

Putting a Face to the U.S. Immigration Controversy President's Latest Speech Acknowledges Complexity of Issue, Affect on Families

Valley Forge, PA, May 12, 2011 – Today, there are an estimated 11 million undocumented immigrants in the United States, a figure President Obama shared in his [May 10 immigration speech](#) in El Paso. During this speech, the President acknowledged the impact of our current system on immigrant families, particularly the children. These families, living in the shadows, are the focus of the new bilingual resource [Listen to the Children: Conversations with Immigrant Families / Escuchemos a los niños: Conversaciones con familias inmigrantes](#) by author [Elizabeth Conde-Frazier](#).

"I don't believe the United States of America should be in the business of separating families," stated the President. And he noted, "We should stop punishing innocent young people for the actions of their parents." In *Listen to the Children*, Conde-Frazier invites the reader to eavesdrop on fictionalized conversations between immigrant parents, their children, and their caregivers in an effort to explain those actions. She addresses:

- How and why adults make the decision to emigrate from their homeland
- How the separation affects children
- What challenges eventual reunification of the family brings

[Chapters](#) on the effect of legal status, raids, and educational challenges offer insight into the realities faced by immigrant families as they attempt to make their way forward in a new land. A practical resource for immigrant parents and caregivers, *Listen to the Children* will also serve as a useful tool for educators, pastors, social workers, community groups, legislators, and others.

Listen to the Children: Conversations with Immigrant Families retails for \$13.99 and is published by [Judson Press](#), the publishing ministry of the [American Baptist Home Mission Societies](#). The book can be ordered by calling 800-458-3766 or by visiting www.judsonpress.com. *Listen to the Children* is also available at Christian bookstores, Barnes & Noble, Borders, and online retailers.

About the Author: Elizabeth Conde-Frazier, MDiv, PhD, is Dean of Esperanza College at Eastern University in St. Davids, Pennsylvania. Prior to assuming this position, she served as Associate Professor in Religious Education for the Claremont School of Theology, taught at Latin American Bible Institute, and served as Director of the Orlando E. Costas Hispanic and Latin American Ministries Program. An ordained American Baptist minister with more than 10 years of experience serving the local church, Dr. Conde-Frazier is the author of *Hispanic Bible Institutes* and coauthor of *A Many Colored Kingdom: Multicultural Dynamics for Spiritual Formation*.

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Filename: erelease_LITTOCH.doc
Directory: R:\WORD\Publicity\Spring 2011\Listen to the Children
Template: C:\Normal.dot
Title: Putting a Face to the U
Subject:
Author: abc
Keywords:
Comments:
Creation Date: 5/10/2011 3:52:00 PM
Change Number: 3
Last Saved On: 5/10/2011 5:30:00 PM
Last Saved By: RIrwindi
Total Editing Time: 82 Minutes
Last Printed On: 5/12/2011 10:12:00 AM
As of Last Complete Printing
Number of Pages: 1
Number of Words: 508 (approx.)
Number of Characters: 2,897 (approx.)