

Residents across the southern border call for revitalization of their communities as part of immigration reform, not legislation that will militarize their neighborhoods.

For too long, border communities have been left out discussions regarding border policies. Through border quilts, border residents are expressing their desire for peace, justice and dignity as opposed to excessive, expensive, and extreme policies.

<i>The border is more than a line.</i>	<i>Border militarization results in loss.</i>	<i>Revitalize not Militarize!</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The southern border region is the home of 15 million people, which includes communities, families, students, workers and more. ● The southern border is the cornerstone of the US economy and worth investing in. ● 1 in 24 jobs in the US are directly related to trade originating from border ports of entry. ● The southern border region is a unique cultural and historical space that is sacred to many who live here. ● It is the home of 1st nations like the Tohono O'Odham located in Tucson, a people who have resided in the region for thousands of years. ● It is the home of El Paso, the city with the lowest crime rate in the country. ● It is the origin of southwestern style, flavor and culture, which New Mexico is known for. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Militarizing border communities betrays our values and results in loss of civil and human rights. No community should endure more checkpoints or more government surveillance, nor should they find themselves with more federal officers than police officers. ● Border militarization results in loss of professional standards for border agents, since quality is sacrificed for quantity. Federal agents receive less training and are less accountable than police officers. ● Border militarization results in loss of life and humanity. Since 2010, 21 unarmed civilians have been killed by border agents. ● Border militarization has resulted in the loss of the 4th amendment for all who live in within 100 miles of the border. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Border residents should be seen as people with dreams and hopes, not through triggers and scopes. ● We need student and home loans, not drones over our homes. ● We should be about education, not deportation. ● We should be separating ICE from police, not families. ● We should be upholding due process, not for-profit detention centers. ● We should be investing in border community infrastructure, not bloating a border agency rife with corruption. ● We should be upholding federal officers to professional standards, no more out-of-control Border Patrol. ● We need oversight and accountability, not overkill.