



new
americans
museum
S A N D I E G O

Update From: New Americans Museum, SD
Wednesday, November 30, 2016

This past Saturday morning [November 26] in plain daylight, a hate crime took place at the New Americans Museum when signage was defaced with anti immigrant-biased statements:

"Too much immigration! Go back to your country. This one is ours!"

A police report was filed. SDPD is classifying it as a hate crime. The FBI was notified. We are deeply troubled and saddened by this incident and more vigilant than ever as our core, our museum's mission to uplift and celebrate our immigrant contributions and heritage has been directly assaulted with this anti immigrant defacement.

This country was built by immigrants. Many generations of them. It is extremely distressing to see this kind of hatred directed at immigrants. What happened today only strengthens our determination, even more, to tell the story of people who come here from around the world seeking a better life. Multigenerational immigrant contributions are a vital part of what makes our country great.

Staff and volunteer trainings will be implemented and we plan to convene a meeting in the coming weeks at NAM to come together as a community to discuss ways to address and support each other as these types of hate crime incidents, big and small, emerge at local levels given our nation's charged political climate and the intolerance it has awoken.

Note: Congress has defined a hate crime as a "criminal offense against a person or property motivated in whole or in part by an offender's bias against a race, religion, disability, ethnic origin or sexual orientation."

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