

Southern Immigration: Importance of National Security

How does the United States of America attempt to achieve its goals in promoting national security at the southern border?

Summary

The problem at the border has been heavily debated ever since Donald Trump has been elected to office. The Republicans and Democrats have differing views on the problem and how to address it. Since a Republican is in office, the push is for stricter regulations. Trump is putting the security of the US citizens over new immigrants coming into the country illegally. This debate peaked during the longest government shutdown ever with one side pushing more money and one side for as little as possible. Congress then decided to give Trump 1.4 billion dollars for border security. Overall this administration is pushing for stricter rules and more money for border security, however the left is pushing back. Trump, his cabinet, and parts of the government are putting different policies in place ensuring the safety of US citizens with strong border security.

Strategies Increasing Border Protection



Military Involvement

In November of 2018, the US sent thousands of troops to help support the border patrol agents. The troops were put on the border to help the border patrol agents prevent immigrants from entering from the caravan. However the troops were very limited in what they were and were not allowed to do. The troops will be placed in the southern states of Texas, Arizona, and California over the course of 45 days.



Speech: State of the Union

President Donald Trump used the platform of the State of the Union to further push the importance of border security. He preached how illegal immigrants should not be allowed in the country as a safety and morality problem. The argument he uses was trying to make sure of the safety of the US citizens. Using the State of the Union speech allows Trump to reach the masses.



Government Aid

The government gives a good amount of aid in the form of money for border security. Since 1986 the government has spent 263 billion dollars on immigration enforcement. That is a small percentage of the discretionary spending the government does every year. For example this year only there was 1.426 trillion dollars to spend, and 263 billion over the course of 33 years is not even close to a lot of money.



Evaluation of Strategies

The United States of America uses a range of policies and strategies in order to maintain safety at the border. However since the republicans and the democrats are so split on how it should be done, these policies not only have to contribute to foreign affairs, but also help to persuade the other side to get what they want. At the moment since there is a republican president, they are pushing for stricter regulations relating to illegal immigration. The policies used by the Trump administration so far include: Military Involvement, speeches, and government aid. Military Involvement out of the three strategies was the least effective. This is because the military was very restricted in regards to what they were allowed to do at the border. If the military was given more responsibility, the more effective the strategy could have been. Donald Trump uses speeches in order to push his point across to the public. This strategy is very effective because even the unbiased public can be persuaded, especially from someone in power with 81% people identifying as an independent supporting his state of the union. Finally the government does give aid in order to prevent illegal immigration. Congress grants a small amount of money each year, however since it is a low percentage of the possible spending each year, the aid is not nearly as effective as it should be. Overall the aid is very helpful, however there should be an increase in spending in order for the aid to be as efficient as possible and really crack down on illegal immigration.