

Legally Human

Date: Fri, 8 Sep 2006 13:41:33 -0400 (EDT)
From: Cooper John N <jcooper@bucknell.edu>
To: Letters <letters@dailyitem.com>
Subject: Trying again

Sir:

The letter in Sunday's (3 IX 06) Daily Item titled "Illegals are illegal" demands rejoinder.

First, the title is false. NO human being is 'illegal'. Ningun ser humano es ilegal! Persons' presence or behaviors may be, but their humanity is not, on the face of it, 'illegal'.

Second, observing the prevalence of flagrant traffic laws' violations for instance, in the central Susquehanna Valley, I'd warrant there is no one so self-righteous as to merit pointing the finger at others' 'illegality'. As the most famous of all 'law breakers' admonished, "Let he who is without sin cast the first stone!"

Third, this author's lumping "illegal immigration" with "drug dealers or sex offenders" is a gross mischaracterization. Far more 'illegal' immigrants contribute constructively and beneficially to our society than do it any harm! The stains on the cheeks of Lady Liberty must be from tears of shame at what has become of the country that once greeted newcomers with the welcome:

"Give me your tired, your poor,
Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,
The wretched refuse of your teeming shore."

If the author wishes to stamp out immigrants' 'illegal' behavior, how about starting at home, first, with that of the businessmen, families and farmers who provide immigrants and foreign laborers the incentive to come here, exploit and abuse them, and then try to send them back 'home' when they are done with them?

John N. Cooper