

Search Continues for Parents of 628 Children Separated at US Border

A court-appointed committee has not yet found the parents of 628 children separated at the United States-Mexico border since 2017.

They were separated under a "zero tolerance" policy on illegal border crossings. The policy resulted in thousands of separations when parents were charged as criminals.

The parents of 333 children are believed to be in the U.S., while those of the other 295 are believed to be outside the country.

That does not mean the parents **and** children are still separated. It only means that the committee has been unable to find the parents. The committee has found other family members for 168 of the 628 children **whose** parents have not been found.

On November 25, the Trump administration gave the committee phone numbers **and** other information to assist the search.

Lee Gelernt is a lawyer with the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) **which** represents the parents. He said he had been asking the administration for any additional information for the last year.

"We just received this new information the day before (the American holiday of) Thanksgiving **and** only **because** the global outcry over the fact that these parents had not been found," he told the Associated Press.

The search committee said it is too early to know how useful the additional phone numbers will be in finding more parents.

In June 2018, U.S. District Judge Dana Sabraw in San Diego ordered an end to the "zero-tolerance" policy. He ordered the children **and** parents reunited within 30 days. At that time, more than 2,700 children were separated from their parents.

The 628 children **whose** parents have not been found were separated before the judge's order, going back to July 1, 2017. The children were all released by the government before the June 2018 order **and** their families are difficult to find **because** the government kept poor records. They include hundreds of children separated during a test of the policy in El Paso, Texas, from July to November 2017, that was not known to the public at the time.

During the final weeks of his campaign, President-elect Joe Biden promised he would create a special committee to find the parents.

The ACLU wants Biden to permit separated families to return to the United States **and** to receive "some kind of legal status." Gelernt added, "We think that's only fair given what they've been put through."

Volunteers have searched for parents by phone **and** by going house-to-house in Central America. The effort was stopped by the coronavirus health crisis. The committee has also mailed letters to 1,600 possible families and established free telephone numbers in the U.S., Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador for them to call.

I'm Susan Shand.

The Associated Press reported on this story. Susan Shand adapted it for Learning English. Hai Do was the editor.

1. Relaciona las palabras del texto con su significado en español.

- | | |
|------------|--------------------|
| 1. SEARCH | A. PADRES |
| 2. BORDER | B. ACUSADO (S) |
| 3. PARENTS | C. PROTESTA/CLAMOR |
| 4. POLICY | D. BUSCAR |
| 5. CHARGED | E. AYUDAR |
| 6. ASSIST | F. FRONTERA |
| 7. OUTCRY | G. POLITICA |

CONECTORES # 1

2. Selecciona la respuesta correcta para cada opción.

- a) El comité designado por la corte encontró a los padres de 628 niños.
FALSO
VERDADERO
NO SE MENCIONA
- b) Los niños fueron separados de sus padres en la frontera.
FALSO
VERDADERO
NO SE MENCIONA
- c) Los niños fueron separados de sus padres bajo una política de "Zero tolerancia" a ilegales.
FALSO
VERDADERO
NO SE MENCIONA
- d) La política anti inmigrantes separó a muchas familias por una supuesta asociación con los carteles.
FALSO
VERDADERO
NO SE MENCIONA
- e) En noviembre 25, la administración de Biden dio información al comité.
FALSO
VERDADERO
NO SE MENCIONA
- f) **AND** es un conector de adición, ¿Cuál es su principal uso en el texto?
CONECTAR DEPENDENCIAS Y SUS FUNCIONES
UNIR FAMILIARES Y FORMAS DE CONTACTO
ENLAZAR PARTIDOS POLITICOS Y SUS LEYES
- g) **BECAUSE** es un conector de causa o razón, ¿Cuál es su principal uso en el texto?
DAR UNA JUSTIFICACIÓN DE LA INEFICACIA PARA ENCONTRAR A LOS PADRES
DAR UN FUNDAMENTO PARA NUEVAS POLITICAS MIGRATORIAS
DAR UN MOTIVO PARA DEJAR DE IR A ESTADOS UNIDOS DE MANERA ILEGAL
- h) **WHOSE** (cuyo/cuya/cuyos/cuyas) une a un sustantivo con su posesión, ¿En los 2 ejemplos que define a los 228 niños?
SUS PADRES
SUS PADRES EN SU PAIS DE ORIGEN
SUS PADRES NO ENCONTRADOS
- i) **WHICH** (el cual/ lo cual/ la cual/ los cuales / las cuales) por lo regular define un cosa, en este caso a una institución, ¿Qué define a la UCLA?
QUE REPRESENTA AL COMITE
QUE REPRESENTA A LOS NIÑOS
QUE REPRESENTA A LOS PADRES