CALL TO ACTION – August 5

VOTING + VOLUNTEERING = VICTORY!!!

**ACTION:** VOTE: Primaries end this Tuesday - August 7 at 8:00 PM and if you’ve not voted yet do it right now - don’t delay! As of this last Thursday, the voter returned ballots for the Primary were at super-low 18%. Your vote matters to help propel our endorsed candidates to victory.

**ACTION:** VOLUNTEER: Life is busy. You have stuff to do. Perhaps, it is time to add one more thing to your list! OI has endorsed 13 candidates in the current election cycle. Pick one that you feel strongly about and go to their campaign website and contact them. There is work you can do to help, whether you can do a little or do a lot.

One of our members who was out canvassing this week said: “I was amazed at how many people weren’t sure where their ballots were, whether they had received them, or who the candidates were.” We can help those folks get their vote in!

**ACTION:** Finally, if you didn’t do this last week, it’s still a great day to do it. Get your personal contacts ready and:
1. Call up at least 10 of your progressive friends and neighbors that vote in the races where we have endorsed candidates. Ask them if they’ve voted in the primary and encourage them to do so if they’ve not. Right now is a good time.
2. If they would like more information on the candidates we have endorsed, send them to https://www.olympiaindivisible.com/endorsements.html

Make a difference today!

SAVE OUR DEMOCRACY

**PRESERVE ROE V. WADE**

Everything old is new again. The right of a women to receive an abortion became a right 45 years ago. Now, all women (and men that love women) need to be in the fight to stop the confirmation of Kavanaugh for the Supreme Court of these United States. We the People need to focus on stopping the senate confirmation and one way is for women of the pre-Roe vs Wade era to share their stories of what is was personally for them before safe abortions were the norm and protected by the constitution. Senator Patty Murray is collecting personal histories of that time.

On the senate floor recently she said” … a vote for President Trump’s Judge Kavanaugh is a vote to go back to the days when women had to go into back alleys for health care,” Murray said in her speech. “When women had to ask
for permission, when women were shamed and when women, and girls, died because of the laws of our land. We unfortunately already know all too well what this looks like because there are states nationwide where extreme politicians have chipped away at women’s health-care rights and have been waiting for exactly this moment — for someone exactly like Judge Kavanaugh — to go even further.”

**ACTION:** Senator Patty Murray (@PattyMurray) tweeted at 11:36 AM on Sat, Aug 04, 2018:
Your stories and your voices are going to make the difference in stopping Judge Kavanaugh.
Do you have a story that shows why reproductive rights matter to you? Share it now and make your voice heard → https://t.co/1Ne6sXqeRD

“If you do not have Twitter call Senator Murray’s office. (253)572-3636

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**OPPOSE THE ADDITION OF A CITIZENSHIP QUESTION TO THE 2020 CENSUS**

Secretary of Commerce Wilber Ross added a citizenship question to the planned 2020 Census. The Constitution mandates a census of everyone living in the US, not just citizens. The addition of such a question will lead many immigrants to refuse to respond to the census. The effect of this undercount of US residents would be to help Republican redistricting efforts, and it would substantially reduce federal funding to states with large immigrant populations, including California, New York, Illinois, Texas, and Florida.

The federal government is in court over this issue after being sued by 18 states including Washington. The judge in that case has ruled that the lawsuit could proceed. Governor Jay Inslee said, “Between underfunding the 2020 Census and making changes that will suppress participation by already under-represented populations, it’s clear this administration is trying to sabotage a critical tool for making informed policy decisions and ensuring fair representation.”

**ACTION:** Call and thank our state’s Attorney General, Bob Ferguson, for our state’s involvement in the lawsuit fighting the inclusion of this question in the 2020 Census.

Attorney General Bob Ferguson (360) 753-6200

*Script:*

My name is ______________, and I am a member of Olympia Indivisible. I am calling to thank Attorney General Bob Ferguson for joining the multistate lawsuit fighting to stop the addition of a citizenship question to the 2020 Census. Adding this question to the census would significantly depress participation by immigrants and cause a serious undercount of our state population. I appreciate your efforts to protect the census and ensure fair representation.

**FIGHT FOR IMMIGRANT CHILDREN SEPARATED FROM FAMILIES**

As of last Thursday, the government admitted that 572 children of immigrants remain in custody instead of being reunited with their families. Of that number, as many as 410 of them may have been left behind when their parents were deported. While 1,979 children have been either reunited with their families or placed with sponsors, the ones who remain in custody are the difficult cases. The Trump administration’s response to this challenge? They tried to convince a Federal Judge that it is really the ACLU’s responsibility to find the families of the remaining 572!!!! Fortunately, Judge Sabraw didn’t buy their attempt to abdicate their responsibility and told the government attorneys that the government was “100% responsible” for the separations. With much of the public outrage dying down after many of the families have been reunited, the remaining children could become the forgotten ones. Clearly the Trump administration doesn’t want to do anything more to resolve their cases. Our members of Congress must continue to hold the Trump administration accountable for cleaning up the mess they made; we
should not be relying on a single Federal Judge in San Diego to ensure that all these children are removed from Federal custody as soon as possible, and either reunited with their families or placed with safe sponsors. The horror stories that we have heard about the conditions in federal detention, and the smirking federal officials who still claim that the detention centers are like “summer camp”, make it clear that these children are still in danger of psychological and emotional damage. Further, their continuing incarceration remains a giant stain on our national morals.

**ACTION:** Until all the children are out of federal custody, our Members of Congress must not stop demanding that Congress continue to hold hearings on progress on reuniting children with their families, such as the recent Senate Justice Committee hearing. And, if members should continue to express outrage to Trump administration officials at the slow pace of the reunification and the Trump administration’s recent attempt to shirk their clear responsibility for remedying this crime against humanity. Two top Trump administration officials with clear responsibility for this mess are Homeland Security Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen and acting ICE Director Thomas Homan.

Call Senator Patty Murray (253)572-3636 Call Senator Maria Cantwell (253)572-2281
Representative Denny Heck (360) 459-8514

Script for our MOCs:

Dear MOC, My name is __________ and I am a member of Olympia Indivisible. I remain deeply concerned about the fate of the 572 immigrant children who are still in government hands, instead of being reunited with their families as the Federal Judge has ordered. I am very worried that they may become the forgotten ones, languishing in detention. I am outraged that the Trump administration recently tried to abdicate responsibility for cleaning up the results of their crime against humanity, by arguing in court that the ACLU should finish the job of reuniting them, and that Trump administration officials still claim that the detention centers are like summer camp. Congress must continue to hold hearings and demand accountability from the Trump administration for rectifying this tragedy they created, and I urge you not to rest on this issue until the last child has been returned.

Script for Trump Administration officials:

Dear (Secretary Nielsen/Acting Director Homan):

I believe that our nation has a moral responsibility to protect children and treat them with basic decency, regardless of immigration status. Ignoring deadlines for reunion is unacceptable. We must reunite these families immediately. The inhumane practice of separating children from parents as an immigration deterrent must stop.

As a taxpayer funding this egregious neglect of duty, I urge you to take full and immediate responsibility for ensuring children’s well-being and safety. Keep families together. Stop locking them up. Reunite them immediately.

Sincerely,

DHS Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen
Address: Secretary of Homeland Security, Washington, D.C. 20528 (the address is complete)

Acting ICE Director Thomas Homan
Address: Immigration and Customs Enforcement, 500 12th St. SW, Washington, D.C. 20536

**COMING SOON**
August 10 Friday 6-8:00 pm

Olympia Indivisible Members TGIF Gathering!
Comradeship! Connection! Curry! RJ’s Gourmet Grill 318 4th Ave E Olympia

August 19, 2018 4-8pm
OI FIRST ANNUAL PICNIC: Priest Point Park, Shelter #1

September 20 Monday 7:00pm
New Member Orientation: If you are new to Olympia Indivisible, you will want to attend the next NMO. Please mark your calendar. A formal invitation will follow in the next few weeks.

This week’s Call to Action brought to you by Mindy Allen, Joni Brill, Josh Haymond, Karen Lichtenstein, Bill Tweit, Lucy Tweit and Tom Dyer. Interested in joining our team? Contact indivisible.action.oly@gmail.com.