

# SEEKING ASYLUM AT THE US-MEXICO BORDER

*Seeking asylum is a human right* that is enshrined in both U.S. and international human rights and refugee law.

*"Everyone has the right to seek and enjoy in other countries asylum from persecution."*  
*Article 14, Universal Declaration of Human Rights*

U.S. law allows people to seek asylum once they are in the U.S., *regardless of their manner of entry.*

## WHY DO PEOPLE LEAVE?



People are often fleeing war and violent conditions, many rooted in legacies of U.S. intervention



*Detention and exclusion is rooted in systemic anti-Black racism*

Most people get deported anyway

## THE MYTH OF CROSSING "ILLEGALLY"

**THERE IS NO "ILLEGAL" WAY TO SEEK ASYLUM. U.S. LAW ALLOWS PEOPLE TO SEEK SAFETY REGARDLESS OF MANNER OF ENTRY.**

However, under President Biden's current border policy that makes the CBP ONE process mandatory, people are punished and are often deported if they try and seek asylum without an appointment.

## WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU ARRIVE AT THE U.S.-MEXICO BORDER?

OR WHAT IF WE  
*WELCOMED PEOPLE*  
WITH DIGNITY?

### OPTION 1

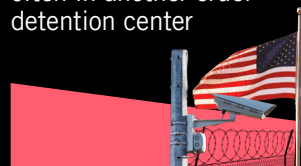
#### CROSS IRREGULARLY

Arrive between ports of entry and immediately get deported back to the danger you fled

**UNLESS** you shout to an officer that you have a fear of returning to the country you fled, convince them to grant you an interview, find an attorney within a few hours, and attend the interview in border jail

*Good luck if you don't speak English!*

Few proceed with their asylum case, often in another cruel detention center



### OPTION 2

#### ARRIVE AT A PORT OF ENTRY WITHOUT AN APPOINTMENT

Get turned away and pushed back into danger in Mexico

#### DAANGEROUS WAITING CONDITIONS

- Kidnappings and extortion
- Gender-based violence
- Unsafe encampments



### OPTION 3

#### WAIT FOR AN APPOINTMENT

Wait for months in Mexico until you "win the lottery" and get an appointment to seek safety

## PEOPLE ARE NOT THE PROBLEM!

### COORDINATED SYSTEM OF WELCOME

- Cheaper than detention programs
- Help better balance budgets and services between new and long-term community members



### IF YOU MANAGE TO GET AN APPOINTMENT, IT'S LIKE HITTING THE JACKPOT

- Avoid detention
- Quick processing
- Immediate Eligibility to apply for a work permit



## CBP ONE MOBILE APP

CBP ONE is the **ONLY** way to schedule your **MANDATORY** appointment to come to a port of entry. People without an appointment are almost always turned away.

### CBP ONE CHALLENGES

- Tech glitches
- Access issues (knowledge and language)
- Surveillance and privacy concerns



**THE MAJORITY OF PEOPLE SEEKING SAFETY DO NOT GET A FAIR SHOT AT PROTECTION. INSTEAD, THEY ARE DETAINED IN CRUEL CONDITIONS AND SENT BACK TO THE HARM THEY FLED.**