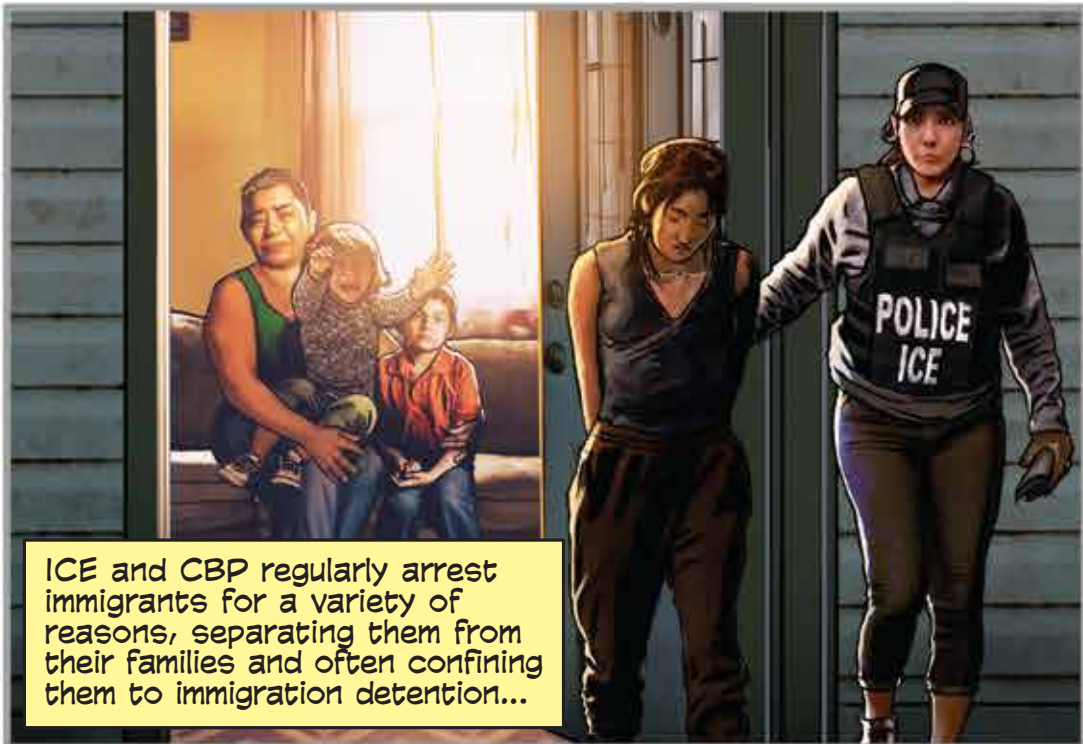


No one should have to face the United States government in court alone when their liberty is at stake. **DIRECT LEGAL REPRESENTATION IS FUNDAMENTAL TO FAIRNESS AND JUSTICE IN OUR COUNTRY.** While the judicial system upholds the right to legal counsel, our immigration court system does not guarantee all people access to legal representation.



Despite the high risk of deportation, permanent separation from their families and sometimes life-threatening danger in their countries of origin, immigrants are not guaranteed critical legal representation in immigration court.



A study by the American Immigration Council found that immigrants who have legal representation are more likely to be released from detention, more likely to have their cases terminated and more likely to obtain the relief they seek.



We the People must demand that our local government create an immigrant legal defense program to uphold their due process rights. Because legal representation is a vital means of keeping immigrant families and communities together.