

EL SOL- IN DEFENSE

By June Brown

I realize that there are people who are against helping immigrant workers. These people should meet the immigrant workers. They should hear their stories and how they risked their lives to come here at great financial cost. How many of them left their small children and loving spouses and aging parents in order to find work to provide for their families.

Our tax monies that our politicians are putting in their pockets illegally far outweighs the cost of whatever services and assistance these poor people receive.

Forget the politics. These immigrants are fellow human beings just trying to survive on this planet. You cannot blame them for trying to put shoes on their children's feet and food in their mouths or medicine for their aging parents. They work very hard for every dollar they earn. They help us and harm no one. Some of our U.S. Born legal citizens rob banks and sell drugs to get their money. Do we deprive their families of government assistance? Many of these immigrant workers not only leave their loving families, small children, spouses and elderly parents for years at a time to come to the land of opportunity, but they live crowded in a home with several others of the same status, have very little and complain about nothing. They are so very grateful that they have the opportunity to work, however difficult the work may be, so that they can provide food, clothing and other necessities which their families would not otherwise have.

Who can look down on any human being that is willing to work so hard under very difficult and adverse conditions, and for their families, not for themselves? Imagine living in a country where you struggle to speak the language, and make the sacrifice of not being with your loved ones or watch your babies grow up, just so you can provide your family with the bare necessities.

I for one firmly believe that those who have must help those that do not, especially when it is through no fault of their own.

As far as the legality of these people, the center provides assistance to all residents of Jupiter. The only requirement for assistance is that they be a resident of Jupiter. The center does not ascertain the legal status of anyone. Catholic Charities presently sponsors the center and offers services to persons of all faiths and persons with no faith.

I could go on and on, I do get upset when someone criticizes these people, especially when the critics have not ever met or spoken to any of them or have any idea what the living conditions are in their native countries. To know them is to love them. They are for the most part very humble, hardworking and grateful to have the opportunity to work here.

Editors Note- We have also asked for official comments from the center as well as legal council. We will include comments as they arrive. While it is unlikely that opposing sides will ever agree, we felt it an important enough topic to print the concerns of both sides allowing each Heights resident to formulate their own opinions.