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Judge Blocks Trump from Separating Families at the Border

The decision of the district court judge, Diana Sabraw, to ban the separation of children and parents found crossing the US-Mexican border illegally marks a significant step toward ending the splitting of illegal migrant families. The judge also ordered the Trump administration to establish a communication line and reunite separated families within thirty days. For children aged below five years, the judge ordered the Trump administration to reunite them with their parents within fourteen days. The nationwide injunction also applies to the separation of families in future, except in instances where the authorities find the parents unfit or against the idea of being with the child (Walters). The holding of 2,047 children in custody by the immigration department embodies the magnitude of efforts that the administration has to devote towards reuniting the families within the stated period.



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The judge attributed the decision to three main concerns: the confusion that dominates the current zero tolerance policy, the lack of an already established process of reuniting parents and children in the immigration department, and Trump's executive order. The order advocates for the large-scale detention of families in combating illegal migration. However, the ruling still allows the justice department to prosecute unlawful migrants on immigration charges following their arrival in the United States with their children. The decision only permits family separation during the brief time when the parent faces the charges before a federal judge and serves the sentence (Planas & Foley). Nevertheless, the ruling signifies hope for parents and children that would not have had the chance of seeing each other under the zero-tolerance policy.

Works Cited

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