

VOICES

FROM

FREMONT

A CIVIL RIGHTS PROJECT BY NEBRASKA APPLESEED

Voices From Fremont

In 2010 and 2011, Nebraska Appleseed created “Voices From Fremont.”

VFF was a project showing the “**socially toxic effect local laws or Arizona-style laws can have on a community.**”

The “Kobach Special”

In 2010, voters in Fremont, Nebraska, approved a local immigration ordinance similar to those passed in ***Farmers Branch, Tex., Hazleton, Penn.,*** and others.



*Can you believe
they PAY me to
do this?!*

Goals for *Voices From Fremont*

- Show other towns and the rest of Nebraska what can happen to a community after these laws pass.
- Use this as an earned media communications tool to draw greater attention to the issue.
- Use this as organizing tool to build grassroots pressure to stop more towns or even the state Legislature from passing similar laws.

DEAR SENATOR
SINCE THE NEW ORDINANCE PASSED
IN FREMONT, OUR COMMUNITY HAS CHARGED
ALLOT ABOUT HATE MORE VIOLENCE,
DISCRIMINATION, RACISM, OUR
COMMUNITY IS DIVIDED, ALL BECAUSE
OF THIS ORDINANCE.

I'M A BUSINESS MAN AND I HAVE BEEN
CONTRIBUTING TO THIS COUNTRY FOR
OVER 35 YEARS, NOW PLEASE I'M
ASKING YOU TO DO SOMETHING GOOD
FOR OUR COMMUNITY, ENFORCING A
EMMIGRATION REFORM AND HELP
OUR COMMUNITY LIVE IN PEACE AND
WORK TO MAKE THIS COUNTRY
A GREAT COUNTRY

SINCERELY

me siento discriminada
y muy triste

I feel discriminated against and very sad. (7/8/10)

Ultimamente en
Walmart uno
siente que lo están
discriminando.
le dicen cosas
muy feas y mi niño
me llama "n"

These thoughts and experiences were collected
directly from Fremont residents in the two
months following the vote over the city's new
ordinance.

It is too sad
Somebody told us
"go to Mexico"
but we are from
El Salvador.
Anyway now with
the Ordinance we
are planning to
move to another
state.

*Walmart
Legal*

mandó 07-08-10

Usted al que está haciendo
la ordenanza con todo mi respeto
q' se merece. yo tengo 4 hijos
usted tiene hijos como se sintió
usted no poder tener un lugar
donde rentar para llevar
hijos, etc.

Mal nos gritan cosas
tengo una niña de 10 años
y me dice que ella ya no quiere estar
en Fremont porque nos tratan muy
mal ya no quieren salir agudados
nomas se la pasan enserados y
en la Walmart también nos tratan
mal

I want you to know that they treat us very badly. People yell
offensive things at us. I have a 10-year-old daughter and she told
me that she doesn't want to live in Fremont because they treat us
very badly. She doesn't want to go outside and play anymore.
She spends her time shut inside. They treat us badly [when we're
shopping] too. (7/6/10)

La verdad, no sé
cómo explicarle
a mi niña, cuando
ella pregunta,
"Por qué esas personas
Te gritaron F...
Mexican go to your
Country" pero yo nací
aquí.

The truth is I don't know how
she asks...

Since the law has been approved,
we have been very scared. When
we go out from our home, people
look at us differently; we feel
discriminated. We don't feel comfortable
to go on with our daily lives out of
our home. We need to work and
feel secure rather than afraid.

En Walmart, Una
Señora me dijo
"Quitate de mi
Camino por que
Odio ver a los
Mexicanos"
Esto me lo dijo una
Persona que andaba Comprando

Sinceramente me siento
Como madre de familia una
gran pena por esa ordenanza
y un gran temor por mis
hijos como han a tomar
esto si yo siempre les a
dicho que esto era una mala
vida para ellos y ahora
con esto que les digo si
yo misma no en tiendo
Si Dios nuestro Señor nos
dio la vida a todos y no hizo
eso solamente fue para
que vivamos y amemos
nuestros y no a

sepam de elbl. Yo solo le pido
Pongase en mi lugar ¿usted que
haría?
* QUE DIOS LO BENDIGA - FREMONT.

A mother
With all my respect... I have 4 children. Do you have children?
How would you feel if you couldn't have a place to rent to bring
your children to, tell me how you would feel if you were in my
place. I feel powerless with this law. I only came to give my
children a better life. I am not a terrorist as you call us. I am a
mother who has feelings and suffers to think that my children
will suffer or I will be separated from them. I only ask that you
put yourself in my place. What would you do? *MAY GOD
BLESS YOU - FREMONT. (7/6/10)

Yo me siento indignada
X que nos tratan como
si fuéramos extraterrestres
Y yo pienso que todos
valemos lo mismo

I feel indignant that they treat us as if we were extraterrestrials,
and I believe that we are all of equal worth. (7/18/10)

Soy de Honduras, tengo
TPS o sea que estoy
legal pero con la
ordenanza parece
que todos somos ilegales
y mexicanos por que
los comentarios que hace
la gente racista es
"Regresate a Mexico"
Yo pienso, que necesitamos
una reforma migratoria
para que no pasen estas
cosas por en Fremont

I am from Honduras, I have TPS in other words I am legal but
with this ordinance it seems that we are all illegals and Mexicans
because the remarks that racist people make are "Go back to
Mexico." I think that we need Immigration Reform so all these
nasty things stop happening in Fremont. (7/6/10)

Han estado llamando
a mi negocio y me
dicen

Amor.

We are people of peace. All we want is to live in peace, work for
this country and make it grow with work and love. (7/6/10)

26 Juni mis vecinas
me gritaron vete para
Mexico A los tres dias
mirando por la ventana
ha des cubri que nos
es taban disparando
con una pistola de
Postas no tengo mi
Edo por mi Pero te
mo por mis hijos
Familia:

June 26 my neighbors shouted "Go back to Mexico." Three days
ago, while looking out the window I discovered that we were
being fired at with BB guns. I am not afraid for myself but I am
afraid for my children. (7/6/10)

No entiendo por que
pasan estas leyes
que lo unico
hacen es



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**BEFORE THE ORDINANCE
THE PEOPLE DIDN'T SHOW
SO MUCH HATE.**

**NOW THEY FEEL FREE TO SAY,
"GO BACK TO MEXICO."**

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“WE WERE PROGRESSING SLOWLY BUT SURELY
– **AND IT WAS JOYOUS.** NOW ALL OF OUR
MOMENTUM IN THE SCHOOLS AND
THE COMMUNITY **HAS JUST EVAPORATED.**”

NO ENTIENDO PORQUE

I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY PASAN

ESTAS LEYES THEY PASS LAWS

QUE LO UNICO QUE HACEN ES

DIVIDIR A NUESTRA COMUNIDAD.

THAT ONLY DIVIDE OUR COMMUNITY.

A CIVIL RIGHTS PROJECT BY NEBRASKA APPLESEED

SINCE THE ORDINANCE PASSED IN FREMONT,
OUR COMMUNITY HAS CHANGED A LOT,
MORE VIOLENCE,
DISCRIMINATION, RACISM.
OUR COMMUNITY IS DIVIDED,
ALL BECAUSE OF **THIS ORDINANCE.**

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“SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THE
ORDINANCE, **WE FEEL FEAR, SADNESS.**
I HAVE BEEN LIVING NEAR FREMONT FOR
OVER 10 YEARS. **ALL MY LIFE IS HERE.**”

IT IS TOO SAD.

SOMEBODY TOLD US

“GO BACK TO MEXICO”

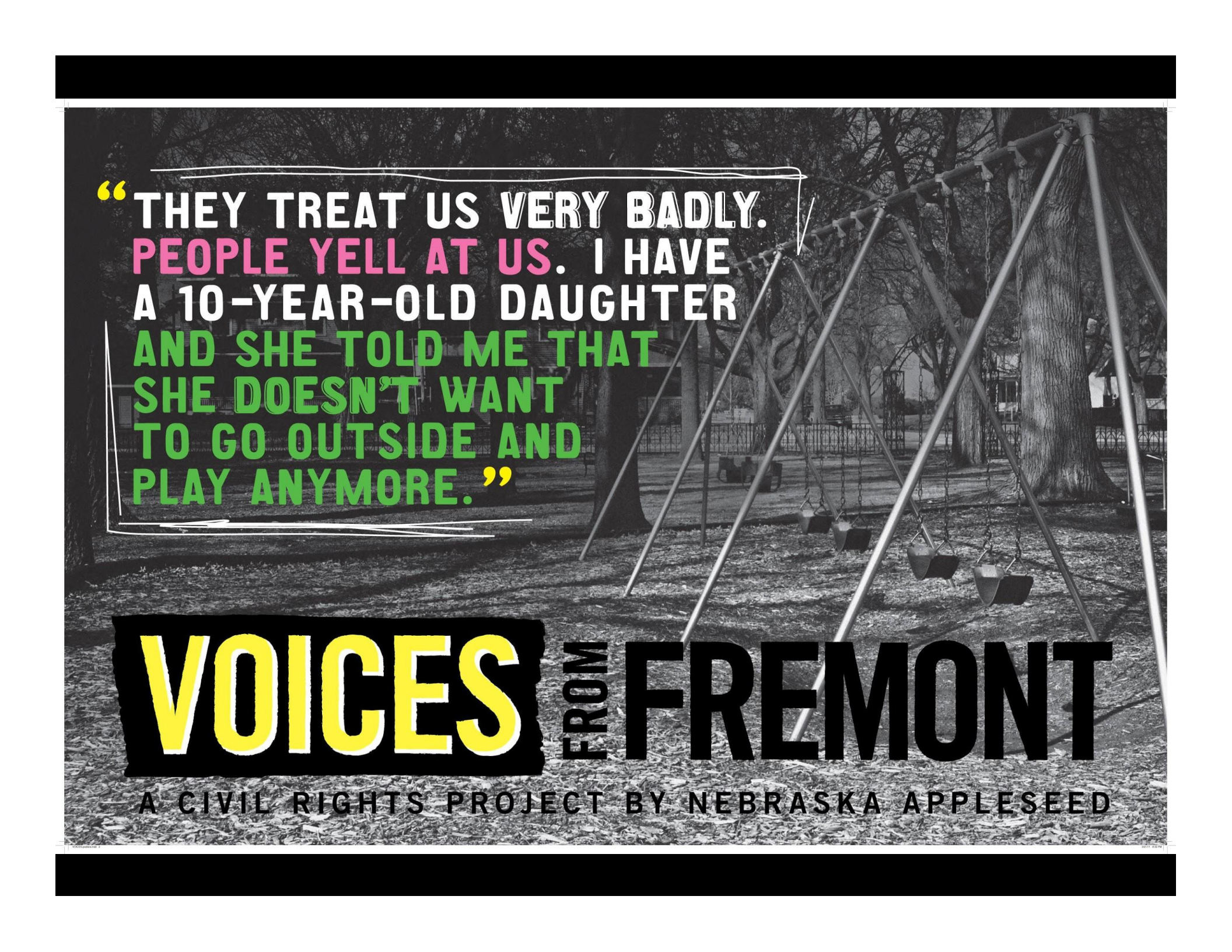
BUT WE ARE FROM EL SALVADOR.

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“THEY TREAT US VERY BADLY.
PEOPLE YELL AT US. I HAVE
A 10-YEAR-OLD DAUGHTER
AND SHE TOLD ME THAT
SHE DOESN'T WANT
TO GO OUTSIDE AND
PLAY ANYMORE.”

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IT'S SO SAD. THINGS HAVE
CHANGED SO MUCH.

AT THE SAME TIME THERE
IS **DEAFENING SILENCE.**

**PEOPLE CAN'T TALK
ABOUT IT.**

VOICES **FROM** **FREMONT**

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“SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THE ORDINANCE
WE HAVE BEEN SCARED TO GO OUT
WITH FAMILY, GO GROCERY SHOPPING,
TAKE THE KIDS TO A PARK,
BECAUSE WE DON'T WANT TO HEAR
SOMEBODY MAKE COMMENTS, WHETHER
IT'S ON THE STREETS OR AT THE PARK.”

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NOSOTROS SOMOS PERSONAS

DE PAZ. WE ARE PEOPLE OF PEACE.

SOLAMENTE QUEREMOS VIVIR EN PAZ,

ALL WE WANT IS TO LIVE IN PEACE

TRABAJAR PARA ESTE PAIS

WORK FOR THIS COUNTRY Y HACERLO

CRECER CON TRABAJO Y AMOR.

AND MAKE IT GROW WITH WORK AND LOVE.

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Lead story on KLKN-TV (Lincoln ABC affiliate)



Check it out online

www.neappleseed.org/voicesfromfremont

