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## **Open Letter to the President of the United States and Members of Congress**

**Subject:** Strengthening Accountability and Protecting Americans from Exploitation by Transnational Networks

**Dear Mr. President and Members of Congress,**

I write as a concerned citizen and veteran, dedicated to the protection of the American people and the preservation of our national integrity. In recent years, our communities have witnessed alarming increases in exploitation, trafficking, and coordinated hybrid threats carried out by individuals who operate across national, digital, and familial lines. These crimes often involve complex networks that blur distinctions between domestic and foreign actors, exposing deep vulnerabilities in our enforcement systems.

This open letter urges Congress and the Executive Branch to strengthen legal and policy mechanisms that hold offenders accountable, ensure justice for victims, and prevent families or sponsors who knowingly enable exploitation from misusing the privileges of U.S. residency or citizenship.

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### **I. The Emerging Challenge**

Across the nation, law enforcement and intelligence agencies continue to uncover networks that exploit immigration systems, digital platforms, and financial loopholes to target Americans. These operations frequently involve family or community-based coordination, where one member's status shields another's misconduct.

When the sons or relatives of immigrants engage in acts of exploitation, violence, or coercion against Americans, the legal system must be equipped to trace accountability to its source. No individual or family should benefit from the rights of U.S. citizenship while undermining the safety of the nation that granted them refuge and opportunity.

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### **II. Accountability Through Lawful Means**

The United States must lead with both justice and constitutional integrity. Our approach must never punish individuals for ancestry or association, but it must decisively address complicity and concealment of criminal conduct.

To that end, I urge consideration of the following lawful measures:

- **Investigative Reform:** Expand interagency collaboration between the FBI, ICE, DHS, and DOJ to identify networks in which family ties are used to facilitate exploitation, trafficking, or organized crime.

- **Conditional Immigration Oversight:** Review existing policies to ensure that sponsors or permanent residents who knowingly conceal or assist criminal conduct can face lawful consequences, including revocation of benefits or removal after due process.
  - **Enhanced Denaturalization Standards:** Apply denaturalization procedures only in cases where citizenship was obtained through fraud, perjury, or deliberate concealment of criminal enterprise.
  - **Victim Advocacy Expansion:** Provide resources and protection for American victims of trafficking, coercion, and digital exploitation to ensure they can report without fear of retaliation.
  - **National Data Coordination:** Create a centralized intelligence framework to track hybrid threats that combine criminal, digital, and cross-border components.
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### III. Cultural and Civic Responsibility

True citizenship carries both privilege and responsibility. Immigrant families who choose to build their lives in the United States must do so in full alignment with American law and civic principles. Upholding justice, respecting women, and protecting community safety are fundamental expectations, not optional ideals.

When we reinforce these standards, we defend not only our borders but our shared sense of identity and dignity. American citizenship must remain an honor reserved for those who uphold the values that sustain this Republic.

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### IV. A Call for National Unity

This effort is not about division, but preservation. The vast majority of immigrants contribute meaningfully to our nation's strength and prosperity. Yet those who exploit our openness, or who raise their children to weaponize it, threaten all who call this country home.

It is the duty of leadership to ensure that our laws reflect reality, that our enforcement is consistent, and that our compassion never becomes a loophole for abuse.

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### Conclusion

The United States stands at a critical moment. We face adversaries who operate in shadowed networks that defy traditional boundaries of law, nationality, and technology. To meet this challenge, our government must act decisively, modernizing enforcement, closing legal gaps, and restoring the full dignity of citizenship as both a right and a responsibility.

I respectfully call upon the President and Members of Congress to champion legislation and executive action that protects Americans, upholds the rule of law, and strengthens the moral foundation of our nation.

**Sincerely,**

**D. Cowdrey**

United States Air Force, Honorably Retired  
Service Veteran

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