

Forensics Team (Fall 2024) - Arguments

Topic: US government should substantially expand its surveillance infrastructure along its southern border.

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INCREASING US BORDER SURVEILLANCE (PRO)

INTRODUCTION (PRO) - SIMPLE

Hello, my name is... [Full Name: First & Last].

Today, we will discuss... Increasing US Border Surveillance.

My partner and I believe... Increasing Border Surveillance is desirable.

To begin, let's discuss... Strengthening Security.

INTRODUCTION (PRO) - ADVANCED

Hello. My name is... [Full Name: First & Last].

Today, we will discuss... Increasing US Border Surveillance

My partner and I believe... Increasing Border Surveillance is desirable.

To begin, let's discuss... "The Framework".

FRAMEWORK (BOTH)

Each of our key terms comes from the Oxford English Dictionary and Law Inside...

To "increase" is to become greater in degree or amount, in this case, "surveillance," which is the monitoring of borders to prevent unauthorized crossings. Our value is... Quality of life. Our criteria is... On balance.

So... "On balance" the side providing the most "Quality of Life" should win the debate.

Now, Let's discuss our first argument... Strengthening National Security

PRO-01: STRENGTHENING SECURITY

Increasing US Border Surveillance will... Strengthen Security

because...

First... Preventing Terrorist Attacks

According to... Homeland Security (Website), August 13, 2024

<https://homeland.house.gov/2024/08/13/homeland-republicans-demand-answers-from-dhs-fbi-on-palestinian-nationals-with-terrorist-ties-entering-u-s-illegally-at-southwest-border/>

It states... Terrorism poses a significant threat to our nation's security. Border agents intercepted approximately 375 individuals on the terrorist watchlist attempting to enter our country illegally at the southern border. This shows that dangerous individuals are actively seeking unauthorized entry into our nation.

This means... If we increase US border surveillance, it will enhance the safety of millions of people by creating a more robust barrier against dangerous individuals entering our country and increasing the likelihood of apprehending those who attempt to do so.

Also... Stopping Smugglers & Traffickers

According to... Interpol (Website), Last Accessed: September 2024

<https://www.interpol.int/en/Crimes/Human-trafficking-and-migrant-smuggling>

It states... Smugglers exploit individuals seeking better lives in other countries. These criminals facilitate illegal border crossings, which can be extremely hazardous. The individuals being smuggled face risks of injury, kidnapping, or death. Criminal organizations view these people as commodities, similar to drugs or weapons.

This means... If we increase U.S. border surveillance, it will aid in apprehending more smugglers and traffickers. Improved technology will enable border agents to detect and prevent these illegal activities more effectively, thereby enhancing overall border safety.

Therefore... Increasing US Border Surveillance WILL Strengthen Security.

The next argument I will present is... Protecting Communities

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PRO-02: PROTECTING COMMUNITIES

Increasing US Border Surveillance will... Protect Communities

because...

First... Preventing Job Loss and Wage Deflation

According to... Winthrop University, April 24, 2020

https://www.usccr.gov/files/pubs/docs/IllegImmig_10-14-10_430pm.pdf

It states... When numerous individuals enter the country illegally, they often accept lower wages, which can compel other workers to also accept reduced pay. This increased competition for jobs can result in some American workers losing their positions to those willing to work for less compensation.

This means... If we increase border surveillance, it will help millions of American workers maintain their employment and earn fair wages by reducing unfair competition from an oversupply of individuals competing for jobs.

Also... Draining Community Resources

According to... the Federation for American Immigration Reform (aka FAIR), March 8, 2023

<https://www.fairus.org/issue/publications-resources/fiscal-burden-illegal-immigration-united-states-taxpayers-2023>

It states... Illegal immigration costs the states \$115 billion annually, which is 30% more than in 2017, due to more states providing access to welfare, schools, and healthcare to illegal immigrants. This includes \$73 billion for education, \$18 billion for healthcare, and \$21 billion for law enforcement.

This means... If we increase border surveillance, it will benefit millions of taxpayers and save tens of billions of dollars each year by reducing the number of people entering the country illegally, thereby lowering these costs.

Therefore... Increasing US Border Surveillance WILL Protect Communities.

So, for all these reasons, please vote for the PRO. Thank you.

Forensics Team (Fall 2024) - Arguments

Topic: US government should substantially expand its surveillance infrastructure along its southern border.

INTRODUCTION (CON) - SIMPLE

Hello, my name is... [Full Name: First & Last].

Today, we will discuss... Increasing US Border Surveillance.

My partner and I believe... Increasing Border Surveillance is undesirable.

To begin, let's discuss... Wasting Resources.

INTRODUCTION (CON) - ADVANCED

Hello. My name is... [Full Name: First & Last].

Today, we will discuss... Increasing US Border Surveillance

My partner and I believe... Increasing Border Surveillance is undesirable.

To begin, let's discuss... "The Framework".

FRAMEWORK (BOTH)

Each of our key terms comes from the Oxford English Dictionary and Law Inside...

To "increase" is to become greater in degree or amount, in this case, "surveillance," which is the monitoring of borders to prevent unauthorized crossings. Our value is... Quality of life. Our criteria is... On balance.

So... "On balance" the side providing the most "Quality of Life" should win the debate.

Now, Let's discuss our first argument... Wasting Resources

CON-01: WASTING RESOURCES

Increasing US Border Surveillance will... Waste Valuable Resources

because...

First... Surveillance Lacks Effectiveness

According to... *the House Committee on Homeland Security, July 9, 2024*

<https://homeland.house.gov/2024/07/09/chairmen-higgins-bishop-open-joint-hearing-border-security-technologies-play-a-critical-role-in-counteracting-threats-mass-illegal-immigration/#:~:text=A%20recent%20Inspector%20General%20report,quality%20to%20conduct%20adequate%20screenings>

It states... Despite expensive border technologies in place, many individuals still manage to cross the border undetected. They employ simple methods such as tunnels, demonstrating that these costly systems are insufficiently effective to justify their expense.

This means... Increasing US border surveillance will negatively impact millions of taxpayers because their money is spent on technology that fails to prevent unauthorized border crossings, resulting in an inefficient use of public funds.

Also... Tremendously Expensive Technology

According to... *the American Immigration Council, August 14, 2024*

<https://www.americanimmigrationcouncil.org/research/the-cost-of-immigration-enforcement-and-border-security>

It states... The government allocates billions of dollars to advanced technology for border surveillance. The equipment requires maintenance, updates, and management by trained professionals, causing expenses to increase annually without clear benefits.

This means... Increasing US border surveillance will negatively affect millions of people by diverting funds from essential services. The substantial amount spent on these technologies could be better utilized to improve schools, hospitals, or infrastructure in our communities.

Therefore... Increasing US Border Surveillance WILL Waste Resources.

The next argument I will present is... Harming Innocent People.

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CON-02: HARMING INNOCENT PEOPLE

Increasing US Border Surveillance will... Harm Innocent People
because...

First... Violating People's Privacy Rights

According to... *the American Civil Liberties Union (aka ACLU)*, April 17, 2014

<https://www.aclu.org/news/criminal-law-reform/living-under-surveillance-border-what>

It states... Border surveillance technology can collect personal information from individuals without their consent. This includes tracking their location, intercepting phone calls, and using facial recognition on both citizens and non-citizens near the border, often without their knowledge.

This means... Increasing US border surveillance will negatively impact millions of innocent people by monitoring them without their consent, infringing on fundamental privacy rights and creating an atmosphere of discomfort and insecurity.

Also... Increasing False Accusations (ex. Misidentification)

According to... *Just Security*, June 28, 2024

<https://www.justsecurity.org/97172/ai-at-the-border/>

It states... Border technology may incorrectly identify individuals, particularly with facial recognition. These errors can create significant problems for innocent people, placing them in stressful and pressured situations, such as being detained by authorities or denied border crossing.

This means... Increasing US border surveillance will harm thousands of innocent individuals because the technology may incorrectly identify them as criminal suspects, resulting in unfair treatment, false accusations, and serious disruptions to their daily lives.

Finally... Threatening Migrant Safety

According to... *Physicians for Human Rights*, January 10, 2019

<https://phr.org/our-work/resources/zero-protection-how-u-s-border-enforcement-harms-migrant-safety-and-health/>

It states... When border surveillance intensifies, individuals attempting to cross the border often choose more hazardous routes to avoid detection. They may attempt to cross through dangerous environments or rely on criminals for assistance, which has led to increased injuries and fatalities.

This means... Increasing US border surveillance will endanger thousands of migrants by compelling them to take life-threatening risks when attempting to cross the border through perilous routes, resulting in more accidents and deaths.

Therefore... Increasing US Border Surveillance WILL Harm Innocent People.

So, for all these reasons, please vote for the CON. Thank you.