Four million immigrants have been deported from the U.S. since 1990. A record high of 409,849 removals happened in 2012 alone. With spending on enforcement reaching $18 billion in 2012 and exceeding spending on all other law enforcement efforts, the need for reform is urgent. Enforcement efforts put burdens on immigrant families who are often torn apart by deportation and detention proceedings, threatened by local law enforcement focusing on immigration enforcement, and constantly criminalized despite being fully contributing members of their community.

With the immigration debate in full swing in the House, talk has focused on the key elements of the Senate Bill (S. 744, the Border Security, Economic Opportunity and Immigration Modernization Act). Particularly striking is the increase in spending on enforcement which was part of the last minute “compromise” that helped secure additional votes in the Senate. The speakers will discuss the likely impacts of increased enforcement efforts built into impending reform, and explore issues of detention, deportation and illegality.

This event is co-sponsored by these USC departments:

American Studies & Ethnicity, Asian Pacific American Student Services, Center for Black Cultural and Student Affairs, El Centro Chicano, USC IDEAS, Latino Association for Policy, Planning and Development, Latino Student Association, and Sociology.

For more information visit us on the web at http://csii.usc.edu or email us at csii@usc.edu.