



# Perspectives

## THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

America's history is riddled with major crises that sharply divided the people and took years, often decades, to settle. Today, we are definitely again in the midst of such a period – especially when it comes to the immigration issue.

Almost every aspect of the immigration debate in the national press is presented as almost impossible to solve because there is no “consensus” among the American people.

However, in a democratic nation where the will of the people is supposed to prevail, the question must be asked: shouldn't we be able to move forward if a majority of the American people favor certain actions?

Poll after poll favors the government taking stronger, more forceful stands to confront today's immigration crisis – which is soon to become the primary driver of America's population growth.

The majority of America is in support of the very things NPG members are fighting for. They are strongly on the side of securing our nation's borders, they don't want Congress to enact amnesty/citizenship legislation, they support policies to harshly punish sanctuary cities, they don't want the U.S. to take in large numbers of refugees, they favor scaling back legal immigration, they want changes to today's present “anchor baby” rules, and they wholeheartedly endorse greater enforcement of our nation's current immigration laws.

You would think that our leaders would respond to this public pressure to enforce our laws and work to reduce immigration numbers – but you would be wrong.

NPG works hard to keep our immigration and population problems in the public eye as we advance forward-thinking solutions. As we've seen in recent years, the power of the mainstream press – which has fully embraced the agenda of the “open-border” lobby, and is doing their best to sell the American people on lax immigration policies rather than responsible solutions – presents us with an extremely powerful foe.

Their tactics are simple: dominate the debate, and delegitimize those of us concerned about illegal immigration – which is radically changing our nation and dangerously contributing to population growth. For groups like NPG, that means that no matter how solid our research and facts – and no matter how committed we are to sharing the truth about out-of-control immigration – we are going to face serious resistance from the media. Sadly, that doesn't advance the dialogue or help make progress toward resolving our nation's problems.

In late 2014, *New York Times* reporter Julia Preston wrote a story titled: “The Big Money Behind the Push for an Immigration Overhaul.” It focused on how today's immigration battles are the result of a number of years where immigrant rights groups “have grown from

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## NPG TAKES ON THE CHALLENGES OF 2016

We're already a number of months into 2016, and NPG is on target to fulfill our dynamic agenda – which includes our critical educational and outreach projects, powerful research papers, and growing our membership. To make the most of your NPG activism, we urge you to take these key steps today:

- **Sign up for our NPG email program** and receive regular commentary from NPG staff, press releases as they are issued, and exclusive first-look access to new NPG publications;
- **Order a free DVD featuring our new NPG Short Video Series** to share with friends, family, and coworkers;
- **Financially support NPG's education projects**, including our annual Scholarship Contests and our ongoing distribution of NPG Teacher's Packets;
- **Join fellow NPG members in signing our petitions** to elected leaders at the federal and state level, **write letters to the editor of your local paper(s)** on population and immigration issues, and **respond to NPG questionnaires** to share your valued opinions;
- **Read and share NPG Forum papers** that you receive in the mail, which will arm you with the latest data on population and immigration issues.

## FORGET SOMETHING? RENEW YOUR 2016 NPG MEMBERSHIP TODAY!

*YOU are the heart of NPG*, and we very much need you to keep your membership dues up-to-date. Serving as an active member is the most important thing you can do to help advance our mission. By renewing your NPG membership **TODAY**, you help fight for a livable future – and help resolve America's critical population and immigration problems.

## THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

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a cluster of lobbying organizations into a national force" due to tens of millions of dollars from major philanthropies such as the Ford Foundation, the Carnegie Corporation, and other multi-million dollar entities.

So where do we go from here? As it stands, America's immigration issues are not going to be solved overnight. However, NPG is hard at work to advance reasonable, responsible solutions to our nation's immigration-driven population growth – and we're not backing down from our big-money opponents.

The 2016 elections will hopefully bring forth new leaders who will stand by our side in this "must win" battle. We have already been pushing full-steam-ahead with our national **Educate the Candidates Campaign**, which aims to get our message into the hands of every candidate for the U.S.

Presidency. We are bringing our materials to key staff members in all Congressional offices – and we have been in touch with every single Presidential campaign. *Thanks to your support*, we have been hard at work to make sure our nation's elected leaders get the real facts about immigration and its impact on U.S. population growth.

While NPG does not have access to huge philanthropic bank accounts, we do have an ardent army of members and supporters who know we are on the right side of the population/immigration argument. We will continue to join forces with other like-minded organizations, representing the majority of Americans who stand ever-vigilant. Together, we will work to ensure the pro-immigration lobby does not succeed in its quest to destroy our immigration laws – and our nation.

## SANCTUARY CITIES UPDATE

Last year's tragedy of San Francisco resident Kathryn Steinle – who was gunned down in broad daylight by a recently-released illegal alien – triggered a huge national debate about the existence and purpose of "sanctuary cities" across our nation.

"Sanctuary city" is the term which generally applies to jurisdictions that do not allow the enforcement of federal immigration laws – usually by denying police or municipal employees the right to inquire about an individual's immigration status, or by refusing to detain illegal immigrants who have been arrested for a crime. As of October 2014, the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency (ICE) reported there were 276 "sanctuary" jurisdictions within the U.S.

Following the exposure of sanctuary cities as a major impediment to law enforcement and a threat to public safety, NPG took action. We rallied our members – and reached out to thousands more like-minded citizens via the Internet to take action. We asked them to sign a petition demanding that President Obama act immediately to "put the full weight of the federal government behind eliminating sanctuary policies once and for all."

Our message seems to have gotten through. In late February, the Chairman of a House Appropriations Subcommittee demanded that the Justice Department act immediately to enforce U.S. immigration laws. If the Justice Department failed to act, Congress warned that it would block federal grant money from going through to any jurisdiction that adopts sanctuary policies.

NPG applauds this long-overdue – and much needed – action to enforce this critical component of our federal immigration laws. Last year, President Obama threatened to veto a bill in Congress that would have eliminated federal grant funds for sanctuary cities. This policy of acquiescence and accommodation for illegal aliens only serves to encourage millions more to cross our borders or overstay their visas. If Congress continues to fund the cities which enact these policies, they are complicit in encouraging the illegal immigration crisis in our nation – which can add as many as 500,000 people to our population each year. Current sanctuary cities in the U.S. include Chicago, Houston, San Francisco, Philadelphia, New Orleans, Baltimore, and many others – as well as dozens of counties across the U.S.

Since this issue came to the fore last year, many state legislatures – including Wisconsin, Florida, Mississippi, and North Carolina – have taken action against sanctuary cities.

Many individuals and groups are skeptical that the Justice Department will act soon to make the elimination of sanctuary cities a reality. The key thing is that Congress has begun the process to demand the enforcement of our nation's laws – and outlined a powerful consequence if the White House refuses. In the coming months, NPG will continue to keep the pressure on leaders at all levels of government to eliminate sanctuary cities altogether. Their existence acts as a major impediment to preventing illegal immigration – which stands in the way of our mission to reduce U.S. population to a much smaller, truly sustainable size.

## THE GROWING PRICE FOR AMERICA'S DETERIORATING INFRASTRUCTURE

As recent national headlines have focused on the dangerous levels of lead in Flint, Michigan's drinking water, we are witnessing the tip of the iceberg as to a potential health crisis that will grow rapidly across the nation.

It can all be traced to the fact that the bulk of our nation's present infrastructure was set in place decades ago, and it is

deteriorating at an alarming rate. Our nation's highways, bridges, dams, water and sewer systems, and other critical elements of daily life were not designed for the 323 million people of today – let alone the estimated 400 million people the U.S. will have to accommodate by mid-century.

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The *Detroit Free Press* ran a recent story reporting that “more than 6 million lead service lines exist across the country,” and that Fitch Ratings (an international credit rating agency for municipal bonds) has noted “the capital costs to replace these lines could exceed \$275 billion.”

As our nation’s population continues to grow, we can expect the toll on our infrastructure to rise. And the longer we delay, the more costly these massive repairs will be. We must work to reduce our population size now – before it is so large that our communities can no longer accommodate basic needs like clean water.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY, MALTHUS

**“The power of population is indefinitely greater than the power in the earth to produce subsistence for man.”**

– Thomas Malthus

This February marked the 250<sup>th</sup> birthday of Thomas Malthus, the 18<sup>th</sup> century economist who wrote “An Essay on the Principles of Population,” alerting the world to the dangers of population growth. Even after more than 215 years, his views on this important issue are still incredibly relevant – and Malthus deserves full credit as the expert who first opened the world’s eyes to the true consequences of overpopulation.

Reflecting on Malthus’ legacy, Charles Bulman (a member of Population Matters in the United Kingdom) succinctly summed up today’s challenges related to this issue by noting:

“As David Attenborough said: ‘All our environmental problems become easier to solve with fewer people and harder – and ultimately impossible to solve – with ever more people.’”

The stark reality of population growth that Malthus exposed centuries ago stands as one of the greatest threats to mankind today. NPG is pleased to help advance his teachings. As Mr. Bulman noted in concluding his praise of Malthus: “The math speaks for itself – the choice is ours.”

## EVER-GROWING NUMBER OF ILLEGALS IN THE U.S.

For a number of years now, it has been commonplace for government leaders and the media to refer to “an estimated 11 million” illegal immigrants currently in the United States. Quite logically, with a continued influx of illegals crossing the border, overstaying their visas, and finding other ways to live here, that number cannot remain stagnant forever.

In recent months, the Center for Immigration Studies (CIS) performed an intricate analysis of 2015 U.S. Census data. The study concluded that of the record 61 million immigrants and their American-born children presently in the United States, **an estimated 15.7 are here illegally.**

Steve Camarota, the Center’s Director of Research, noted: “What is the absorption capacity of our nation’s schools, health care system, infrastructure, and... labor market? What is the impact on the environment and quality of life from significantly increasing the nation’s population size and density? With some 45 million legal immigrants and their young children already here, should we continue to admit a million new legal permanent immigrants every year?”

The CIS report also found that the normal pattern of immigration to the U.S. changed radically after 1970. Prior to then,

there were only 13.5 million immigrants – or about 1 in 15 U.S. residents – whereas that number today has increased to nearly one in five. This new report only underscores the Census estimate that immigration will soon replace births as the primary driver of U.S. population growth.

NPG believes that “real” numbers are a powerful weapon in bringing more and more Americans to our side in the fight to get immigration under control. We applaud CIS’ research, and hope that America’s mainstream media will stop carrying on the charade of underreporting the facts in this important debate.

In 2015, NPG published *Remembering the Immigration Act of 1965: the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of a Population Game-Changer* in an effort to draw much-needed attention to the disastrous 1965 Immigration Act. This and other NPG Forum papers are available for **FREE** download on the NPG website (**[www.NPG.org](http://www.NPG.org)**), or you may contact our office by phone (703.370.9510) or email ([npg@npg.org](mailto:npg@npg.org)) to request a copy be mailed to you. (For your convenience we have also placed an Order Form with this newsletter, which includes this and other NPG Forum paper titles.)

## NPG’s 2016 SCHOLARSHIP CONTESTS

Through the years, our annual NPG Scholarship Contests – which have been awarded to scores of students throughout the country – have helped some of America’s brightest young people meet their educational expenses. Each year, high school seniors and currently-enrolled undergraduate students are invited to address a population-related challenge and offer their individual insight to finding a solution. This year we offered two avenues of competition, and our NPG Scholarship Committee is currently reviewing submissions from all across America.

Our **Photography Scholarship Contest** asked students to: “Submit your photo of a threatened U.S. environmental treasure

that you believe is worth protecting, along with an explanation (40-50) words of how population growth has put this treasure at risk.”

This year’s **Written Advertisement Scholarship Contest** challenged applicants to: “Create an original written advertisement appropriate for a magazine or newspaper that would help persuade the general public to support programs that are designed to slow, halt, and eventually reverse U.S. population growth.”

Scholarship prizes range from \$500 to \$2,000 and our 2016 winners will be announced on our website (**[www.NPG.org](http://www.NPG.org)**) in the coming months.

***“Love your materials. They provide a great resource for students as they consider issues of environmental stewardship and sustainability, connecting both to the ongoing concerns of continued population growth nationally and globally.”***

– Allen Mills, Teacher  
Racine, WI

## THANKS, NPG!

Distributing our highly-acclaimed NPG Teacher’s Packets is something we very much look forward to every year. Not just because the number of teachers requesting our valuable information continues to increase annually – but also because, as these numbers grow, so do the compliments.

Teachers across the nation are excited to receive our full-color NPG Population Poster, Student Fact Sheets (targeted to grades 6 thru 12), and **new this year** NPG’s professionally-produced DVD that compiles our NPG Short Video Series. In just 2 minutes each, these three short films highlight the negative impacts of population growth in the U.S.: the sources of growth (including immigration), sprawl and development, and environmental damage. In addition, teachers are able to choose from a selection of NPG Forum papers to use in a classroom discussion. Among this year’s most requested papers are: *Dying of Thirst: Population Growth, Climate Change Aggravate Water Shortages*; *Population: An Unacknowledged Presence at the World Food Crisis Talks*; *It’s the Numbers, Stupid!*; and *The Meaning of Sustainability*.

Perhaps the greatest thing teachers appreciate is that these valuable teaching tools come to them *absolutely free* – compliments of **generous NPG members like you**, who understand the critical need to get our message to America’s young people. We at NPG – and educators across the country – greatly appreciate your partnership. Together, we are all working for a livable future!

## SUMMING UP AMERICA’S IMMIGRATION CRISIS

Our nation’s immigration laws started to fall apart more than two decades ago – and lax immigration enforcement can be traced to the administrations of both George W. Bush and Barack Obama. As it is hard for many to understand how extensively our nation’s once-workable immigration system has fallen victim to politics in recent years, reporter Ira Mehlman recently offered the following at Townhall.com:

“For the past seven years, the Obama administration has systematically dismantled the immigration enforcement capability of this country, substituted its own policies for constitutionally enacted laws, granted de facto amnesty and work authorization to people who are here illegally, abused every discretionary authority to allow inadmissible aliens to enter and remain in the U.S., and ignored every state and local policy aimed at thwarting the removal of foreign criminals.”

NPG has long-condemned this policy of acquiescence and accommodation of illegal aliens. It serves only to encourage millions more to cross our borders illegally, or to knowingly overstay their visas in an effort to remain here permanently. By eliminating every consequence of breaking our laws – and by making every financial and social benefit available to those who willfully circumvent our immigration system – we are adding to our nation’s population and robbing our grandchildren of a livable future.

This is why NPG works to promote an official U.S. population policy – which must include the dramatic reduction of legal immigration, and the immediate enforcement of our laws in order to eliminate illegal immigration. Until we drastically reduce immigration to our nation, we will continue our present path of growth – which will only lead to disaster.

NPG, Inc. is a national 501(c)(3) nonprofit membership organization. Since 1972, our primary purpose has been to educate the American public and policy makers regarding the damaging effects of U.S. population growth on our environment, natural resources, and quality of life. We advocate national policies which work to slow, halt, and eventually reverse population growth — until we reach a much smaller, truly sustainable size. For more information on NPG, visit our website at [www.NPG.org](http://www.NPG.org).



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