



**FAMILIES**  
**for Freedom**

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**FREEDOM**  
**ZINE**

This zine is created by FFF members and those directly affected by the US immigration system.

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# PAIN ENDS

- Melinda Samuel

Breathe in the fresh air,  
Put your mind at ease.  
Let down your hair,  
Let it flow in the breeze.

Let your eyes wander  
To all the beauty to be seen.  
If those toxic thoughts you still do ponder,  
Then let out a scream.

Scream until the pain is gone,  
Until you no longer feel afraid.  
Open your eyes to a new dawn,  
Let the darkness fade.

No longer compare yourself  
Or your flaws to others' perfections.  
Take the negativity off the shelf.  
Focus on your direction.



Triumph of the Human Spirit

Photo: @Thirdblade



Mel on Horseback at FFF Retreat  
(10/16/19)

Pick the sadness up off the floor,  
Sweep it into the wind.  
Close the door on self-hatred.  
Never let it back in.

For the lies it would often tell you,  
You will no longer agree.  
Happiness and love are what you should hold onto.  
They are whom you should give the key.

Pay no attention to the toxic thoughts,  
Listen to those who adore everything you are.  
Overthinking was what you once were taught,  
But now those thoughts you put in a jar.

Focus on your goals,  
Never lose your fight.  
It's time to open new scrolls.  
Everything will be all right.

# The Immigrant's Plight

- Gerard Matthews

When the times get tough  
and you can't make a living  
When your survival depends  
on you earning a shilling  
You must board the plane  
and rise up above

And regretfully depart from  
the land that you love  
For the sake of that shilling  
you travel the earth  
Knowing you might not return  
to the land of your birth  
Anxious elated and excited  
you touch down in New York



"That #\$\$% Glass" - Antonio Mata

Because of some mistakes made  
you have paid a steep price  
Then the Government decides that  
you must make payment for them twice  
They lock you up in detention  
then say to hell with your rights  
And you have to prepare mentally  
and make fists for the fights



"Deportation Divides Families" - Antonio Mata

Very soon you find out  
that its nothing like Dundalk  
In the struggle to adapt to  
your new beginning in life  
You quickly learn to deal  
with all the trouble and strife

The days add to weeks  
then months into years  
Then you suddenly realize that  
you've conquered your fears  
In the land of the free with  
so much to explore and take in  
Its impossible to avoid the dangers  
and the perils of the drinking



FFF Meeting at the Office

The bell sounds and you slowly  
come out from your corner  
Your supporter is present but  
there was no one to warn her  
That the goal of the Government  
was your life to destroy  
And the dirty tactics that  
DHS were allowed to employ

To achieve their goal before the Judge  
they lied through their teeth  
With no concerns for your health  
or if you ended up in the street  
But the agents of tyranny forgets  
that justice can arrive in the night

And discretions against God's children  
will result in the terrible plight  
Of condemnation, suffering and disaster  
in the dungeons of despair  
And life everlasting full of wickedness  
and a soul way beyond repair  
When you choose to walk this path  
regretfully there is no prevention

Because as everybody knows  
out of hell there is no redemption  
You people who legislate and govern  
in this land the home of the brave  
Would do well to remember God's law  
if your soul you want to save  
Always welcome quench the thirst  
and serve food to the stranger

Follow this righteous path and you  
will never be faced with danger  
Up to heaven you will rise on the last day  
where you will spend your eternal life  
In the wonderful company of myself  
and my always charming wife

# My Dad Is Not a Refugee

- Jamaya Montrevil

This man you see  
He was not a refugee  
But just a man

Who loved to laugh  
And walk with his class  
By the sea

He liked America  
But he was forced to flee  
He could be you  
He could be me  
But it was my father

And there was nothing I could do  
But I tried  
He was not a refugee  
But just an amazing guy

He was not a refugee  
But that's what the system  
Wanted everyone to believe

He had a family  
Who loved and cared  
Now it's hard to bare

The fact that he's not here but we're still strong since  
Even though he's not here he's here  
And we want the world to be aware



"Birthday Girls at FFF Retreat" (10/15/19)



@lynxlight

FFF joins the "Day of Remembrance" march

Japanese American Survivors of US Internment Camps of the 1940s on the Day of Remembrance march in Manhattan on February 19, 2020. Fred Korematsu was 23 yo in 1942, when he was ordered to report to a Japanese Internment Camp. He refused to go.

He was arrested and convicted of defying a government order. He appealed to the Supreme Court and lost. They said his incarceration was justified due to military necessity. In 1983 legal historians found documents that intelligence agencies hid from the Supreme Court in 1944. The documents consistently showed that Japanese Americans had committed no acts of treason to justify mass incarceration. Mr. Korematsu's conviction was overturned, winning a significant civil rights victory!

Various FFF demonstrations outside 26 Federal Plaza in May, 2020



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TO  
**FAMILY**  
#  
**FREEDOM**

(Artwork by someone from the inside)

2019 FFF Membership Retreat



Thank you for reading our Freedom Zine! Every piece that you saw in this Zine was created and contributed by our members and those who are directly affected by the US immigration system.

If you would like to have your work added to our next Zine, please send your submissions to Families for Freedom for consideration. Our address is on the front cover of this Zine. Showcase your art and creativity! Tell us what freedom means to you through poetry or drawing. Show what it is like to be affected by the US immigration system and what your journey through the system has been like, whether you have a case or are a loved one of someone with a case.

We look forward to receiving your work! Be sure to check out the next issue of our Freedom Zine.

Support our work: [bit.ly/DONATEFFF](https://bit.ly/DONATEFFF)

Zine designed by: @thirdblade