REAL OR RUMOR?

HOW TO VERIFY ONLINE REPORTS OF ICE RAIDS

MISINFORMATION ABOUT IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT (ICE) ESCALATES FEELINGS OF FEAR AND UNCERTAINTY IN IMMIGRANT COMMUNITIES. IT'S OUR COLLECTIVE RESPONSIBILITY TO VERIFY AND SHARE ACCURATE INFORMATION SO COMMUNITIES CAN BE BETTER INFORMED AND ORGANIZED.

USE THIS AS A GUIDE TO HELP MAKE YOUR CONTENT MORE VERIFIABLE AS WELL AS VERIFY ONLINE POSTS OF RAIDS AND IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITY BEFORE YOU SHARE SO TOGETHER WE CAN CREATE #POWERNOTPARANOIA.

IF YOU WITNESS IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITY...

Take a picture or a video. Focus your camera on agents, not the people being targeted. Film important details: agent uniforms, badge numbers, agency logos, agent names or other identifying information, vehicles, license plates, weapons, street signs, landmarks, etc. Make sure to capture the date and time,either through a timestamp or by saying it out loud. Sharing visuals and location details with your report helps people verify the information and stay safe.

Share footage with United We Dream via email: migrawatch@unitedwedream.org or 1844 363 1423 or a local immigrant rights organization so they can help verify the situation.

For more info on filming immigration enforcement, see WITNESS' resources:

lab.witness.org/project/eyes-on-ice

CHECK YOUR REACTION AND BIASES

When you see something online that fits with your own view of the world, it can bypass your critical thinking. Always double check to see if there are other reports so you're not sharing something potentially harmful to others. Emotional posts travel the furthest on social media and hoaxers use this to their advantage.



CHECK THE FOOTAGE

The internet is full of literally trillions of pictures and videos from years of smartphone use. Sometimes these old pictures and videos get reused as something new. Use a reverse image search app on your phone to see if a picture appeared online already. For videos, take a screenshot of the first frame and search for it like a picture.

This video from hoaxeye is a guide on how to reverse image search on an iPhone:

twitter.com/hoaxeye/status/1150004277533913088

United We Dream

WITNESS SEE IT FILM IT CHANGE IT

CHECK THE SOURCE

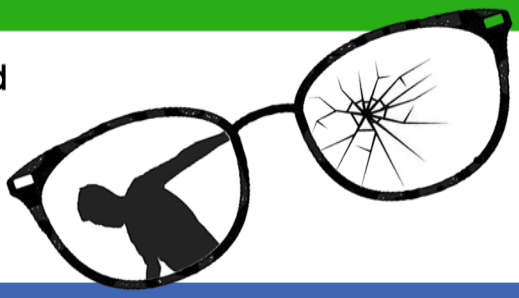


Most of the info we see online is not from the original source.
Always try to get back to where a claim or visual came from.

Ask yourself: Is this person likely to know something from first-hand experience, or from internet rumors? Are they verified? What else have they posted? Can you learn more about them on other platforms?

When sharing Know Your Rights and legal resources,check the original source who first created the guidance (UWD, ACLU, WITNESS, etc.) to make sure info is accurate and current.

DON'T SPREAD THE MISINFORMATION



Do not share a report publicly on social media if it is not verified (i.e. not from someone who witnessed it). Don't just copy/paste or screenshot reports of raids. Share the original source of reports so people can trace, confirm, or correct the authenticity of the post. If the report has already been verified, use language in your post that clearly indicates this.

REACH OUT TO TRUSTED SOURCES

Reach out directly to local immigrant rights organizations or people in the area who are trained to go out - like rapid response groups - to document and verify the report. If you witness or learn of verified enforcement activity, prioritize notifying directly affected people who you know in that area.

If you come across something that you don't have the capacity or time to verify and review, share that information with United We Dream (migrawatch@unitedwedream.org) or a trusted local immigrant rights organization who may be better equipped and prepared to review and share the information.

BE A POSITIVE AND GROUNDED INFLUENCE ONLINE

The vast majority of people who share misleading things online which aren't true, do so accidentally. We see something which fits with our beliefs and gives us a strong emotional reaction so we think our friends and family should see it too.
And we are more likely to believe friends and family than we are strangers.

Ask people, kindly, where they got a piece of information or visual if you are skeptical and try not to react with anger or panic even if that's what you feel initially.
If you see others sharing unverified reports, refer them to these guidelines.

Identify local trusted immigrant rights organizations and only share their alerts or updates especially when posting action items. Lifting up and promoting their calls to action will help cut through distracting and unhelpful information online.

And remember, always share Know Your Rights information from a place of resistance/empowerment. Ask yourself:

Why am I sharing this?
Is this beneficial for my community?
Is it going to empower my community?
Or incite fear?
Ground yourself before you post.

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WITNESS SEE IT FILM IT CHANGE IT