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Guest commentary: Trump's rule already can be summed up in a word — fear

By DACEY SMITH

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Since Jan. 20, there has been a sense of impending doom looming over the cou

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Our newest president has differentiated himself from past presidents in many ways, but the most troubling is the instant fear that has infected the minds of thousands of citizens since the moment President Trump raised his right hand and kept his left hovered above The Bible.

As redundant as it might sound, fear truly has become the key word when describing the past weeks under Trump's rule.

All over the country women, teens, minorities and LGBTQ+ are glued to current news outlets, watching in real times as their rights get stripped away and their entire identities are being disregarded and thrown away.

The biggest crisis thrown in the face of the media as of February 2025 is the issue of ICE.

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement has spent these past weeks making its presence known and felt throughout the nation. Hundreds of Hispanic families express a fear of going to school, work, stores, or anywhere they can be targeted and taken.

Most Hispanic teens refuse to go to school in case that it might be the last time they see their close friends. Protests have started erupting all over the country, and citizens are learning what rights they never knew they possessed.

ICE's tactics have been forced into the public spotlight, clearly showing the public how ICE preys on families where English is not their first language. These families are poorer, unemployed or have larger families living in smaller, more crowded places.

Trump described his reasoning for these dehumanizing acts to get "illegal aliens" or "criminals" out of the country. His logic remains so deluded that Trump cannot see that his men's manipulation of the law confuses these families, tricking them to turn themselves in, an illegal action itself.

With the publicity surrounding these ICE raids and having so many citizens watching and reporting their every move, it has opened many people's eyes to the harsh reality of what manner of man they elected to the highest office in the land.

Trump made his policies about immigrants and his thoughts of people immigrating from over the border extremely public as far back as 2016. He never welcomed or included minorities throughout any of his campaigns, and yet he had an overwhelming amount of support from the Latino community for his 2024 election.

Now we're seeing all these communities turn their back on Trump and reject the policies they supported.

The country's number-one goal has turned into how to get as many "criminals" out of the country as fast as they can, no matter how immoral their tactics.

Let us not forget that a convicted felon is the evil mastermind behind this — but remember there are only 1,417 days left of his torturous term.

Dacey Smith lives in Galveston.