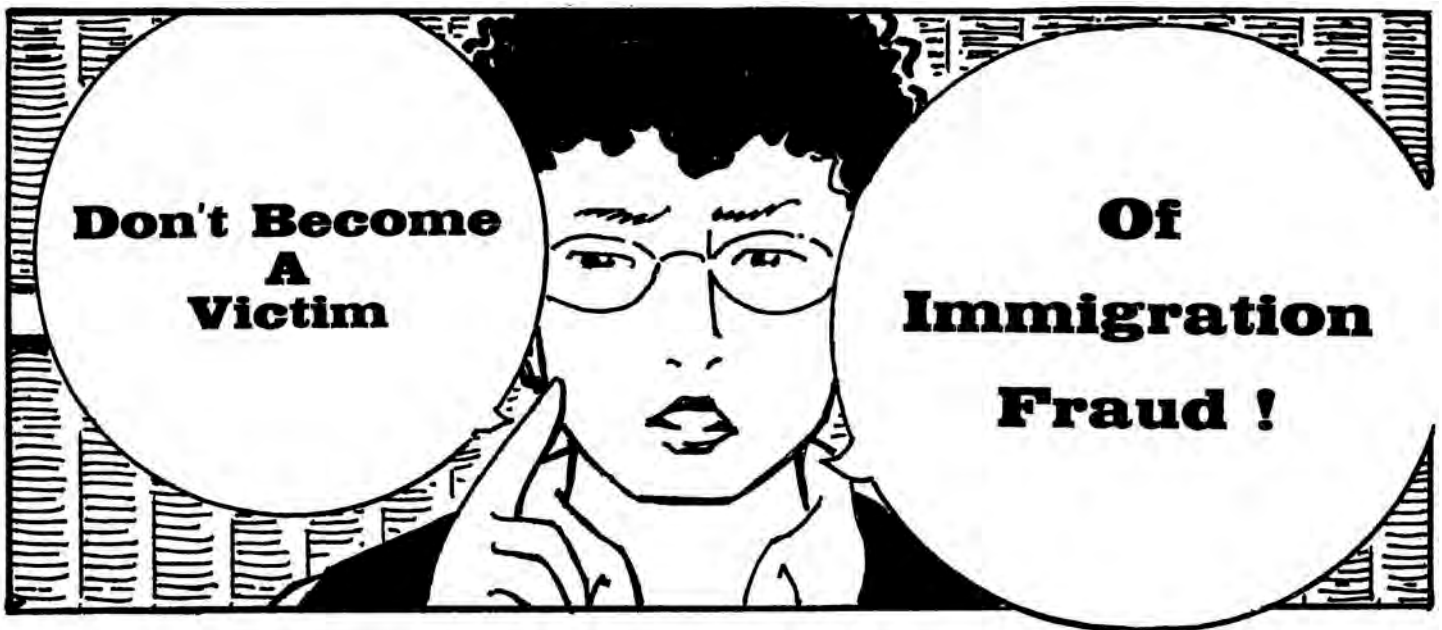


# **Watch Out When You Seek Help with Your Immigration Papers!**



## **Need Immigration Help?**

**National Edition**

**Look Inside for More Information**

Prepared by the Immigrant Legal Resource Center  
(English Version of 10 Year and Fake Amnesty Scams)

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TEACHING, INTERPRETING AND CHANGING LAW SINCE 1979

The Immigrant Legal Resource Center is a California-based national training and resource center that offers low-cost, quality services in the form of consultations, trainings and publications. Established in 1979, the ILRC's commitment to high standards in the field of immigration is demonstrated by its numerous publications and trainings, its work on precedent-setting cases in the U.S. Supreme Court and Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. The ILRC legal staff also advises nonprofit agencies and private attorneys, offering expert telephone consultation and other work on issues relating to immigration and crimes through a contract service. The ILRC continues its commitment to the immigrant community by offering its manuals and publications to attorneys, paralegals, legal service workers, criminal defense attorneys, social workers, and community-based advocates, and by sponsoring continuing legal education services for members of the California Bar Association. Over the years, the ILRC has evolved beyond the traditional definition of a resource center. Partnerships with grassroots organization have led to leadership training, social change organizing, and other community-based work focused on increasing the civic capacity of newcomers to address the laws and policies that affect their daily lives.

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Immigrant Legal Resource Center  
San Francisco, CA



**THIS BOOKLET WAS  
CREATED TO TEACH  
PEOPLE  
HOW TO AVOID  
IMMIGRATION SCAMS**

**Each of the Stories told here is based  
on a real-life situation.**

**Help for Victims of Immigration Fraud:**

Produced by the Immigrant Legal Resource Center,  
With Generous Funding from the Zellerbach Family Foundation  
Artwork and Design by Dwayne Bibby & Nora Privitera  
Translation to Spanish by Cynthia Alvarez  
Translation to Chinese by Cheryl Tsui & Janet Wong

# DEFINITIONS

## of some words used in this booklet

**CIS or US Citizenship & Immigration Services:** The federal government agency that approves or denies immigration and citizenship applications.

**Immigration Court:** The federal government court that decides whether or not people should be deported.

**Immigration Consultant:** A person or company who can help you file documents and applications with U.S. Citizenship & Immigration Services.

**Lawyer/Attorney:** A person with a law degree who is licensed by the state to give legal advice and represent people in immigration court and handle other legal matters.

**Accredited Representative:** A person who works for a non-profit organization or agency that is licensed by the federal government to provide immigration legal services and represent clients in immigration interviews and court hearings.

**Lawful Permanent Residence:** The legal status of being permitted to remain permanently in the United States, even though you're not a citizen of the United States. Also called a "green card" or "mica," or "LPR status."

**Political Asylum:** An immigration status given to people who have experienced or who have a fear of persecution in their home countries because of their political opinion, race, religion, ethnicity or membership in a social group.

**Naturalization:** The process of applying for U.S. Citizenship (you have to be a lawful permanent resident, usually for at least 5 years, before you can become a U.S. citizen).

**Cancellation of Removal:** A provision of the immigration law that allows a very small number of people to remain in the U.S. and become lawful permanent residents. To qualify, the applicant must be in removal/deportation proceedings in immigration court, and must have a parent, spouse or child under 21 who is a U.S. citizen or lawful permanent resident who would suffer "exceptional and extremely unusual hardship" if the applicant were deported. The ordinary hardship of returning to your home country doesn't count. The applicant's hardship also doesn't count. The applicant also has to have been in the U.S. for over 10 years and have good moral character.

**Employment Authorization:** A temporary "work permit" from CIS that may be granted to people with some kinds of applications pending before CIS or the immigration court.

**Labor Certification:** The first stage in a 3 stage process where an employer is applying for lawful permanent residence on behalf of an employee. The employer must prove that there is a shortage of U.S. workers in the employee's type of job.

# The "10 Year Benefit" Scam



LOOK, WE'VE GOT TO TRY THIS. I DON'T WANT TO SPEND THE REST OF MY DAYS WORRYING ABOUT IMMIGRATION, AND LOOKING BEHIND MY BACK, AND I'M TIRED OF WORKING FOR A FEW DOLLARS HERE AND THERE. I SAW HIS WORK PERMIT!



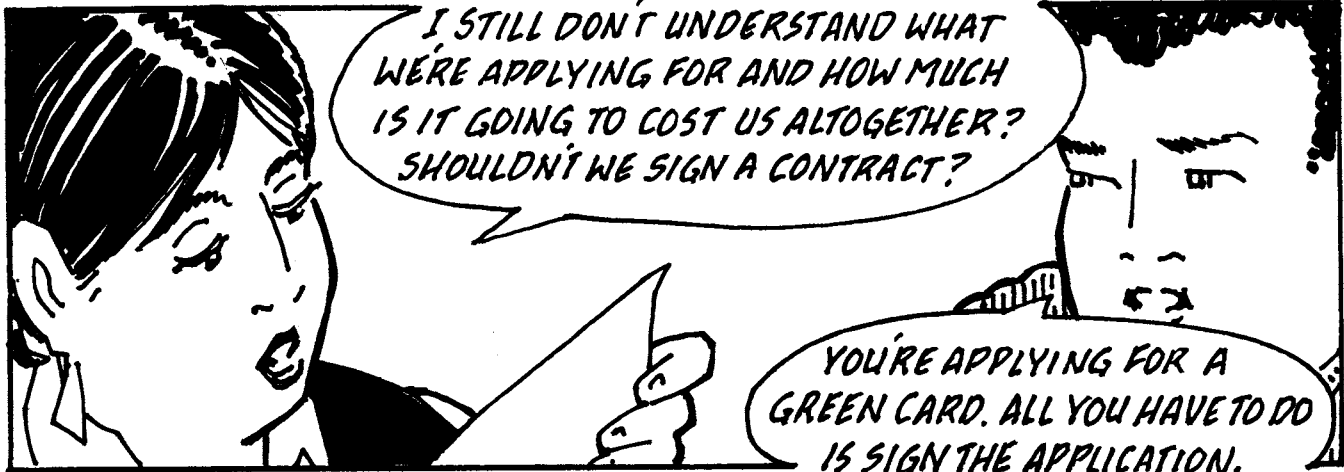
The "10 Year Benefit" Scam



WE'RE GOING TO HAVE YOU SIGN THIS APPLICATION. IT WILL GET YOU A DATE IN IMMIGRATION COURT IN FRONT OF AN IMMIGRATION JUDGE, WHO WILL GIVE YOU A GREEN CARD BASED ON YOUR MORE THAN 10 YEARS IN THE U.S.



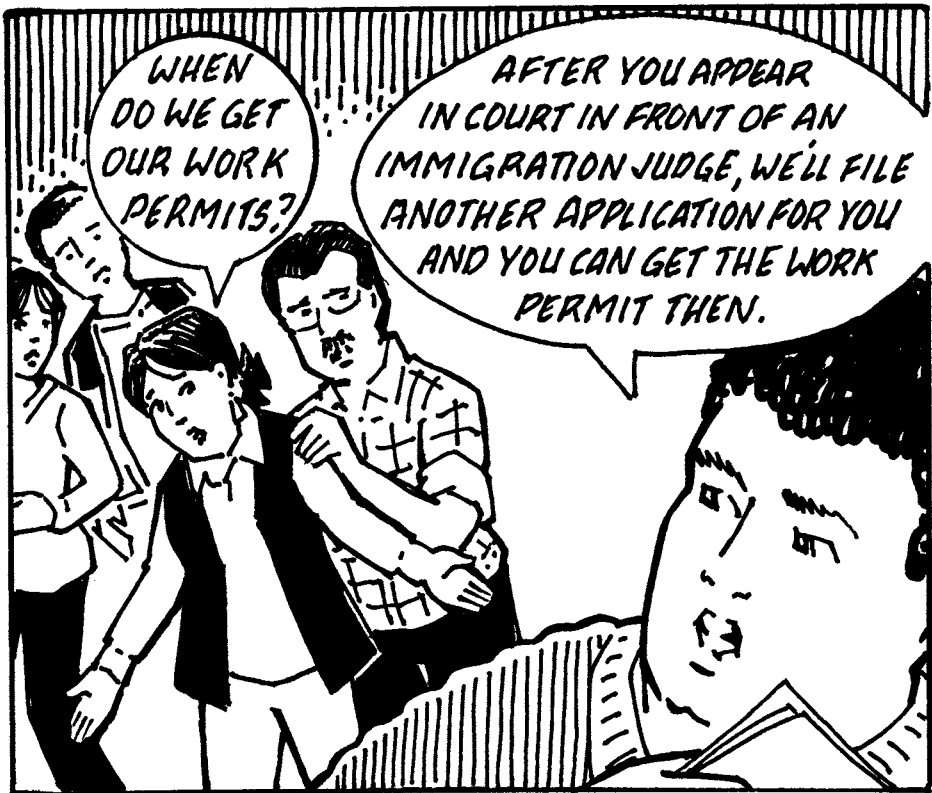
I'LL NEED YOUR \$1000 DEPOSIT, AND YOU NEED TO BRING ME ALL YOUR BIRTH CERTIFICATES, MARRIAGE CERTIFICATES, ETC.



I STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT WE'RE APPLYING FOR AND HOW MUCH IS IT GOING TO COST US ALTOGETHER? SHOULDN'T WE SIGN A CONTRACT?

YOU'RE APPLYING FOR A GREEN CARD. ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS SIGN THE APPLICATION.

WE TAKE CARE OF THE REST, I DON'T KNOW HOW MUCH IT WILL COST. IT ALL DEPENDS ON WHAT MR. NOTARIO SAYS IS NECESSARY.



WHEN DO WE GET OUR WORK PERMITS?

AFTER YOU APPEAR IN COURT IN FRONT OF AN IMMIGRATION JUDGE, WE'LL FILE ANOTHER APPLICATION FOR YOU AND YOU CAN GET THE WORK PERMIT THEN.



BUT DON'T WORRY. HE'S GOTTEN GREEN CARDS FOR LOTS OF PEOPLE THIS WAY.

The "10 Year Benefit" Scam

4 MONTHS LATER AT THE NOTARIO'S OFFICE



WHAT IS THIS?  
I CAN'T READ IT.

MY SON SAYS  
IT SAYS SOMETHING  
ABOUT ASYLUM.

WHAT IS  
THAT?

OH, IT'S ONLY A  
NOTICE FROM THE  
IMMIGRATION SERVICE  
THAT YOUR APPLICATION  
WAS RECEIVED. DON'T  
WORRY ABOUT IT. YOU  
DON'T HAVE TO DO  
ANYTHING, YOU'LL  
GET SOMETHING ELSE  
IN THE MAIL SOON.



I'D REALLY LIKE TO TALK TO MR. NOTARIO  
ABOUT IT. I'VE CALLED AND CALLED, BUT  
NO ONE EVER RETURNS MY CALLS.

HE'S VERY BUSY  
RIGHT NOW, AND  
YOU DON'T HAVE AN  
APPOINTMENT.  
RELAX, EVERYTHING  
WILL BE FINE!



2 MONTHS LATER

MR. NOTARIO'S OFFICE  
SAYS WE HAVE TO GO TO  
THE IMMIGRATION COURT  
ON TUESDAY



BUT HE SAYS WE HAVE TO HIRE  
MR. ABOGADO TO COME WITH US  
TO THE HEARING, WHO IS HE?

MAYBE WE ARE GOING TO GET  
OUR WORK PERMITS SOON.

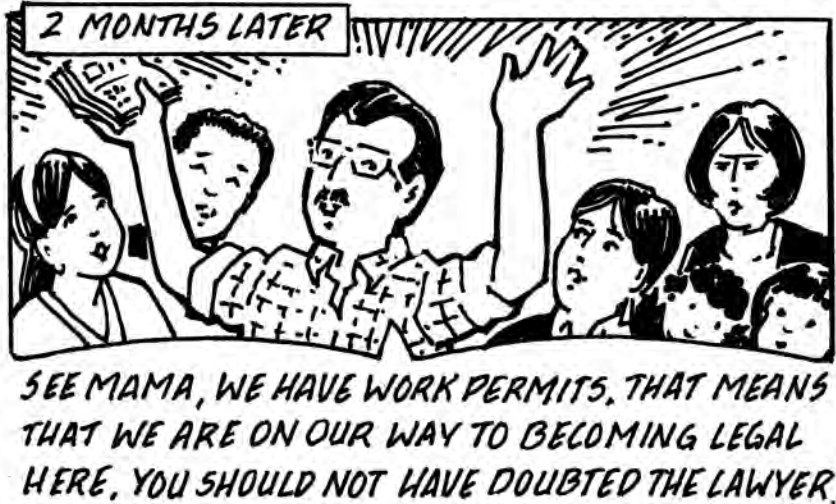


I HOPE SO BUT  
I'M SCARED.

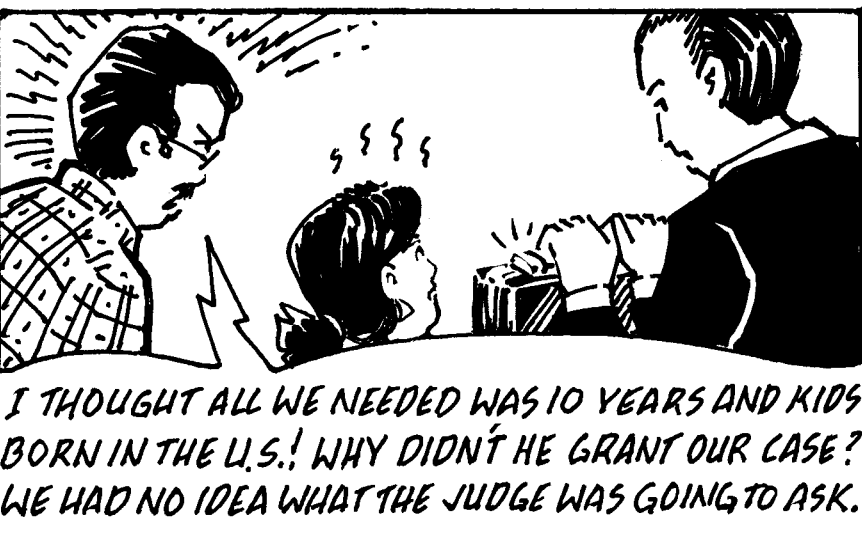
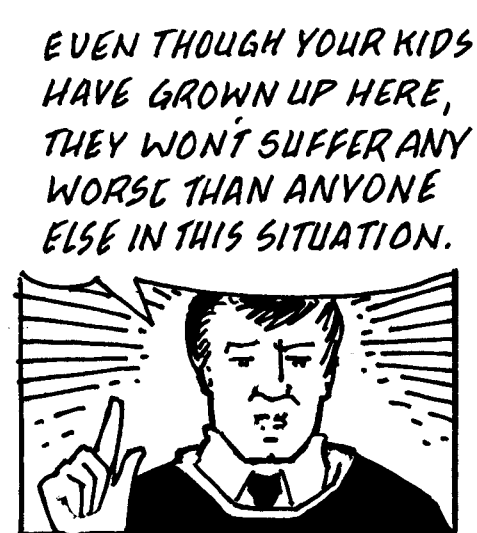
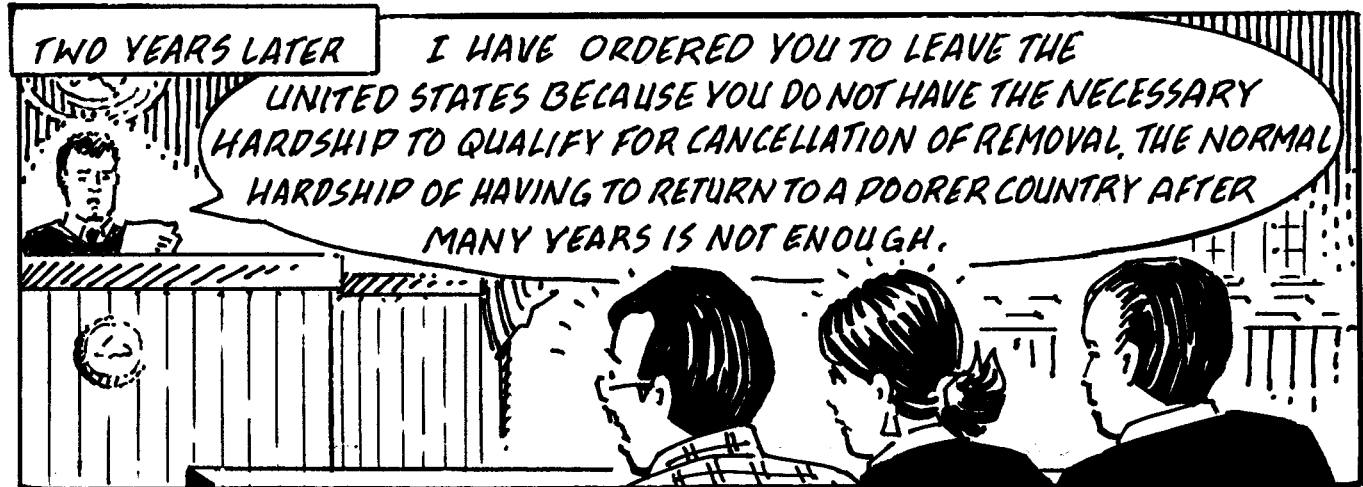
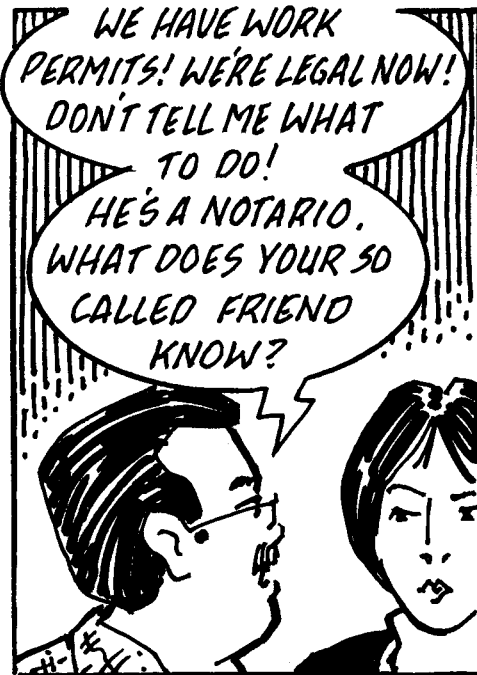
MR. NOTARIO  
NEVER ANSWERED OUR  
QUESTIONS AND WE'VE PAID  
HIM \$3000 SO FAR AND WE  
CAN'T EVEN GET INTO SEE  
HIM. AND WHO IS  
MR. ABOGADO?

WHY DOESN'T  
MR NOTARIO COME  
WITH US TO THE  
HEARING?



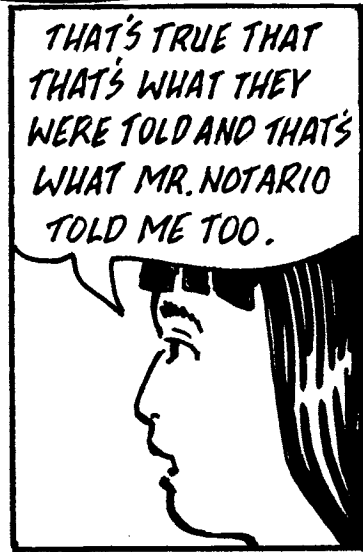
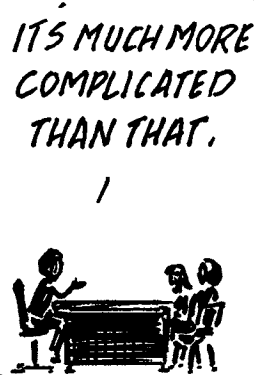
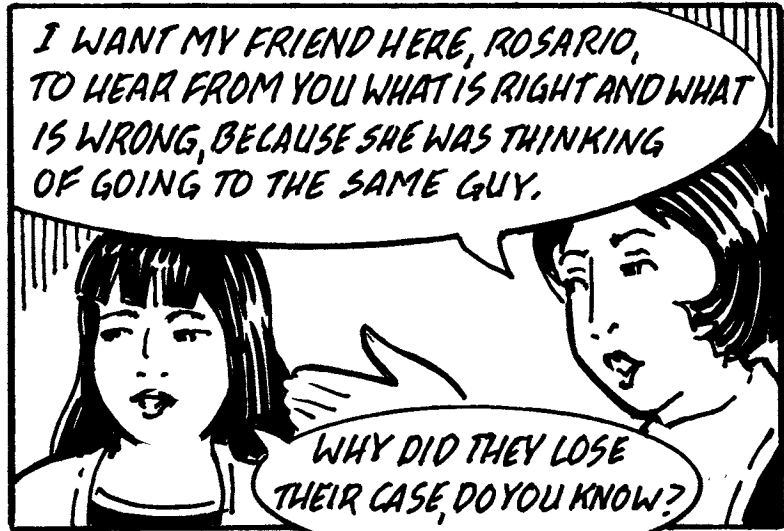


The "10 Year Benefit" Scam





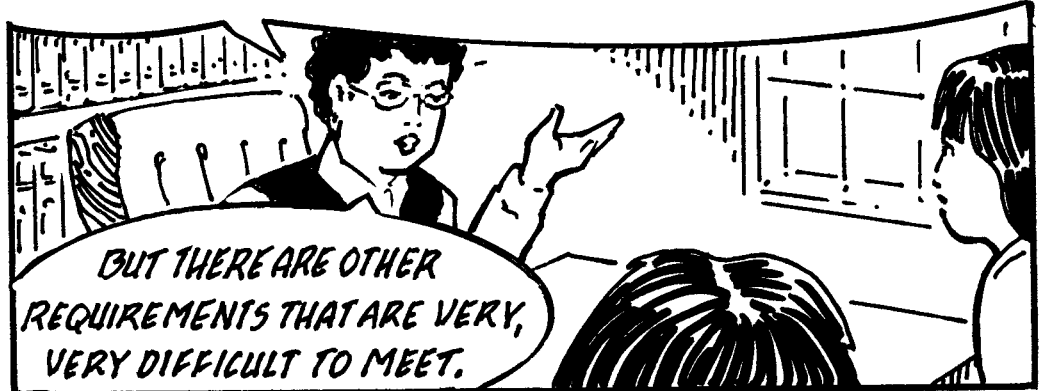
The "10 Year Benefit" Scam



IS THERE A 10 YEAR BENEFIT?

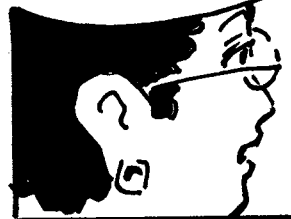


THERE IS SOMETHING CALLED CANCELLATION OF REMOVAL AND ONE OF THE REQUIREMENTS IS THAT YOU HAVE 10 YEARS IN THE U.S. BEFORE YOU GET INTO THE IMMIGRATION COURT SYSTEM.



BUT THERE ARE OTHER REQUIREMENTS THAT ARE VERY, VERY DIFFICULT TO MEET.

YOU HAVE TO HAVE A PERMANENT RESIDENT OR U.S. CITIZEN PARENT, SPOUSE, OR CHILD WHO WILL SUFFER WHAT THEY CALL EXCEPTIONAL AND EXTREMELY UNUSUAL HARDSHIP IF YOU ARE ORDERED TO LEAVE THE U.S.



WELL, I HAVE 3 U.S. CITIZEN CHILDREN THAT WOULD HAVE A HARD TIME IF I WENT BACK TO MEXICO. CANT I APPLY?



FIRST, YOU CANT APPLY FOR CANCELLATION OF REMOVAL UNLESS YOU'RE ALREADY IN DEPORTATION PROCEEDINGS BEFORE AN IMMIGRATION JUDGE, AND THAT MEANS THAT IF YOU DONT WIN YOUR CASE THE JUDGE WILL ORDER YOU TO LEAVE THE U.S.

YOU CANT JUST APPLY WITH THE IMMIGRATION SERVICE



SECOND, THE HARDSHIP YOUR CHILDREN WOULD SUFFER HAS TO BE ABOVE AND BEYOND THE KIND OF HARDSHIP THAT NORMALLY WOULD OCCUR IF YOU HAD TO RELOCATE BACK TO YOUR COUNTRY. IT WOULD HAVE TO BE SOMETHING THAT'S BOTH SERIOUS AND VERY UNUSUAL.

The "10 Year Benefit" Scam



FOR ONE THING, IF SOMEONE TELLS YOU HE'S A NOTARIO OR LICENCIADO AND THEREFORE A LAWYER, HE'S LYING. IF YOU'RE NOT SURE, ASK FOR PROOF THAT HE'S AN ATTORNEY.



YOU REALLY SHOULD GO TO AN ATTORNEY OR SOMEONE WHO WORKS FOR A NONPROFIT AND IS CALLED AN "ACCREDITED REPRESENTATIVE" FOR IMMIGRATION ADVICE. PEOPLE WHO HELP WITH IMMIGRATION PAPERS AND ARE NOT ATTORNEYS OR ACCREDITED REPRESENTATIVES ARE CALLED "IMMIGRATION CONSULTANTS."



IF THERE'S AN ATTORNEY TELLING PEOPLE THEY CAN GET GREEN CARDS JUST FOR BEING HERE 10 YEARS AND MAYBE HAVING A CLEAN RECORD AND CHILDREN BORN HERE,...

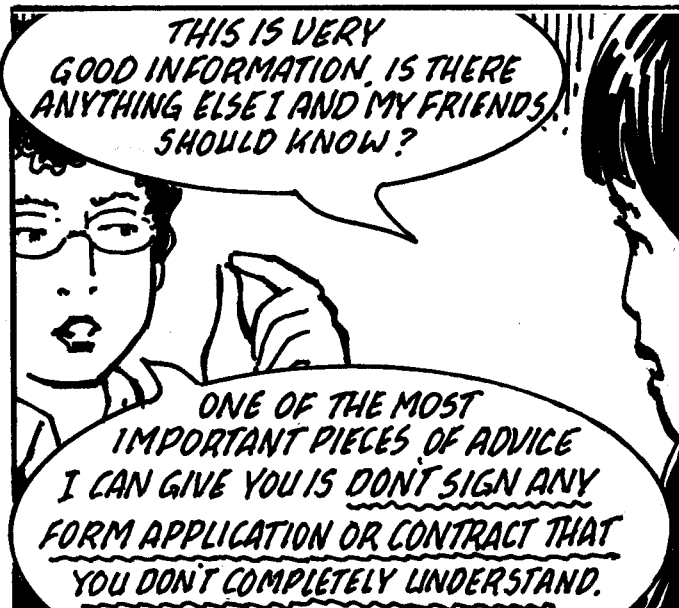


... WITHOUT ALSO TALKING ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF PROVING THAT DEPORTING YOU WOULD CAUSE VERY SEVERE HARDSHIP OR PROBLEMS FOR YOUR U.S. CITIZEN OR LAWFUL PERMANENT RESIDENT CHILDREN, SPOUSE, OR PARENTS, THEN BE VERY CAREFUL.

YOU MAY EVEN WANT TO MAKE A COMPLAINT ABOUT THAT PERSON TO YOUR STATE BAR.

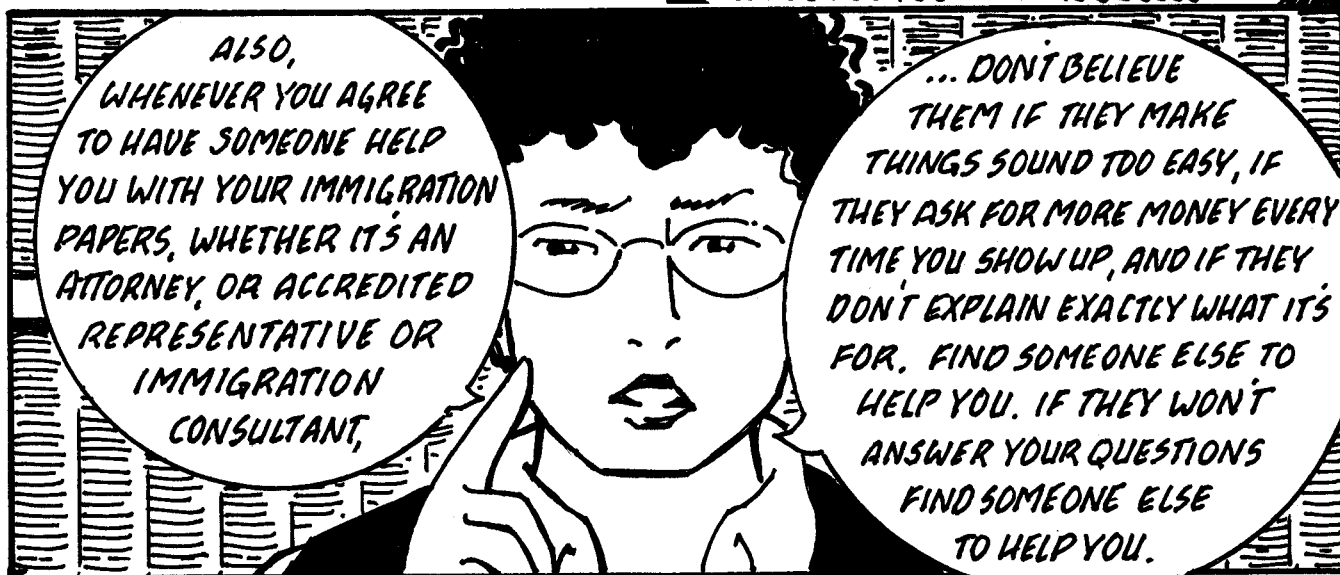


ATTORNEYS CAN LOSE THEIR LICENSES IF THEY TRY TO DEFRAUD THEIR CLIENTS AND THEY ARE REQUIRED TO UNDERSTAND THE LAW AND DO A GOOD JOB OF REPRESENTING THEIR CLIENTS.



THIS IS VERY GOOD INFORMATION. IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE I AND MY FRIENDS SHOULD KNOW?

ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT PIECES OF ADVICE I CAN GIVE YOU IS DON'T SIGN ANY FORM APPLICATION OR CONTRACT THAT YOU DON'T COMPLETELY UNDERSTAND.



ALSO, WHENEVER YOU AGREE TO HAVE SOMEONE HELP YOU WITH YOUR IMMIGRATION PAPERS, WHETHER IT'S AN ATTORNEY, OR ACCREDITED REPRESENTATIVE OR IMMIGRATION CONSULTANT,

... DON'T BELIEVE THEM IF THEY MAKE THINGS SOUND TOO EASY, IF THEY ASK FOR MORE MONEY EVERY TIME YOU SHOW UP, AND IF THEY DON'T EXPLAIN EXACTLY WHAT IT'S FOR. FIND SOMEONE ELSE TO HELP YOU. IF THEY WON'T ANSWER YOUR QUESTIONS FIND SOMEONE ELSE TO HELP YOU.

## *Things to Remember about the 10 Year Scam*

### **REMEMBER:**

---

- You can't get a green card just because you have lived in the US for over 10 years and you have children born here.
- Anyone who tells you it's easy to get a green card simply because you've been here 10 years is lying to you.
- Immigration law is complicated so make sure you go to someone who is honest and knowledgeable (see the list of good organizations in this book).
- You have a right to ask questions about your immigration case! Don't trust people who refuse to answer your questions.
- Don't sign forms or documents that you don't understand.
- Review the attached Know Your Rights handout.



# The "New Amnesty" Scam



IMMIGRATION HAS BEEN ALL OVER THE NEWS, BUT THIS IS THE BEST I'VE HEARD YET!



WHERE DO WE GO TO SIGN UP?



HERE, THE LADY'S NAME IS VILMA GARCIA,

IT SAYS SHE'S GOING TO BE AT THE HOTEL LINDA NEXT WEEK AND GIVE A PRESENTATION.



The "New Amnesty" Scam

HOTEL CONFERENCE ROOM



THERE'S GOING TO BE A NEW IMMIGRATION LAW COMING. I KNOW, I HAVE INSIDE INFORMATION BECAUSE I KNOW PEOPLE IN IMMIGRATION, AND NOT EVERYBODY IS GOING TO BE ABLE TO GET IT, BECAUSE THERE AREN'T ENOUGH NUMBERS, SO YOU SHOULD GET IN LINE AS SOON AS YOU CAN.



IF YOU SIGN UP WITH ME TODAY, YOU'LL BE ONE OF THE FIRST IN LINE, AND I CAN GUARANTEE YOU THAT YOU'LL GET IN. ALL YOU NEED TO SHOW IS THAT YOU'VE BEEN HERE SINCE JANUARY 1 AND YOU DON'T HAVE A REALLY BAD RECORD.

BUT I THOUGHT THEY GAVE UP ON AN IMMIGRATION BILL?



BELIEVE ME, I KNOW. I'M AN IMMIGRATION EXPERT, NOTARIO, AND LIKE I SAID, I HAVE INSIDE INFORMATION FROM THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT ITSELF, WHAT YOU'RE GOING TO NEED TO PROVE IS THAT YOU'VE BEEN HERE SINCE JANUARY 1, 2007.

THAT MEANS THAT YOU HAVE TO SHOW RENT RECEIPTS, PAY STUBS, AND ANY OTHER INFORMATION THAT SHOWS HOW LONG YOU'VE LIVED HERE.

YOU ALSO HAVE TO DO FINGERPRINTS AND YOU HAVE TO FILL OUT THESE FORMS, INCLUDING AN APPLICATION FOR A WORK PERMIT AND A BIOGRAPHIC FORM. YOU ALSO HAVE TO SUBMIT YOUR BIRTH, MARRIAGE, AND DIVORCE CERTIFICATES FOR EVERYONE WHO IS APPLYING.





SHE REALLY SEEMS TO KNOW WHAT SHE'S TALKING ABOUT.

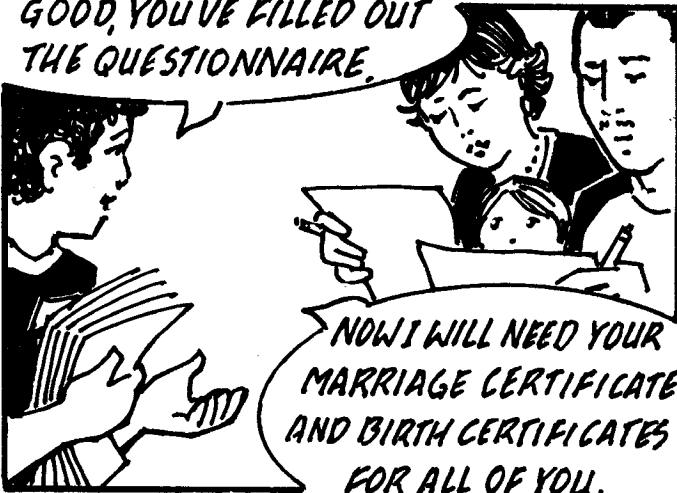


WHAT DO WE HAVE TO DO TO SIGN UP?

FILL OUT THE QUESTIONNAIRE THAT MY ASSISTANTS ARE PASSING OUT. WHEN YOU HAVE COMPLETED IT, ONE OF MY ASSISTANTS WILL TALK TO YOU.



GOOD, YOU'VE FILLED OUT THE QUESTIONNAIRE.

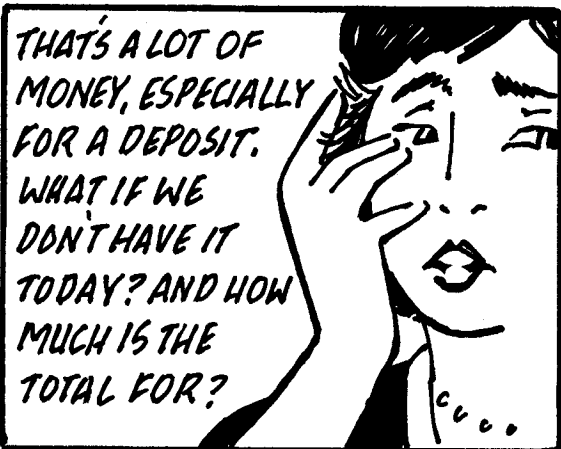


NOW I WILL NEED YOUR MARRIAGE CERTIFICATE AND BIRTH CERTIFICATES FOR ALL OF YOU.



YOU'LL ALSO HAVE TO SEND IN EVIDENCE THAT SHOWS YOU'VE BEEN LIVING HERE SINCE JANUARY, 2007, LIKE MRS. GARCIA SAYS.

FINALLY, WE NEED A \$3000 DEPOSIT.



THAT'S A LOT OF MONEY, ESPECIALLY FOR A DEPOSIT. WHAT IF WE DON'T HAVE IT TODAY? AND HOW MUCH IS THE TOTAL FOR?



IT MAY SOUND EXPENSIVE, BUT WHAT'S IT WORTH TO YOU TO HAVE A GREEN CARD?

The "New Amnesty" Scam

THE TOTAL FEE DEPENDS ON HOW MUCH WORK IS INVOLVED.



I'VE GOT A LOT OF PEOPLE TO TALK TO, AND THEY'RE READY TO SIGN UP. I'LL COME BACK TO YOU LATER.

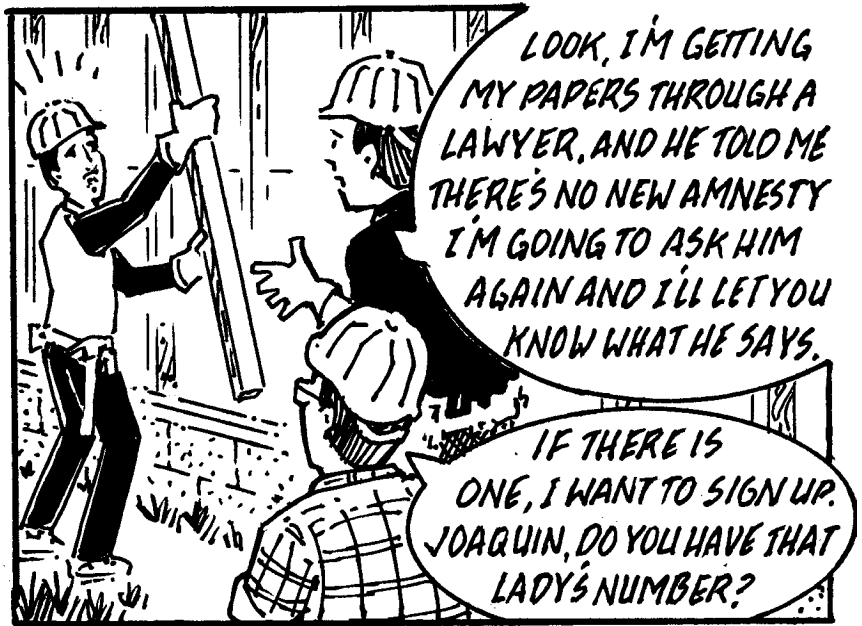


WE CAN'T PASS UP THIS CHANCE! THINK OF IT. WE WON'T HAVE TO STRUGGLE SO MUCH, WE'LL GET BETTER JOBS, WE WON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT IMMIGRATION BUSTING DOWN THE DOOR OR RAIDING US AT WORK!

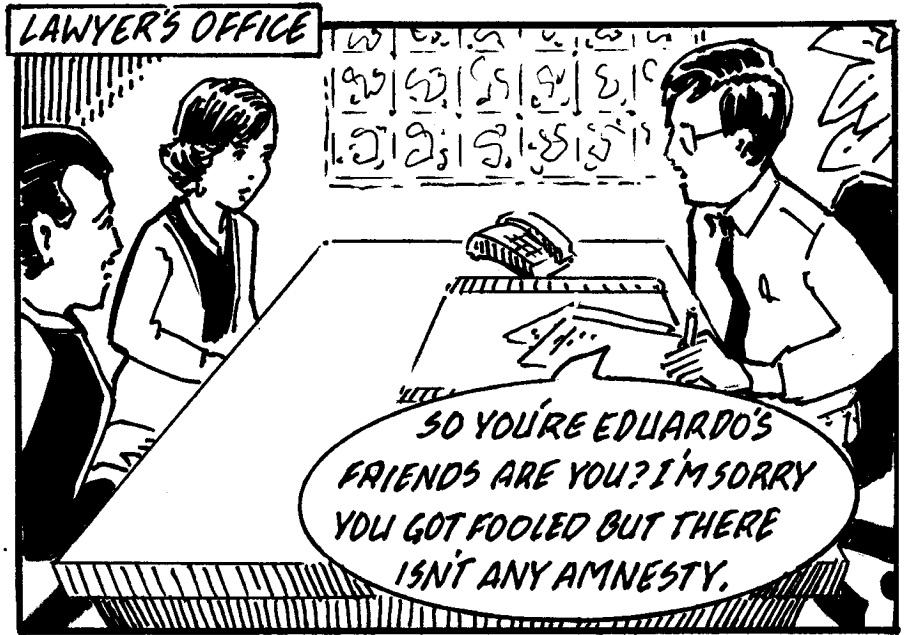
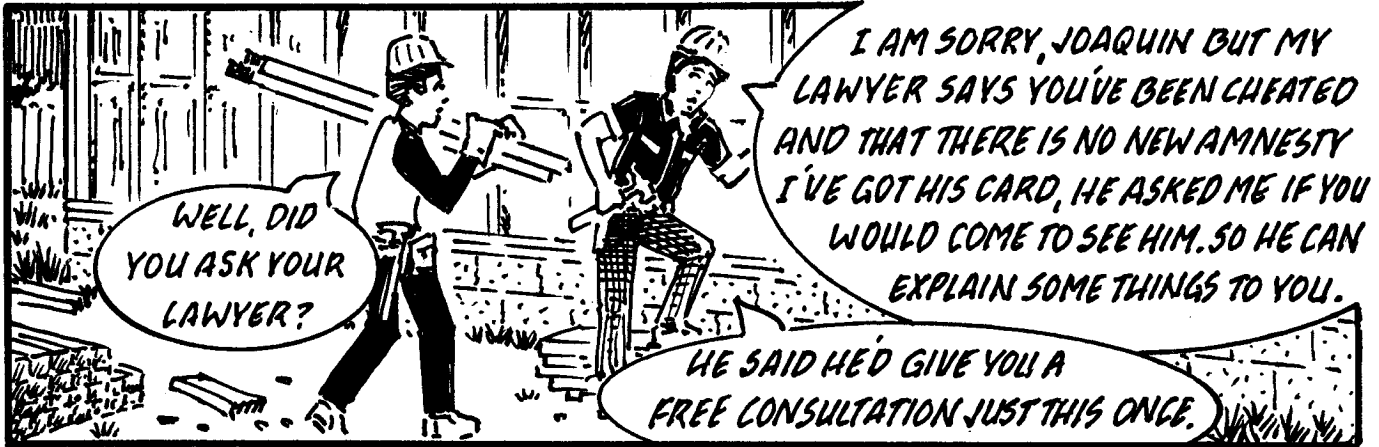




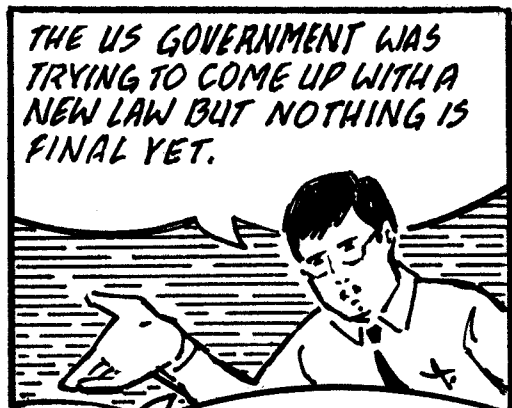
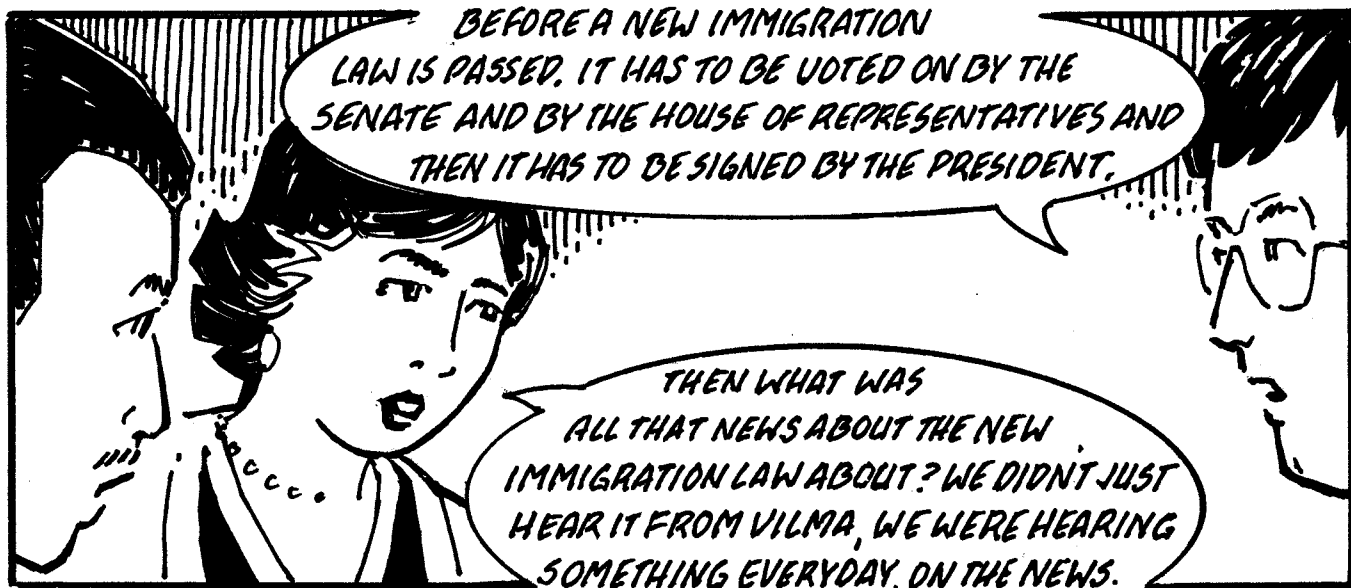
The "New Amnesty" Scam



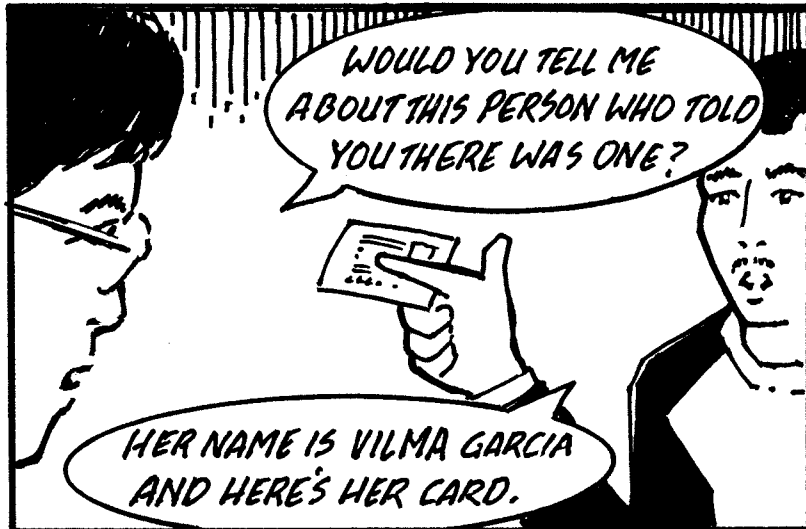
I AM TOO. I WASN'T GOING TO TELL YOU THIS, AT LEAST NOT YET. BUT EDUARDO SAID HIS LAWYER TOLD HIM THERE IS NO NEW AMNESTY. HE'S GOING TO CHECK TO MAKE SURE.



The "New Amnesty" Scam



RIGHT NOW THERE IS NO NEW IMMIGRATION LAW, AND NO NEW AMNESTY.





SHE SAID SHE WAS AN EXPERT BUT SHE NEVER SAID WHETHER OR NOT SHE WAS A LAWYER.

HAVE YOU EVER HEARD OF HER?

I HAVEN'T HEARD OF HER BUT THERE ARE LOTS OF PEOPLE LIKE HER WHO PREY ON IMMIGRANTS SOME ARE LAWYERS, SOME AREN'T, YOU CAN CHECK THE STATE BAR WHICH IS THE ORGANIZATION THAT LICENSES LAWYERS, TO SEE IF SOMEONE REALLY IS A LAWYER.

IF SHE'S NOT LICENSED HERE IN OUR STATE, SHE MAYBE ABLE TO PRACTICE IMMIGRATION LAW ANYWAY, BUT SHE WOULD HAVE TO TELL YOU WHAT STATE SHE IS LICENSED IN. YOU CAN CHECK WITH THE SAME BAR OF THAT STATE TO SEE IF SHE HAS A LICENSE,

IF SHE IS REALLY A LAWYER YOU SHOULD FILE A COMPLAINT AGAINST HER.

I COULD HELP YOU WITH THAT.

WHAT IF SHE'S NOT A LAWYER?

WE REALLY DON'T KNOW.

PEOPLE WHO ARE NOT LAWYERS BUT HELP PEOPLE WITH THEIR IMMIGRATION PAPERS ARE CALLED IMMIGRATION CONSULTANTS.

THEY HAVE TO FOLLOW THE LAWS OF THE STATE THEY OPERATE IN.

IN SOME STATES, LIKE CALIFORNIA, THEY ARE ALLOWED TO FILL OUT IMMIGRATION PAPERS. IN OTHER STATES, LIKE TEXAS, THEY ARE NOT TO DO ANY IMMIGRATION WORK.

The "New Amnesty" Scam

BE SUSPICIOUS OF SOMEONE WHO SAYS THEY'RE A "NOTARIO" BECAUSE THAT DOES NOT MEAN THEY ARE LAWYERS IN THE USA.

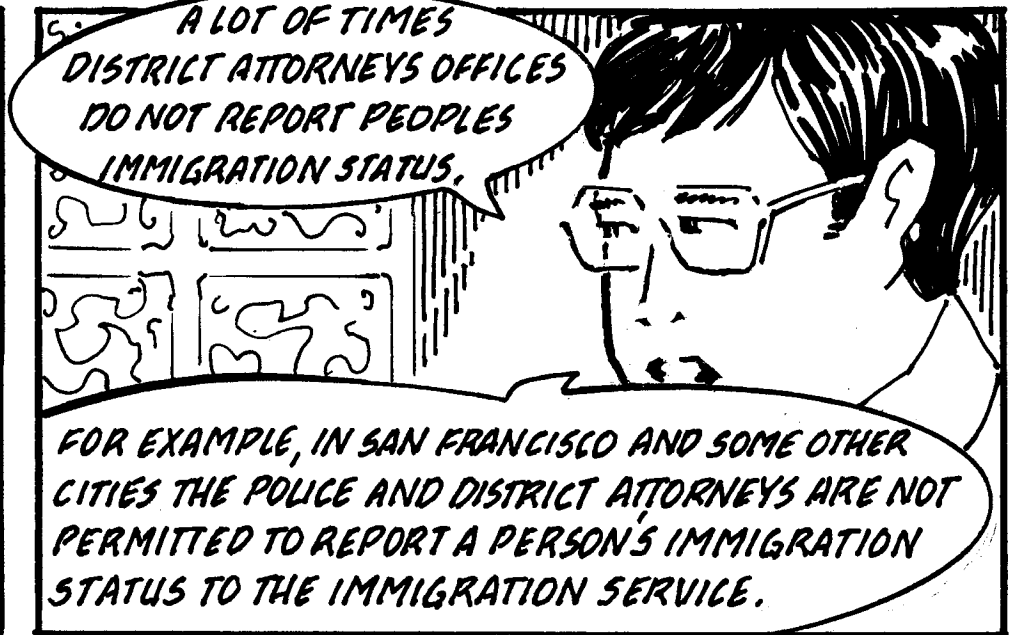
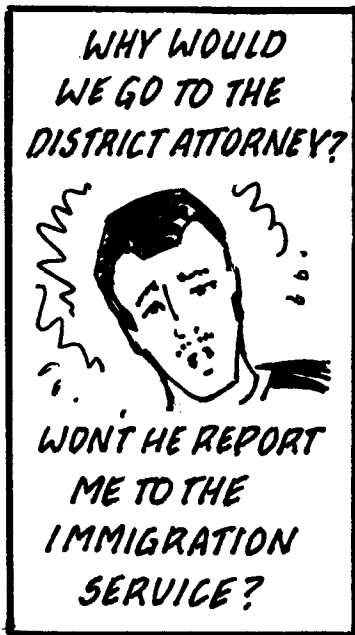


I'D ALSO LIKE YOU TO TELL YOUR FRIENDS WHAT TO WATCH OUT FOR SO THEY WON'T BECOME VICTIMS TOO.

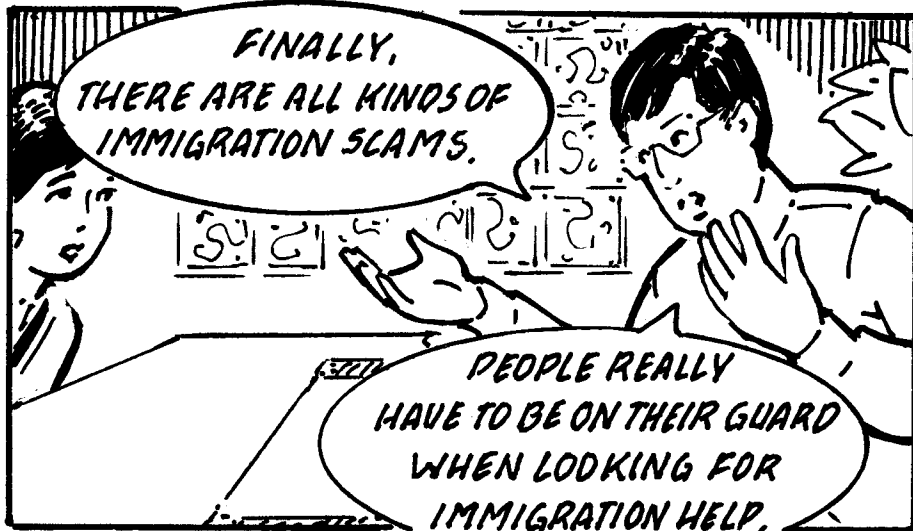
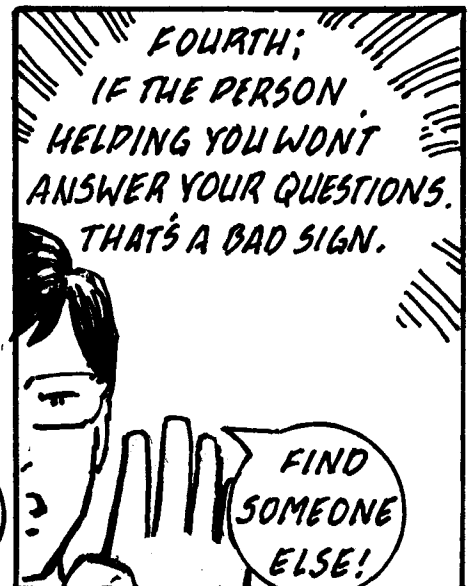
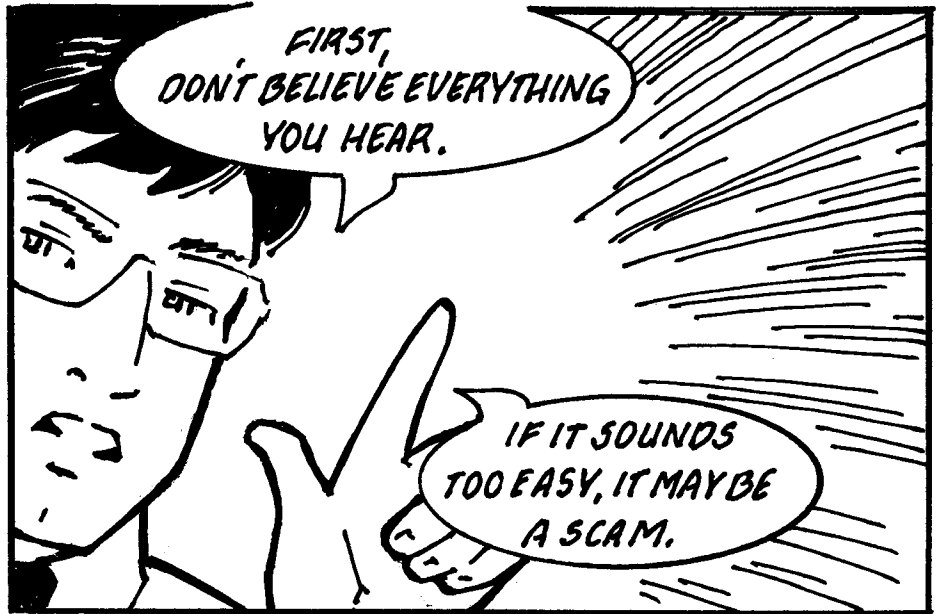


THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY IS THE OFFICE THAT PROSECUTES CRIMES IN A COUNTY, AND ALSO PROTECTS VICTIMS OF FRAUD, SOME OF THEM WILL DO THIS TYPE OF CASE, SOME WON'T





The "New Amnesty" Scam





IT MAKES ME SO ANGRY WHEN PEOPLE GET SCAMMED LIKE YOU DID.



I WILL TRY TO HELP YOU, THOUGH I AM NOT SURE IF ANYTHING CAN BE DONE FOR YOU AT THIS POINT, BUT I ALSO WOULD LIKE YOU TO LET YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY AND ANYONE ELSE YOU KNOW, HOW TO PROTECT THEMSELVES FROM BECOMING VICTIMS LIKE YOU.



IT'S VERY IMPORTANT, BECAUSE WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU GOES ON ALL THE TIME

I'M SICK OF HEARING ABOUT IT.



WE'LL TRY BUT I DON'T THINK WE CAN REMEMBER EVERYTHING YOU TOLD US JUST NOW

I'M STILL IN SHOCK OVER ALL THIS



YOU DON'T HAVE TO REMEMBER EVERYTHING

I HAVE A FLYER THAT CONTAINS ALL THE INFORMATION I TOLD YOU PLUS MORE, HERE TAKE SOME COPIES AND PASS THEM OUT TO YOUR FRIENDS



I'LL SEE IF ANY OF MY COLLEAGUES HAVE HEARD OF THIS WOMAN, AND IF WE CAN FIND OUT WHERE SHE IS, THE IMMIGRATION LAWS ARE VERY HARSH RIGHT NOW, SO IT'S DIFFICULT TO BECOME LEGAL, BUT LET'S SEE WHETHER YOU MIGHT QUALIFY FOR SOMETHING.

I CAN'T PROMISE YOU ANYTHING BUT AT LEAST I CAN TELL YOU WHAT THE LAW IS.

\*See flyer on the last page of this booklet for more information on avoiding immigration fraud.

## *Summary Points for New Amnesty Scam*

### **REMEMBER:**

---

- Don't believe everything you hear.
- Just because people are talking about a new amnesty doesn't mean it is the law.
- Don't pay to sign up for a new amnesty without making sure that one exists.
- Always ask your immigration helper where he or she is licensed to practice law.
- If you can't afford a lawyer, find a non-profit organization that does immigration work (see the list of good organizations in this book).
- Some of these organizations are "accredited" and the people working for them are "accredited representatives." An accredited representative is authorized by the Board of Immigration Appeals to provide immigration services.
- If the person who wants to help you is neither a lawyer nor an accredited representative, be careful!
- You have a right to a second opinion, so don't be afraid to consult another lawyer or accredited representative before you pay any money or start any paperwork.
- Don't give your original documents like marriage certificates or birth certificates, to anyone. Give them copies ONLY.
- Review the attached Know Your Rights handout.

## NEED IMMIGRATION HELP?



### WATCH OUT FOR IMMIGRATION SCAMS!

Be careful when getting someone to help you with your immigration papers. Don't be fooled by false promises. You could lose your money *and* be removed or deported from the United States.

### DON'T BELIEVE ANYONE WHO SAYS:

- ❖ We can get you work permits right away.
- ❖ We offer no risk immigration.
- ❖ We can get U.S. visas for you and your family in a few weeks.
- ❖ We know people at CIS and can get your papers done quickly.

## THESE ARE LIES!

### THINGS YOU CAN DO TO PROTECT YOURSELF

- ❖ **Never** sign any blank application papers.
- ❖ **Never** sign any paper or immigration form that you do not fully understand. (Get someone you trust to translate it for you.)
- ❖ **Always** demand a written contract for any immigration services when you are not working with a recognized agency.
- ❖ **Do not** sign a contract that you don't understand.
- ❖ **Watch out** for anyone who wants you to pay immediately.
- ❖ **Always** get copies of the papers prepared for you.
- ❖ **Never** let anyone keep your original documents (example: birth certificates, marriage certificates).
- ❖ **Get** a receipt for any money you pay. (Make sure it has the amount paid, the date paid, your name, and the name of the person or business that you paid.)
- ❖ **Never** work with someone who will not answer your questions.





## KNOW YOUR RIGHTS!

**Anyone offering immigration help must follow certain laws. These are some of the most important ones:**

- ❖ A person who says he/she is a lawyer or attorney must have a license from the State Bar of any state. You can ask to see his/her license and write down the number, and you can call the State Bar where he/she is licensed to find out if the license is valid.
- ❖ A person who does immigration papers but is not a lawyer is called an immigration consultant.

### **An Immigration Consultant must obey the laws of the state where he or she does business.**

In some states, immigration consultants are allowed to do some immigration work. In others they are not allowed to do any immigration work. Find out what your state law says about immigration consultants.

### **What to do if someone has cheated you:**

- ❖ If the person cheating you is a lawyer, call the State Bar where he is licensed.
- ❖ If the person cheating you is not a lawyer, you can call your city's police department or District Attorney's Office.