UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

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BAMN Meeting Tonight @ 6pm - Make UofM a Sanctuary Campus, Defend DACA

1 message

Kate Stenvig <kstenvig@umich.edu> Mon, Feb 17, 2020 at 10:41 AM
To: BAMN Info List <bamn-list@umich.edu>

BAMN Coalition to Defend Affirmative Action, Integration and Immigrant Rights and Fight for Equality By Any Means Necessary

BAMN Meeting, Monday, February 17 @ 6:00pm

Espresso Royale on S. University in the basement

Rally & March: Thursday, February 27th, 12pm on the Diag

Make the University of Michigan a Sanctuary Campus for Immigrants

DACA Must Stay, Trump Must Go

By Any Means Necessary

Build Community Defense to Stop I.C.E. Raids and Deportations: take action to defend your neighbors, friends, family, classmates and co-workers from I.C.E. terror.

On Tuesday, November 12, 2019 the United States Supreme Court heard Donald Trump's lawyers argue that Trump has the right and exclusive power to end DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals). They also heard from lawyers who support DACA. The pro-DACA lawyers can make brilliant arguments against the unilateral right of Trump to end DACA but as things stand now, the Supreme Court will rule that Trump has the right to end DACA whenever he wants. Whether DACA is saved or ended will not be determined by what the Supreme Court rules. It will be decided by who has more power, our immigrant rights movement committed to bringing Trump down and saving DACA, or Trump and his rabid racist anti-immigrant supporters.

Our movement is bigger and has more popular support, but desperately needs leaders who are fighting to win. Students at Western International High School in Detroit have been leading the way with their continued walkouts and marches to save DACA and remove Trump. Our campus must join them and set an example for campuses across the nation. The University of Michigan has a long proud history as a leading center of struggle for civil rights, the anti-war movement, the defense of integration and affirmative action. We must be that again now in the fight to defend immigrant rights and democracy from Trump's racist, tyrannical attacks. That means becoming a sanctuary campus for immigrants, in words and in action. The community of Ann Arbor has already been strong in organizing against ICE raids and deportations, blocking ICE when they have tried to enter businesses, mobilizing to win the freedom of our community members from detention. Trump's escalated attacks on sanctuary cities must be met with a more organized Resistance. Our campus can be an organizing hub for the whole community and a model for all of Michigan.

The mass, militant, independent youth-led civil rights/immigrant rights movement is the only force that can stop Trump

Immigrant-bashing is the only real strength of the Trump regime, but it is also Trump's greatest weakness. It is the only issue that can tear him down just as quickly as it built him up. The impeachment trials should have been focused on what really matters to the anti-Trump movement, his racist attacks on immigrant youth and communities, the crimes against humanity at the border, separating children from their families and holding them in cages. They should have been the occasion for mass demonstrations to converge on Washington D.C. as we did after Trump's inauguration. The Democrats' fear of a mass movement of immigrants, young people of all races, fighting for freedom and equality, has crippled them once again from doing what was needed to defeat Trump. The Republicans' acquittal of Donald Trump signifies their complete subjugation to Trump; they have signed

onto his right to be a dictator under the law and the Constitution. In other words, the same cowardly politicians that have been failing us from the beginning, have now failed in epic, historic, and global proportions. Every day Trump takes another step to consolidating his authoritarian regime.

Luckily, those in powerful positions are not the only force that can make and change history. We have a force far greater. The immigrant rights movement remains the only force standing in Trump's way. We already know we have the power to defeat Trump. On January 21, 2017, the day after Trump's inauguration, millions of people across the country and all over the world marched and rallied against Donald Trump. And when Trump initiated his racist anti-immigrant Muslim travel ban a few weeks later, we took over airports and defeated Trump's first anti-immigrant racist attack against our communities.

It's time we recognize our own power and stop putting our faith in so-called leaders who are afraid of us, our anger, our fight for dignity and equality, and our power.

We have the power, if we choose to use it, to remove Trump from office NOW, and to keep our families, friends and our whole community safe from the terror of I.C.E. raids and deportations. We have the power to stop the deportations of refugees and asylum seekers who face torture and death if they are returned to their countries. We have the power to free the tens of thousands of people, the young children and babies held in cages in Trump's

immigrant concentration camps at the border, to stop the racist attacks by Trump's supporters, racist police and I.C.E. thugs who are emboldened by Trump. If we lead, we will find a vast outpouring of humanity eager to join us.

JOIN BAMN! BAMN meetings are every Monday at 6pm in the basement of Espresso Royale on S. University

BAMN is committed to building youth leadership for the new civil rights/ immigrants movement. This moment in history calls for bold leaders who are prepared to stand on the truth and lead through action. BAMN exists to develop the conscious political method needed to turn our struggles into fights that can win - learning both from the successes and mistakes of our own struggles, and from the most successful leaders of mass movements like Martin Luther King and Frederick Douglass. Our movement is integrated and international, and we are fighting for fundamental equality and freedom for all of humanity, for a new kind of society. We are fighting to put the oppressed in power. Our movement fights for open borders, for a definition of citizenship that says if you live here, work here, go to school here, contribute to this society, you are a citizen and should have full citizenship rights. We are not a 'single issue' campaign because the struggles are not separate and we can't win if we separate them. If you agree with the views and demands in this leaflet, BAMN is for you. Join us, contact us, talk to us. We can make and change history.

BAMN - Coalition to Defend Affirmative Action, Integration & Immigrant Rights and Fight for Equality By Any Means Necessary - www.BAMN.com

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