

# I.C.E. & Civil Rights

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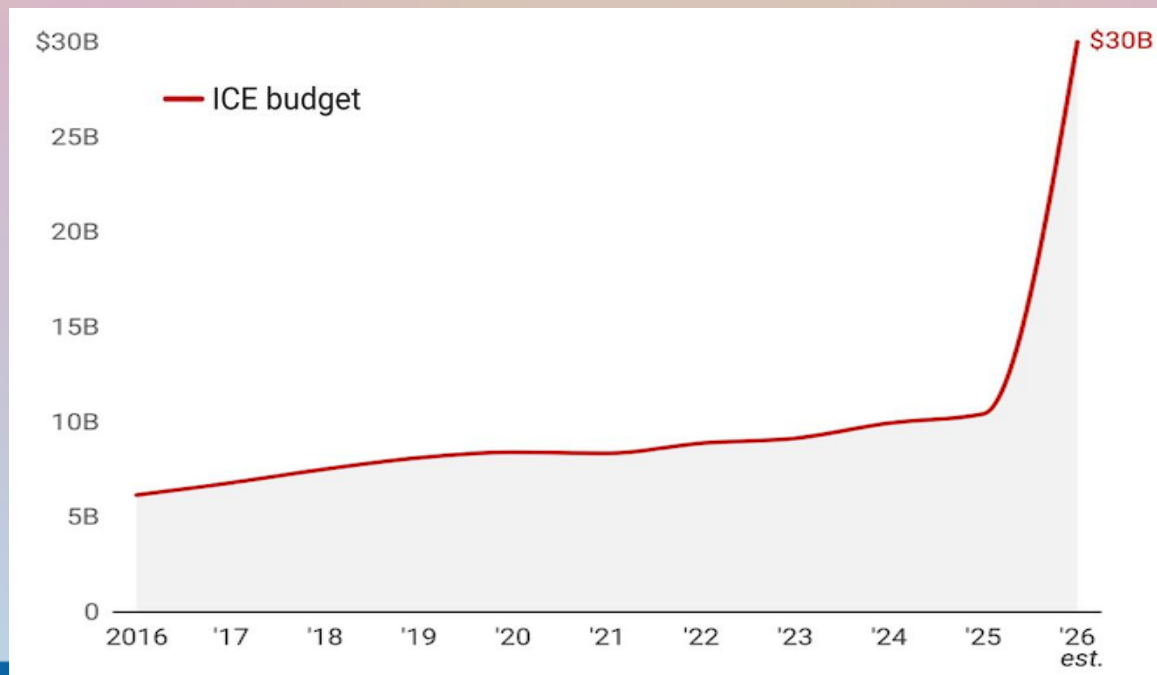
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# Social Background

- Immigrants, legal and illegal, are economically important
- Especially to farm, construction, hospitality
- See  
<https://www.americanimmigrationcouncil.org/press-release/immigrants-keep-economy-strong-as-congress-debates-mass-deportation/>
- Bad politicians & news stoke fear, hate, division
- Want us afraid of everything except billionaires
- Distracts people from overall corruption

# I.C.E.

- Immigration and Customs Enforcement
- Charged with deporting illegal immigrants
- ICE budget set to triple to \$30 billion in 2026
- See Stephen Semler @stephensemmler.bsky.social



# ICE & Civil Rights

- Wear masks while conducting arrests
- Work from unmarked vehicles
- Few hearings; ignored due process
- Arrest people who record arrests
- Arrest innocent brown people
- Illegally arrest people who attend hearings
- No more national injunctions per Trump v. Casa (2025); ruling weakens civil rights protections

# ICE Deceit

- Agents show administrative warrants and pretend they are judicial warrants that allow arrest
- ICE impersonates local police to enter and search
- See <https://columbialawreview.org/content/ice-ruses-from-deception-to-deportation/>
- Some agents lie about being in business
- This should all be illegal

# Secret ICE Police

Image from Newsweek.com



# It's Not Just ICE

- USA has long targeted poor, minorities, protestors
- Every study shows racial bias in prosecution
- Many YouTube videos show overzealous police
- I was hassled, threatened, falsely arrested, injured with handcuffs, prevented from testifying
- Powerful people and their servants violate rights
- ICE makes targeted enforcement obvious
- If immigrants aren't safe, neither are we
- **The whole system protects power, not rights**

# More Issues

- Multiple levels and branches of government work together
- Can lead to unquestioned support of each other
- Constitution? What Constitution?
- People who don't defend their rights soon find they don't have any
- Aristocrats support institutions that promote their power and violate rights
- Money talks, we all listen. Must eat to live.

# Oath Of Office

- Many police, prosecutors, judges, and politicians swear to uphold our Constitution
- Sioux Falls example
- I, {name}, having been elected to the office of Mayor within the City of Sioux Falls, counties of Lincoln and Minnehaha County South Dakota, do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of the State of South Dakota, and the charter of the City of Sioux Falls. And that I will faithfully discharge the duties of my office.

# How Useful Is An Oath?

- People often disregard oaths, truth
- Self-esteem is more important
- Feeling safe in your group is critical
- Fear of rejection, fear of bullies, fear of tyrants
- Working for the powerful is easy
- Protecting the powerless and the Constitution is often terrifying because that works against power
- We need leaders to do just that

# Moral Recommendations

- Have courage
- Protect democratic ideals
- Uphold the oath of office

# Political Recommendations

- Build a coalition of mayors to defend civil rights
- Make a law: arrests must occur while displaying a name badge and not wearing a mask
- Local police should watch and record ICE
- Check for civil rights violations
- Civil penalties – city should sue agents under federal law
- Criminal penalties – prosecute agents for violations

# Ensuring Accountability

- Local governments can hold our national government accountable
- Really!
- Local police have the authority to arrest federal agents (i.e. ICE)
- Local governments can sue individual federal agents (i.e. ICE) for violating civil rights
- We need to do that
- Slide added August 13, 2025

# Enjoy The Night

