cages is not something we stand for."

"This is inhumane," she said. "International organizations need to get involved."

Several dozen people marched in Rutherford, New Jersey, where the Rev. Ron Verblauw, pastor of Rutherford Congregational Church, told NBC New York: "Separating children from families is the first sign we are not the land of the free and the home of the brave anymore. We are the scared."

Micaela Eller, lead organizer of Thursday's rally in Austin, Texas, called the so-called zero tolerance policy cruel, telling NBC affiliate KXAN that the stories from parents are heartbreaking.

"It's hard to look at the images, hear the stories, to listen to the mothers' stories of their children being taken away and just being told, 'We're taking them to give them a bath,' and then never seeing them again," Eller said.

Lydia Ponce, a well-known Los Angeles activist, joined about 200 other people early Thursday evening in the city's historic MacArthur Park.



"It's about humanity," Ponce told NBC Los Angeles. "It's not about left or right. It's not a political thing. It's a humane thing."

About 50 people rallied Thursday morning at Lima Town Square in Lima, Ohio, where Beth Sutton-Ramspeck, an associate professor of English at Ohio State University at Lima, told NBC affiliate WLIO that "you don't do that to a child" and "you don't do that to a parent."

"It's cruel. It's inhumane," Sutton-Ramspeck said. "It's un-American. It's un-Christian. It's wrong."

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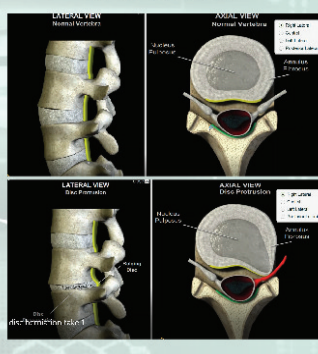
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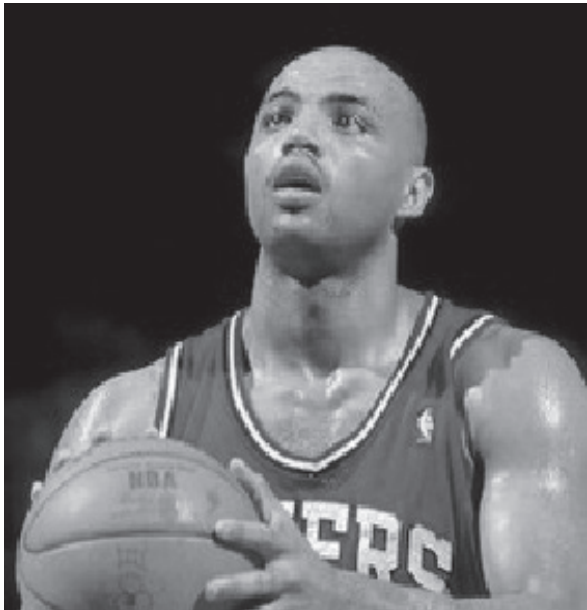


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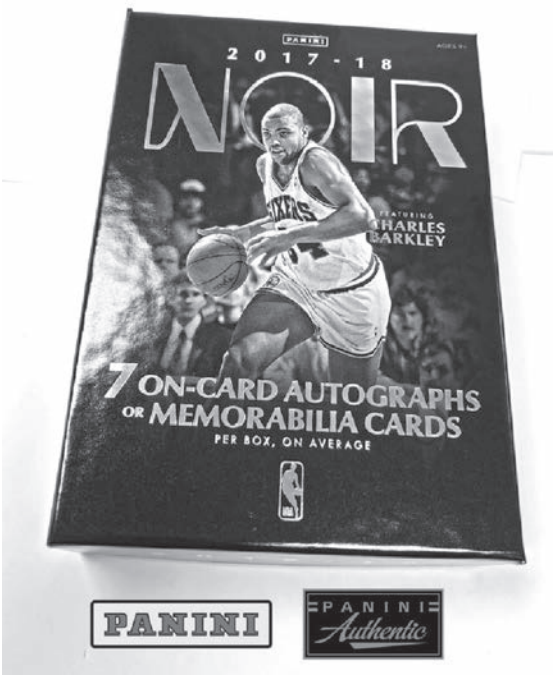
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NBA Legend And Basketball Hall of Famer Charles Barkley Signs Exclusive Autograph Trading Card And Memorabilia Partnership With Panini America

IRVING, Texas, July 31, 2018 /PRNewswire/ -- Chuck. Sir Charles. The Round Mound of Rebound. By any name, Charles Barkley is BACK! Panini America (@PaniniAmerica), the world's largest licensed sports and entertainment collectibles company, and the exclusive trading card partner of the NBA, announced today that it has reached an exclusive autograph trading card and memorabilia partnership with the NBA Legend and Basketball Hall of Famer. The news is significant (not "turbid") for Panini America and the trading card industry, as Barkley has not been included on a trading card in more than 15 years. "Adding Charles Barkley as an exclusive athlete is a significant achievement and will go down as a key milestone in our business since Panini entered the U.S. market and became the exclusive trading card partner of the NBA in 2009," said Mark Warsop, Panini America CEO. "Since becoming the exclusive trading card partner of the NBA, Charles has been the athlete we pursued and viewed as the player we needed to be a part of the Panini family.



His long absence from the trading card category has had fans clamoring and wondering if he would ever be fea-



Absent from trading cards and memorabilia for more than 15 years, one of the NBA's most iconic players and personalities -- Charles Barkley -- makes his return to trading cards with the release of Panini's 2017-18 Noir Basketball product; Barkley to be included in all future Panini NBA Basketball & Collegiate products

tured on trading cards again. This is a great day for NBA fans and all collectors as we will now be able to celebrate Charles' illustrious career on trading cards and memorabilia." Barkley's first autographed NBA trading cards will be introduced as part of the Spotlight Signatures insert set in Panini's 2017-18 Noir Basketball product that celebrates his career with autograph trading cards featuring Barkley with the Philadelphia 76ers, Phoenix Suns and Houston Rockets. Barkley also appears on the Noir packaging which releases at hobby stores and on www.iCollectPanini.com nationwide today with an SRP of \$500. (Courtesy <https://www.prnewswire.com/>)

Temporary Flood Mitigation Plan Released For Lake Houston, Lake Conroe



Lake Conroe, which is located upstream from lake Houston, will be lowered seasonally.HOUSTON -The City of Houston on Tuesday released a temporary flood mitigation plan for Lake Houston and Lake Conroe. Lake Houston, which is operated by the City of Houston and the Coastal Water Authority, will operate using a pre-release approach, city officials said. If the National Weather Service predicts more than 3 inches of rain within the San Jacinto River basin in a 48-hour period, Coastal Water Authority will then lower Lake Houston from 42.5 feet to 41.5 feet. Lake Conroe, which is operated by the San Jacinto River Authority and located upstream from lake Houston, will be lowered seasonally. Lake Conroe has a normal water level of 201 feet. From April 1 to May 31, it will be reduced and maintained at 200 feet, and from Aug. 1 to Sept. 30, it will be reduced and maintained at 199 feet. After each of those lowerings, the lake will be restored to its normal water level.To track lake levels, visit www.sjra.net for Lake Conroe and www.coastalwaterauthority.org for Lake Houston. (Courtesy /www.khou.com/)

HOUSTON 2019

HOUSTON CHINESE YELLOW PAGES

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Published & Printed By
SOUTHERN CHINESE DAILY NEWS
Since 1980

美南新聞日報
11122 Bellaire Blvd.
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Editor’s Choice Pictures



Facebook has removed fake accounts that were trying to interfere in the midterm election. Facebook confirmed it has identified a coordinated political influence campaign believed to be working ahead of November’s midterm elections. The social media company announced Tuesday it had detected and removed 32 fake accounts and pages from both Facebook and Instagram after identifying “coordinated inauthentic behavior.”



Paul Manafort’s defense attorney Thomas Zehnle told the jury his team planned to pin all the crimes the government has accused Manafort of on his long-time deputy Rick Gates. Gates pleaded guilty to a conspiracy charge and lying to federal investigators in February. Gates was charged with several crimes in the Virginia case, but after his plea, those charges were dropped. Manafort’s “trust in Rick Gates was misplaced,” Zehnle said. Gates changed his story over time — to the point of saying anything to the government, he said. And Gates found himself in a legal bind “because he embezzled millions of dollars from his longtime employer” — Manafort, Zehnle said.



NBA signs deal with MGM. The NBA has become the first major U.S. sports league to sign an official betting sponsor. On Tuesday, commissioner Adam Silver announced that the league struck a deal with MGM that will give the gaming company rights to use league highlights, names, logos and its direct data feed, as well as exclusively market itself as the official gaming partner of the NBA and WNBA. Industry sources pegged the deal to be for three years and at least \$25 million.



Parking Garage Partially Collapses In Texas. A portion of a parking garage in Irving, Texas collapsed on Tuesday, July 31. Several cars were crushed under the rubble. Authorities are responding to the partial collapse of a parking garage in Texas. The incident happened near an office building just before noon in the city of Irving, west of Dallas. There are no reports of any injuries. The Irving Fire Department says more than 20 vehicles were damaged in the collapse and authorities are searching for anyone who may be trapped in their car.



Utah To Vote On Legalizing Medical Marijuana. FILE – In this June 21, 2018, file photo, a laboratory manager holds a cannabis sample in Oakland, Calif. Voters in Utah will decide in November whether to join at least 30 other states in legalizing medical marijuana. Utah is the latest state to vote on the legalization of medical marijuana. On Monday, advocates for medicinal pot were able to get the issue on the upcoming November ballot after gathering more than 150,000 valid signatures. The new law would allow medical patients to purchase up to two ounces of marijuana every two weeks and would allow patients more than 100 miles away from a dispensary to grow up to six plants. Unlike most states, medical marijuana sales in Utah would be tax exempt.



Former Penn State Fraternity Brother Sentenced On Hazing Charges Ryan Burke, left, who was a fraternity brother at Penn State University’s shuttered Beta Theta Pi chapter, walks with his attorney Philip Masorti. Burke was sentenced on hazing chargers on Tuesday, July 31. The former Penn State fraternity brother was sentenced for his role in the death of fraternity pledge. 21-year-old Ryan Burke and was sentenced to three months of house arrest and 27 months probation for the 2017 death of Tim Piazza. He was also ordered to perform 100 hours of community service and pay fines and restitution. Prosecutors, however, were hoping to put Burke behind bars for at least three months.



Iran Rejects Trump Offer Of Talks As A Dream, Without Value. Iran’s President Hassan Rouhani Attends A News Conference At The Chancellery In Vienna, Austria July 4, 2018. Senior Iranian officials and military commanders on Tuesday rejected U.S. President Donald Trump’s offer of talks without preconditions as worthless and “a dream”, saying his words contradicted his action of reimposing sanctions on Tehran.

HOUSTON (July 30, 2018) – Houston Community College is pioneering a program to ensure students earn a level one certificate, receive resume writing assistance and get help with job interviews in just one semester. The “Take One & Done” program is being offered at HCC’s Southeast College Eastside Campus.

“Students come full time and we will provide financial aid, child care from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. if necessary, and they will get a level one certificate in one of seven programs,” says Melissa Gonzalez, president of Southeast College. “We looked specifically at these programs, where there are jobs and there is a demand for workers.”

“Take One and Done” includes level one certificates in the following programs:

1. Welding Technology-Basic Welding Helper



2. Construction Management Technology



3. Industrial Electricity Electrical Helper



4.Business Management-Insurance Specialist/Associate



5. Logistics & Supply Chain Management - Maritime Logistics & Specialist



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HCC’s “Take One & Done Launches Students Into Workforce

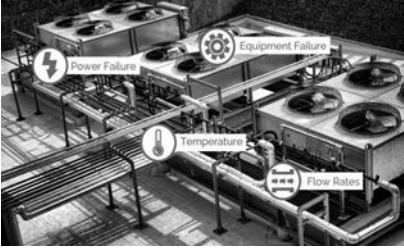
Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor



6. Real Estate – Residential



7. HVAC



While taking courses at the Eastside Campus, HCC will help students prepare for job searches. “They will be getting a professional resume done through our career center and we are going to provide interviews for every single student,” Gonzalez says. “We are working with our industry partners to make sure they are available to interview on site before the students are finished for the semester.”Gonzalez emphasizes that students also have the option to pursue an associate degree and prepare for a transfer to a four-year university. “We actually have an advisor on site from the University of Houston Downtown for our business program, but also for general UHD programs,” Gonzalez says. “Texas Southern and the University of Houston also have a presence on our campus.”

- Fall 2018 Registration Begins May 7
- 16-Week Classes begin Aug. 27
- Morning and Evening Classes
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- Payment Plans Available
- Financial Aid and Childcare (For those who qualify)

Registration for classes is going on right now. For additional information on “Take One & Done,” go here: <http://www.hccs.edu/campaigns/take-one>. A video about the program is available: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=33bKFwl-tbk&feature=youtu.be>

About HCC
Houston Community College (HCC) is composed of 15 Centers of Excellence and numerous satellite centers that serve the diverse communities in the Greater Houston area by preparing individuals to live and work in an increasingly international and technological society. HCC is one of the country’s largest singly-accredited, open-admission, community colleges offering associate degrees, certificates, workforce training, and lifelong learning opportunities. To learn more, visit www.hccs.edu.

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U.S. President Donald Trump

Last Monday, the Trump administration announced that it was stripping approximately 260,500 Salvadoran immigrants — who’ve been in the US for at least 17 years, since a 2001 earthquake — of temporary legal status as of July 2019.

It’s the latest, and most significant, blow in the administration’s fight against Temporary Protected Status, an immigration program that lets the government allow immigrants to stay in the US and work legally after their home countries are struck by natural disasters or war.

El Salvador is the fourth country for which the Trump administration has announced an end to TPS protections over its first year. In total, the administration has set up more than 320,000 immigrants to lose their legal status over the course of late 2018 and 2019 (and possibly as many as 375,000, depending on what it decides to do with 57,000 Honduran immigrants this spring).

The overwhelming majority of those immigrants have deep roots in the US. And Salvadorans might have the deepest roots of all: Approximately 192,700 US-born children have at least one parent who’s on track to lose legal status due to the administration’s Monday announcement.

The Trump administration argues that the TPS program was never intended to allow immigrants to stay for 17 years, and that it needs to end temporary status to provide a “permanent solution.” But it’s unclear, at best, that the Trump administration will be interested in pushing Congress to legalize hundreds of thousands of Central American (and Haitian) immigrants. Furthermore, the administration is telling Salvadoran immigrants that they have 18 months to make other arrangements to stay in the US or pack their bags.

After two decades in the US, hundreds of thousands of families will now have to decide whether to return to one of the most violent countries on earth — or remain in the US as unauthorized immigrants and try to slink into the shadows.

Temporary Protected Status serves as a form of humanitarian relief, offered to nationals of countries struggling with the aftermath of war, natural disasters, or other humanitarian crises where conditions on the ground make it difficult for people to return safely. Ten countries — El Salvador, Haiti, Honduras, Nepal, Nicaragua, Somalia, Sudan, South Sudan, Syria, and Yemen — are currently in the program, which is overseen by the Department of Homeland Security and is granted in six- to 18-month intervals that can be renewed as long as DHS deems a designation necessary.

El Salvador was on the TPS list in the 1990s during its long and bloody civil war, but was

Trump Wants 260,000 Immigrants To Return To El Salvador After Decades In The United States

Trump’s Attacks On Humanitarian Immigration Has Become A Full-Blown War

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor

removed in 1992 (though a related program, Deferred Enforced Departure, protected Salvadorans from getting deported through 1995). In 2001, though, after an earthquake struck El Salvador, the government allowed Salvadorans in the US to apply for TPS again. In the intervening 17 years, it’s renewed protections 10 times.

To enter the program, nationals of a designated country must clear a number of conditions: They must maintain a relatively clean criminal record and pass a background check, they must pay a \$495 processing fee when they first apply for the program and every time their status is renewed, and they must reside in the United States at the time of their country’s designation. This usually means that TPS beneficiaries are undocumented immigrants who were already in the US, those who overstayed a visa, or those who hold some other form of temporary immigration status.

TPS beneficiaries are granted authorization to work in the US (and in some cases the ability to travel internationally) and a reprieve from deportation. But outside of that, TPS doesn’t grant many other benefits; beneficiaries do not have legal permanent resident status, and while a small number of beneficiaries may be eligible for green cards through the sponsorship of a US citizen family member, the program is not intended to provide a path to citizenship.

In practice, that meant that once a country’s TPS was up for review, presidents had two choices: They could renew TPS for that country, kicking the can down the road; or they could terminate it and give thousands of people no way to stay legally in the US.

Over its first year in office, the Trump administration has made it clear that it wants to completely overhaul the basis on which the US grants legal status to immigrants. It envisions a “merit-based” immigration system in which individual immigrants are selected based on their high level of education and relevant professional skills — and the government has no obligation to let immigrants come to or stay in the US just because their homes and families are already here. There are a lot of current US immigration policies that run afoul of the Trump administration’s ideas of merit, but TPS might be the biggest affront to their vision. Not only does it extend legal protections to people based almost entirely on what’s happened in their home countries, rather than what they can contribute as individuals, but it applies to people who were already living in the US when TPS was granted — instead of

allowing the US to select immigrants in advance. But the fundamental problem, from the Trump administration’s point of view, is that TPS is designed to be temporary, and a temporary program shouldn’t be leading people to settle in the US. To that end, the administration has taken nearly every chance it’s gotten to wind down TPS protections. In September, it announced that it was giving about 500 Sudanese a final 18 months on TPS. In November, it hit 59,000 Haitian immigrants and 2,500 Nicaraguan immigrants with the same 18-month deadline. (It was unable to come to a decision about the fate of 57,000 Honduran immigrants, forcing an automatic six-month extension, which will expire this spring.) And now it’s doing the same for what it estimates to be 260,500 Salvadorans.



This is not exactly the way the Trump administration tends to describe El Salvador. The country is the home base of MS-13 — the transnational gang Trump has referred to as “monsters,” and which he and his top officials use to argue for everything from tightening asylum laws to defunding cities that don’t maximize compliance with federal immigration agents. In fact, the administration has bragged about how many MS-13 gang members it has deported to El Salvador — the very same people it’s now claiming are proof of the country’s ability to absorb returned immigrants.

In 2015 (the most recent year for which data is available from United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime), El Salvador had 108.64 homicides per 100,000 people. That made it the deadliest country in the world by a wide margin — the next most dangerous, Honduras, had 63.75 homicides per 100,000 — and 22 times as dangerous as the United States.

El Salvador is slightly safer than it was in 2015. In January 2017, the country had its first day without a murder in two years. But by fall, violence was spreading again: In September, the country witnessed 435 homicides, or almost 15 per day.

American policy has deeply shaped El Salvador’s recent past anyway. The US supported one of the sides in the civil war that led to the country’s original TPS grant. In the 1990s, efforts to deport immigrants who had been convicted of crimes played a major role in exporting MS-13 — which started as a Los Angeles prison gang — to El Salvador, where it took root.

More recently, the flow of Salvadorans seeking asylum in the US, usually out of fear of violence

from MS-13 or other gangs, is disproportionately made up of unaccompanied children and families — in part because of US laws offering guarantees for standards of treatment (and, in the case of unaccompanied children, options for legal status) that aren’t available to single adults. (This has been cited by some Republicans as a reason to change those laws, so as not to “incentivize” children or families fleeing violence to come to the US.)



The Trump administration’s line on TPS is that it’s not about the broader stability of a country, but just about recovery from the initial disaster. But the federal government has the authority to grant or extend TPS based on “ongoing armed conflict” or “other extraordinary temporary conditions.” Asked on Monday about those criteria, a senior administration official simply said it did not believe those conditions applied to El Salvador in 2018.

Salvadorans aren’t just the biggest population of those with TPS; they’re also the best integrated. According to the CMS estimates, 85 percent speak some English, with 48 percent speaking English “well, very well,” or exclusively. Their labor force participation rate is 88 percent — above the US average of 63 percent — and their unemployment rate is 5 percent. There are 45,000 mortgages held in the names of Salvadoran TPS holders. TPS holders make up a substantial portion (16 percent) of all Salvadorans in the US.

From the administration’s perspective, all of this is a sign that previous presidents screwed up, by allowing TPS protections to continue after the initial disaster that spurred them faded into the past. But its relentlessly narrow focus leaves out a large group of US citizens: the 192,700 children who have been born in the US to at least one parent who is a Salvadoran with TPS.

Most of these children are almost certainly under the age of 21 (the age at which they’d be able to sponsor their parents for green cards, under certain circumstances). Those TPS holders who were eligible for legal status have probably already gotten it — University of Kansas professor Cecilia Menjivar estimates that tens of thousands of Salvadoran immigrants got TPS in 2001 but no longer have it (presumably because they’ve gotten permanent legal status or left the country). When a reporter asked on Monday whether the Trump administration was telling parents with TPS to take their US-born, US citizen minor

children to El Salvador, the senior administration official said, “We’re not getting involved in individual family decisions.”



As the Trump administration has ended TPS for country after country, it’s started to emphasize that it’s up to Congress to find a “permanent solution” to address “TPS is temporary.” the fate of the people it’s stripping of legal status. Because TPS was never intended to be permanent — and because it doesn’t itself provide a pathway for people to become permanent residents — the administration maintains that if Congress decides that these 260,000 Salvadoran immigrants (and the 62,000 other immigrants whom it’s stripping of TPS in the next year and a half) should stay in the US, it’s up to Congress to let them apply for green cards.

And, of course, the administration has already pulled a move like this before. When it announced in September it was winding down the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, Trump claimed he was giving Congress six months to find a “permanent solution” for the 700,000 immigrants protected from deportation under DACA; with less than two months left, negotiations are nearly at a standstill, in large part due to the administration’s apparent insistence on getting its entire immigration agenda passed as part of a DACA deal.

If the administration really does think that a “permanent solution” that will allow Salvadorans to stay in the US is forthcoming, it’s not telling Salvadorans that. The purpose of delaying the end of TPS by 18 months, the administration says, is to give current TPS holders time to adjust to permanent status if eligible — and to make arrangements to leave the US if not.



Eighteen months may seem like a long time. But for people who’ve been in the US for 18 years — with children who’ve never lived anywhere else — that may not be nearly enough.

The immigrants facing the loss of TPS have another option the administration didn’t specify (and that it doesn’t tend to acknowledge). They can remain in the US after their legal status expires, becoming unauthorized immigrants. They’d join the 11 million current unauthorized immigrants, many of whom were under little risk of deportation in the final years of the Obama administration and now have to deal with the fear of ICE apprehension on a daily basis. They’d join the other tens of thousands of immigrants who will have lost TPS and stayed. And they’ll join, unless Congress has come up with a bill in time, the 700,000 US-raised immigrants who are at risk with the end of DACA.

The Trump administration says it wants permanent solutions. But in its first year, its immigration legacy has been to move more and more people into contingency and vulnerability. (Courtesy <https://www.vox.com>)

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