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### Conditions of Children Held in ICE Detention Centers During the Obama and Trump Administrations

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# Conditions of Children Held in ICE Detention Centers Under the Obama & Trump Administrations



PRESENTER:  
**Emily Sadutto**

**BACKGROUND:** The current immigration policies under President Biden was both **inherited** and **impacted** by Obama’s policy of **family detention** and Trump’s **family separation** policies. By studying how both administrations were in violation of the 1997 *Flores* Agreement, the Biden administration can be held accountable.

## Flores Agreement

- **1997 US government settlement**
  - Provided protections to unaccompanied minors
- **Judicial revision in 2015**
  - Provided protections to ALL minors

## Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)

- Operates border detention facilities
- **National Detention Standards**
  - ICE’s updated procedures and policies are published yearly
  - NDS 2008 (Obama) vs. 2019 (Trump)



# While ICE detention centers were in violation of the 1997 Flores Agreement throughout both the Obama and Trump administrations, these transgressions greatly increased under Trump.

	FAMILY DETENTION (OBAMA)	FAMILY SEPARATION (TRUMP)
Children released after 20 days of detainment	X	X
Children received (nutritious) food	X	X
Children received medical attention	X	X
Children received sufficient care for their hygiene	X	X
Children were separated from their parents	X	+



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## METHODS

- I. **Legal**
  - I. Analysis of whether the law and precedents were followed
- II. **Humanistic**
  - I. Highlights structural issues that led to humanitarian crises
- III. **Historical**
  - I. Perceives humanitarian crises with a legal mindset

## SCHOLARLY LITERATURE

- **Administrative Law Review**
  - an overview and analysis of the border detention process, conditions, and actions within
- **Journal on Migration and Human Security**
  - Legal analysis of the Obama administration’s immigration policies
- **University of California Press**
  - How food impacts the migrant experience
- **Columbia Law Review**
  - Analyzes family separation policy
- **Social Justice Journal**
  - How “zero tolerance” is affecting migrant families
- **Bipartisan Policy**
  - Compares and contrasts the different immigration policies between Obama and Trump

## REFERENCES

Neeley, Steven; Schriro, Dora;  
 Carney, Megan; Lee, Stephen;  
 Greene, Judith; Zamora, Lazaro