An Escalating Fight
in the Village of Dwight
2018 distributed at the No ICE Dwight marches

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True Leap Press
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The village of Dwight, approximately 2.5 hour drive from Chicago, is currently being considered for $20M ICE detention facility to cage undocumented peoples.

This pamphlet aims to expose the lies that are driving the pro-construction argument.

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Private prisons sell bodies

The proposed zoning of the land off I-55 as "industrial" says it all; this proposed facility is part of a prison-industrial complex that profits from human misery. These prisons make their money from jailing people torn from their families, workplaces, and communities, people who have no business being locked away. They should have no place in any self-respecting community.
If a facility is no longer profitable, the company closes it. ICA is no different from any other for-profit private prison company—and they are only in it for the money.

BLINDED JUSTICE
The below article is a depiction of how the mainstream media is spinning the pro-ICE, pro-annexation argument....

What economic benefit?

For-profit prisons leave a trail of economic devastation. Littlefield, Texas, was left with millions of dollars of debt after the private prison there closed. In Hobart, Indiana, the GEO’s Group’s purchase of local property caused panic selling among many nearby residents concerned about declining property values that a for-profit immigration prison would cause. Private prisons also generally do not hire locally and do not pay well, and prison employees might very well live and spend their money elsewhere.

Private prison companies are only interested in making profits. Their business model is built on

- maximizing their income, by keeping their jails full, and
- minimizing their expenses, by cutting corners on food, medical care, and other expenses for the detainees and on wages, training, and other expenses for workers.

Dwight — The Dwight Planning Commission will consider an annexation agreement later this month that could be the first step in bringing a federal detention center for illegal immigrants to the Livingston County village.

The commission will consider the matter on Feb. 19 and forward a recommendation to the Village Board, Village President Jared Anderson said Wednesday.

“This is a piece of property that is currently not in the village of Dwight, and it’s just one of the things that has to occur in a long process for something like this to happen,” said Anderson.

Immigration Centers of America, headquartered in Richmond, Va., has contacted village officials about an 88-acre parcel of land near Interstate 55 and Illinois 17 for a federal center to house 1,500 men awaiting immigration hearings.

The facility would be managed by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

The proposal does not include the vacant Dwight Correctional Center, a state women’s prison that was closed in 2013 by the Illinois Department of Corrections in a cost-cutting move.

Calls to the Immigration Centers of America were not immediately returned on Wednesday.
If the detention center is built, Anderson said, the estimated $20 million facility would employ about 200 people.

The deal, though, is far from final, he added.

"They (the company) are scouting several locations around the country," he said. "They have certain requirements that they are looking for, such as they want it near railheads and a hospital nearby. It should be near a major city like Chicago and so we have a lot of the things they are looking for."

Amtrak has a depot in Dwight and OSP HealthCare Saint James-John W. Albrecht Medical Center is in nearby Pontiac. Dwight, with a population of about 4,200, is about 80 miles southwest of Chicago. The facility would be located on Dwight's western edge.

Adam Douzis, the CEO for the Greater Livingston County Economic Development Council, said the additional jobs would be great news for the area.

"We recognize the potential of a significant economic impact which may result if Immigration Centers of America develops a facility in Dwight," he said. "It is anticipated that approximately 200 jobs and approximately $14 million of payroll would be associated with the project. That said, several rounds of review by local and federal officials remain prior to project approval."

Anderson said that he has talked with local residents about the proposed project.

"I know there are some concerns on social media that haven't been all that positive, but really, everyone I have talked with has been very positive. We lost the prison several years ago and that really hurt us as far as jobs so something like this could be a real benefit for that."

Immigration Centers of America was founded in 2008 and operates a detention center in Farmville, Va. The company has several pending contracts to build other facilities and would have to be the recipient of a formal bid from the government in order to move forward.

Detainees who are facing criminal charges would be housed in county jails and not in the detention center.

The rooms at the detention center would be unlocked, and the detainees would have access to exercise facilities, if the facility is managed similar to the Farmville complex.

The Dwight Village Board could consider the annexation agreement on Feb. 25.

**BUT REALITY IS FAR FROM THIS .....**
Other communities have rejected similar proposed for-profit prisons—
with good reason:

This type of facility has already been rejected throughout northern Illinois and Indiana, from Crete, Joliet, and Hopkins Park in Illinois to Hobart, Gary, Roselawn, and Elkhart County in Indiana. Several of these communities could use an economic boost. Yet the people and elected leaders in these communities recognized that these prisons are wrong on so many levels, including economically and morally.

A prison is a prison:

ICA can say whatever it wants regarding its proposed facility, but one thing should be plain: If you cannot leave the facility of your own free will, you are being imprisoned, and the facility is a prison. It doesn’t matter why you are kept there, or for how long, or under what conditions. If you can’t leave, it’s a prison.

If someone is locked behind a fence without the ability to leave, that is not freedom.

During World War II, 120,000 Americans of Japanese descent were removed from their homes and sent to internment camps. While some made the best of their situations, they were not free to leave. The conditions under which they lived did not make them any less imprisoned.

We now look back at the internment with shame— as we should at jailing anyone.
EXHIBIT B
DETENTION PARCEL

THENCE NORTH 1 DEGREE 41 MINUTES 33 SECONDS WEST 49.05 FEET ALONG THE EAST LINE OF THE WEST HALF OF SAID NORTHEAST QUARTER TO THE NORTH RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD AND THE POINT OF BEGINNING;

THENCE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 34 MINUTES 07 SECONDS WEST 1854.04 FEET ALONG SAID NORTH RIGHT OF WAY LINE TO THE EASTERNLY RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF INTERSTATE ROUTE 55;

THENCE NORTH 6 DEGREES 33 MINUTES 19 SECONDS EAST 956.38 FEET ALONG SAID EASTERNLY RIGHT OF WAY LINE;

THENCE NORTH 88 DEGREES 18 MINUTES 27 SECONDS EAST 1715.13 FEET TO THE EAST LINE OF THE WEST HALF OF SAID NORTHEAST QUARTER;

THENCE SOUTH 01 DEGREE 41 MINUTES 33 SECONDS EAST 956.00 FEET ALONG SAID EAST LINE TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

DEATH CAMP USA

Many of the people in immigration detention are asylum seekers—people who have fled their native countries due to political, religious, or other forms of persecution and are seeking safety.

Many have been jailed and even tortured in their home countries, only to be detained once they arrive.

Applying for asylum is LEGAL, and asylum seekers are legally here while their applications are being processed. (So within their own rules, migrant peoples)

Placing war are allowed to live within the jurisdiction of the U.S. government in New Mexico (to preserve and State institution)