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## An Interview With Herman Baca

# Impact Of The Immigration Act

By: Daniel L. Munoz

*"Much of the dialogue on the recent passage of the Immigration & Reform Act has been carried out between the INS and members of the society who wish to facilitate the process or who see the Act as a means of acquiring wealth. Herman Baca, chairman of the Committee On Chicano Rights is one of the few who sees beyond the obvious and observes the ACT from its political implications."*

L/P Much of what we hear about the Immigration & Reform Act is centered around the Amnesty provisions, why?  
Baca: Greed. There is a lot of money that is going to be made during the implementation of the Act.

The Act should have been named the "Coyote, Lawyer Employment, and INS Rip-Off Act of 1986.

L/P Who stands to profit by the passage of the Immigration & Reform Act?

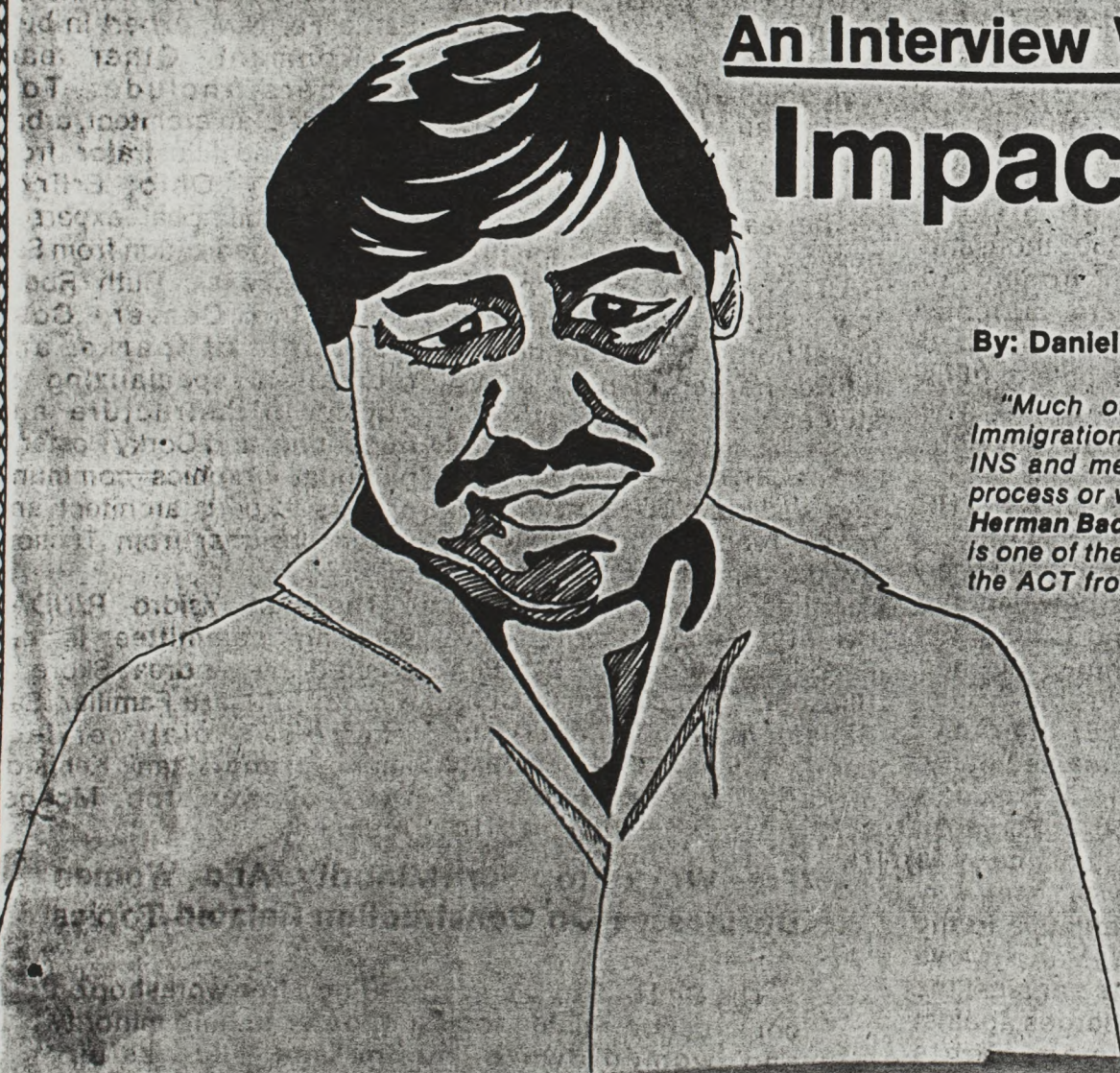
Baca: First, the INS itself. They go to the head of the line as the biggest Coyote of all. They say upward of four million applicants will sign up for amnesty. They want to charge them (immigrants) a minimum of \$185 to apply. At this rate, they stand to reap a windfall of



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over \$740,000,000 dollars. This is on top of the \$400 million dollars Congress has already allocated and authorized for the Amnesty program. Add these two together, and the INS stands to make more than One Billion dollars on the Amnesty program!

(See Baca, pg. 2)



Herman Baca...

# Baca Calls Reform Act A Sham



L/P Why?

**Baca:** Because of their sordid history of bigotry and racism. Because of the inconsistency of having the agency being the administrator of Amnesty with the power to control the border. Would the Jews trust the Gestapo to Administer their resettlement? Would the Blacks in 1965 liked to have the KKK administer the Civil Rights Bill? Would the Indians have trusted Custer to protect their rights? How can we accept the INS with their past history of deception, mistreatment, and their handling of the Bracero program. A program their own director calls the "slave program" of that era? The INS has created "Operation Wetback." They have run a military-type campaign along the border. An agency whose Commissioner Howard Ezell has been quoted as saying, "If they catch a wetback, they should skin and fry them." We are being asked to set aside their past history of brutality, rapes, murders and untold violations of Civil and Constitutional Rights. These agents have spent a lifetime raiding our homes, our factories, our churches and now we should trust them?

L/P Then, what is the real purpose of the ACT if they in fact put the American version of the Gastapo in charge?

**Baca:** Its obvious, the INS has just reinstated the 1987 version of the 1940 Bracero program. "Sign-up by mail; send us your check and you will have your work permit." America industry, Agri-Business and the Secondary Labor market will

once again have a large quasi-legal pool of cheap coolie labor all complements of the INS and the United Staes Congress. At the minimum, they have been guaranteed a cheap source of labor controlled by the INS for the next 10 to 15 years.

L/P The "sign-up by mail

program," then, is but a strategem to provide a methodology which circumscribes all other safeguards and provides cheap legal labor for the U.S.?

**Baca.. Absolutely.**

L/P How will the Immigration & Reform Act affect the rest of the populace?

**Baca:** The new rules, if carried out, could impact on every household that employs maids, gardeners, cooks, etc. It would impact on the small business man who uses undocumented workers to reduce overhead. The INS has been granted far reaching powers by the Congress in this Act. They now can enter your home, heretofore a man's castle, without benefit of a Search Warrant, subpoena or advance notice. Immigration is not at issue here. What is at stake is the systematic destruction of our Bill of Rights and our Constitution. These are two documents that U.S. Attorney General Meese, has made abundently clear, has little regard for. It is your protection that have just been set aside, illegally, I would believe, by the U.S. Congress and the President of this country in the name of immigration.

L/P Who else stands to profit?

**Baca:** The silent beneficiaries, the Medical profession. The INS is requiring every applicant take a medical exam which will cost between \$50-\$65 per applicant. The exam has to be made by an INS designated and approved physician. These "approved" doctors stand to make well over \$300 million dollars in examination fees! The potential for exploitation is considerable. This fee will have to be paid by the applicant.

L/P It appears the Act will make some people very wealthy at the expense of the Undocumented and the American Taxpayer.

**Baca:** These are not the only ones, we haven't included the "fly-by-night" Agencies, Notary Publics, Churches, and other Consultants. Aside from the fees they are charging (between \$500-\$2,000), the applicant will be asked to pay for the duplication of documents, photos, fingerprints, affidavit fees to have required documents sent from their home lands, etc. Before this is over there will be a lot of millionaires around, but also a lot of people going to prison.

L/P After all of this, do you believe any of the applicants will ever become citizens?

**Baca:** Very few. The undocumented will work and pay taxes, that he won't be able to collect for years, and he will have to sign up for the draft before he can apply for amnesty! The undocumented simply get the chance to play

Russian Roulette with the INS. Besides a few show-boat cases, very few will ever become citizenship?

L/P Why

**Baca:** The INS itself is the most corrupt and incompetent agency of the Federal Government. To date, they are ten (10) years behind in processing the Western Hemisphere's quota of 170,000 per year! If they can't handle 170,000 applicants per year, how are they going to handle the additional 4 million applicants they will receive between May 4, 1987 to May 5, 1988.

L/P Then you think the whole Immigration & Reform Act is a farce with some other motive behind its passage?

**Baca..** The Amnesty program, as a whole, is a farce. If in fact, the Congress intends for Amnesty to become a reality they should remove the INS from control of the program and create and manpower a new agency to administer the program.

L/P How else will the Immigration and Reform Act impact upon us?

**Baca:** This country's foreign policy and its relationships with the 900 million Latinos of Mexico, Central and South America will be affected. When agents like Harold Ezell set foreign policies by demanding a concrete Berlin-type wall on the U.S.-Mexico border, and makes it publicly known, we have a dangerous precedent. When the INS, with certain elements of the Congress, arm the border with E2 spy planes, radar and other implements of weaponry, then we are seeing a dangerous trend in the conduct of our foreign policy. Congress has turned over its responsibility to Edwin Meese and the INS.

L/P If the Immigration and Reform Bill is carried out to its logical conclusion where is it going to lead us?

**Baca:** We are going to receive the same fate as has befallen the people of South Africa. . . apartheid. If, we let them.

L/P We note many so-called non-profit Hispanic agencies are jockeying with the INS to assist in the amnesty process, for a fee that is. . .

**Baca:** This is a "historical disgrace. I cannot understand how organizations that opposed both the Simpson/Mazzolli and the Simpson/Rodino Bills have been suckered into becoming an arm and extension of the hated Migra. How soon they forget 63 years of racism and deception, brutality and mistreatment. It is obvious their affinity for the do. . . longer than the truth of or. . . welfare of the