



Story of our Movement



History: 1850's to 1950's Immigration Laws & Racism

- Chinese Exclusion Act (1882) & other Acts banning particular people
- The Quota Law of 1921
- National Origins Act of 1924
- Bracero program 1942-1964
- Operation Wetback 1954





Movement: 1850's to 1950's

Civil Rights Movement



Farmworkers Movement



History: 1980's - 2000

IRCA 1986 Amnesty and Backlash

- **1994 California Prop 187**
- **1994 NAFTA**
 - Displaces millions in Mexico
- **1996 IIRAIRA, AEDPA, Welfare Reform:**
 - Enacts harsh enforcement to keep family and employment-based immigration

Movement: 1980's – 2003

- SEIU - Justice for Janitors Campaign
- “Fix-96”
- 2000: AFL-CIO resolution
- SEIU organizes 20,000 person Los Angeles sports arena event
- 2001: DREAM Act introduced
- 2003: Immigrant Worker Freedom Rides



Movement Lessons 1980-2003

- Decision by SEIU, labor, and community groups to make voter mobilization a priority
 - Naturalization drives & voter registration drives
 - “California went blue – next, the country!”
- Vision of what might be possible for a national movement
- Need to develop from service to organizing
- Need to build a stronger coalition and base



History:2001-2006

- **2001 9/11 hysteria and aftermath**
NSEER Special registration, PATRIOT Act, Bush-Fox immigration reform talks collapse
- **2003** Latinos pronounced nation's largest minority group at 37 million
- **2005** Kennedy/McCain bill
- **2005** Sensenbrenner bill HR-4437

Movement: 2006-2007

- Mass Mobilizations
- Labor & community groups come together to do electoral work together – raised more money, had better coordination, in more places
- What did we learn?
 - We can mobilize!
 - “Today we march, tomorrow we vote!”



Movement: 2007-2008

- **Response to Raids**
- **Legislative Push**
- **Kennedy/Kyl bill**
- **Anti-immigrants shut down Capitol switchboard**



2007-8 Lessons Learned

➤ **What did we learn?**

- Movement dis-unity could eat us alive
- Our opponents were fired up
- We simply did not have enough power

2007-8 Lessons Learned

What did we learn?

- 4 Pillars: integrated Legislative + Policy + Communications + Field
- Fix our capacity to make calls
- Built the first coast-to-coast field program
- Keep investing in voter mobilization

History: 2008-2010

- Obama wins, Democrats control House and Senate
- Stimulus and Affordable Care Act passes
- Reform Immigration FOR America organizes – but we never get a bill
- Skyrocketing deportations



2008-2010: Lessons Learned

- Power of Coming Out – Undocumented and Unafraid!
- Proved our list-building and phone-call ability
- Were in denial about the President's leadership and how long the health care fight would take
- Can't just organize on the Left

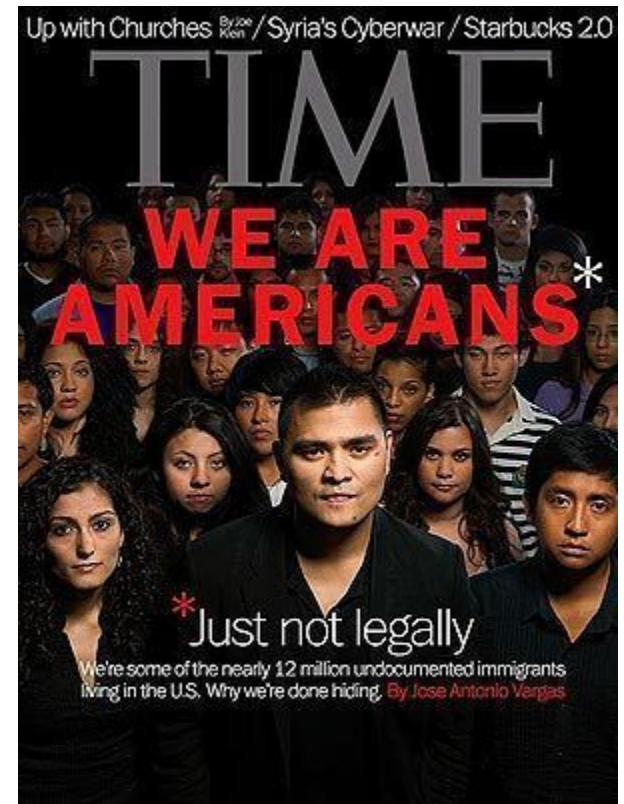
History: 2010-2012

- Arizona passes SB-1070 and Alabama passes HB-56
- 2010: GOP wins House
- Latino vote keeps Senate in D's hands
- DREAM Act vote in lame duck passes House, fails in Senate
- Deportations/enforcement continues



Movement: 2010-2012

- Movement fights back against AZ, AL, etc. Ousts AZ Senate President Russell Pearce in recall election
- Continued coming out
- Electoral and movement pressure wins DACA from Obama administration
- Latino & immigrant vote delivers Obama's re-election



2012 Lessons Learned

➤ 2012 Election

➤ Our narrative broke through



Overall Lessons: Grow the Movement

All along the way we

**➤ Built political capacity
and expanded the map**

➤ Took risks

➤ Built alliances