

## **Universities as “Sanctuaries”**

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When Donald Trump, a reality television personality with anti-immigrant views, was elected President of the United States in November 2016, thousands of students, faculty and staff at many colleges and universities around the country asked their institutions to affirmatively declare themselves sanctuaries for undocumented students. Young people justifiably feel and felt threatened by President Trump’s campaign and post-election rhetoric, including derogatory statements about Mexicans, Haitians, and Africans, promises to ramp up immigration enforcement, and the plan to build a wall and require Mexico to pay for it. Leaders at a number of higher education institutions immediately voiced support for undocumented students and embraced the “sanctuary” label.