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## ARGUING ABOUT A WALL

By Steve Bakke  December 17, 2018



Building a border wall had bipartisan support until recent years. Two things brought about the current needless debate: Trump's combative style, and uncooperative attitudes in Congress encouraged by almost a decade of divisive national leadership. The debate has deteriorated into childish claims like: "a wall is immoral," or "they'll just get longer ladders."

Why do border officials support the wall? Illegal immigrants attempting entry at legitimate entry points isn't the reason. Illegal drugs smuggled in cargo and at entry points isn't the focus either. Nor are foreign citizens becoming illegal by overstaying their visa.

Border officials believe the value comes from creating a physical barrier which effectively discourages discretionary entry from our southern border. As a result, order is brought to the process of "sorting out" those desiring entry, and a modern wall influences movement so that border officials can better predict "soft-spots" requiring attention.

Border security is part of national security, and there are many pieces to the puzzle, "e-verify" being one. But a modern border wall, properly designed, is also an integral part of effective border security. Democrats arbitrarily selected the wall as an issue to deny Trump any success in a very public, dramatic fashion. They thirst for his failure in something.....anything.

Quoting Cal Thomas: "A little humility would be especially helpful to Trump, but that might appear insincere and beyond his capabilities." Perhaps Trump deserves some Democrat push-back, but they shouldn't cut off their nose to spite their face.