



# USA

United to Secure America

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January 15, 2002

## Questions and Answers Regarding Ads Sponsored by United to Secure America

- 1. What is United to Secure America (USA/Secure America)?**
  - a. It is a national coalition that believes immigration should be in the national interest, and that to protect all Americans, we must restore integrity to America's immigration system and effectively enforce our laws. Coalition members include Americans for Better Immigration, Pop.Stop, the Federation for American Immigration Reform, the FAIR Congressional Task Force, and Americans for Immigration Control, Negative Population Growth and NumbersUSA.com. The coalition has unique knowledge and expertise on specific areas of immigration enforcement that has formed the basis for the coalition's recommendations to Congress.
- 2. What does the coalition do?**
  - a. The coalition lobbies the Congress and works to educate the American people on the need for dramatic improvements in immigration security and reductions in overall numbers.
  - b. The coalition works to identify organizations and interests that advance the cause of sensible immigration reforms in the national interest.
- 3. What are the coalition ads designed to do and where are they running?**
  - a. The coalition ads are designed to highlight the gaps in U.S. border and document security that allowed terrorist atrocities to be perpetuated on the United States. The ads *deal with specific gaps in U.S. document security* that allowed nonimmigrant visitors to evade U.S. controls.
  - b. The ads are designed to get people to call the main Congressional switchboard to register their views on the issues raised by the ads.
  - c. *Neither the size of the ad buy nor the locations of the ads are disclosed publicly.*
- 4. Do the ads raise any issues unrelated to the loopholes exposed by 9-11?**
  - a. The ads raise only those issues pertaining to immigration security loopholes. However, the ads do recommend a reduction in the overall level of legal immigration.
- 5. Why do the ads suggest a cutback in legal immigration?**
  - a. The ads are supported by organizations that believe you cannot stop terrorism unless you control immigration. Currently the size of the immigration flow is such that the government cannot tell who is here and why. The atrocities of September 11, 2001 revealed staggering, wholesale gaps in the government's capacity to monitor visa status and compliance. The immigration control system of the U.S. is simply overwhelmed. Huge backlogs exist and it is impossible for integrity of inspections to be re-asserted in the face of ever-growing pressures for faster mass adjudications. For that matter, the government cannot even determine the true identity of persons applying for immigration benefits. Unless the size of the overall flow is reduced, integrity to the immigration system will never be established.
- 6. What does the coalition want?**
  - a. We want Congress to enact a variety of anti-terrorism and border security legislation that will provide comprehensive improvements in border security and secure ID. Several bills are now pending in Congress, including the House passed "Enhanced Border Security and Visa Entry Reform Act of 2001 (H.R. 3525) and a companion Senate version sponsored by Senators Feinstein, Kennedy, and Kyl (among others).
  - b. We want Congress to stop enacting immigration loopholes that encourage visa fraud and abuse, such as section 245(i) of the Immigration and Nationality Act— a notorious section of the law that allows aliens to pay a \$1,000 fine and avoid the consequences of a willful failure to obey the terms of a visa.
  - c. We want an Immigration and Naturalization Service that has the resources and managerial effectiveness to enforce the laws as Congress intended.
  - d. We want a reduction in the overall levels of immigration to ones consistent with our historical traditions and with sound security needs and integrity of our borders.