SECURING RIGHTS, SHAPING THE FUTURE

SYSTEMIC AND INSTITUTIONAL VIOLENCE

CAPSULE FOUR | **SECTION 1** | **SEPTEMBER 28TH - OCTOBER 11TH 2026**

OVERVIEW

TThe first area of focus for our fourth capsule, Ending Gender Violence, is systemic and institutional violence. Systemic and institutional violence comes in many forms, but in today's political climate, the violence of ICE agents against immigrant communities has activated communities all over the country.

Many immigrants are women and girls who are trying to escape sexual violence, assault, and poverty. Many undocumented women, once in the United States, are survivors of sexual violence. They often must make the impossible decision of risking arrest by reporting their abuse or living with violence. ICE raids at childcare facilities, elementary schools, and other community-focused locations have taken even that decision away.

FOUNDATIONS

Since the beginning, NOW has supported immigrant rights. The 1 Trump Administration and the "Zero Tolerance Immigration Policy" has seen historic violence against immigrants. NOW has championed the rights of immigrants – especially those of women and children.

In the Fall of 2019, during the 1st Trump Administration, NOW launched the *Unlock the Future* campaign. This campaign was in response to the inhumane detention centers across the country, specifically concentrated in states near the Mexican border. NOW helped organize rallies and avenues of action along the border and "demand[s] humane treatment for detained immigrants". A Bill of Rights was written and submitted to top leaders.

These demands included that women and girls have access to reproductive health care, feminine hygiene products, and mental health care. The worst violations in these facilities were in the areas of maternal health care, reproductive autonomy, and mental health treatment. In 2026, NOW updated the Bill of Rights to adjust to the 2nd Trump Administration, demand the end of abusive practices, and to repair the damage done to women and girls.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- NOW continues to pressure government officials to focus their attention on ending the violence against immigrant women.
- The *Unlock the Future* Bill of Rights made headway in the media to bring attention to the issue of immigration.
- Promoting immigrants' stories pressures political leaders to make legislative change.

SECURING RIGHTS, SHAPING THE FUTURE

SYSTEMIC AND INSTITUTIONAL VIOLENCE

CAPSULE FOUR | SECTION 1 | SEPTEMBER 28TH - OCTOBER 11TH 2026

LEGISLATION

From the inaugaration of Trump in 2017 to now, a never-ending amount of legislation has been introduced to Congress to achieve rights for immigrants. Today, NOW has continued support legislation like the following:

- S.2113: "Stop Cruelty to Migrant Children Act" → aims to put an end to family separations
- H.R.1589: "American Dream and Promise Act" → provide a path to permanent citizenship for non-citizens

TODAY

Support the *Unlock the Future* campaign by attending rallies, condemning the use of force by ICE, calling on elected officials, and bringing awareness via social media. Migrant women and girls deserve basic human rights and to live free from violence. The fight is not over; it is growing in its strength.

UNLOCK THE FUTURE FOR WOMEN & GIRLS

NOW

CLICK HERE FOR *UNLOCK THE FUTURE!*