



KOREAN AMERICAN COALITION LOS ANGELES

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Statement from the Korean American Coalition-Los Angeles on the President's Discriminatory Executive Order on Immigration

LOS ANGELES (Feb. 2, 2017) - On January 27, 2017, President Donald J. Trump signed an Executive Order suspending entry into the United States for all refugees, as well as citizens from seven predominantly Muslim countries.

The Korean American Coalition - Los Angeles (KACLA) opposes the Executive Order that exhibits parallels with the history of previous exclusion laws and unconstitutional actions of injustice. The Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882 prohibited the immigration of Chinese laborers. In 1939, Congress rejected a bill to accept 20,000 Jewish refugee children due to an "America-first" approach. In 1942, more than 110,000 Japanese-Americans were deported against their will and incarcerated in internment camps.

The time has come for us to stand in solidarity and truth. Our United States of America was established upon a foundation built by immigrants -- people from all over the world seeking a place of refuge in which to build a life of safety and freedom for their families. However, President Trump's Executive Order on immigration betrays American values and the trust of our immigrant communities. KAC believes this Executive Order is un-Constitutional and un-American. We stand together not only as a community of immigrants, but as people from all walks of life that firmly stand against this gross injustice.

To those who share our concerns, we ask you to contact your Senators and Representatives. Let them know that this Executive Order not only violates the Constitutional right to religious freedom, but also goes against the principle of what it means to be a citizen in the Land of the Free.

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Korean American Coalition-Los Angeles (KAC) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization established in 1983 to promote the civic and civil rights interests of the Korean American community. KAC endeavors to achieve these goals through education, community organization, leadership development, and coalition-building with diverse communities.

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