

## FLOWER POWER AGAINST MILITARIZATION

Over the next several months members of the border region community will be taking photos of themselves and symbols of militarization along the border. They will be holding or placing an orange daisy near the objects of militarization to signify a strong desire to revitalize the region and not to continue to militarize it. Orange radiates warmth and happiness while a daisy signifies innocence and purity both are significant themes for a border region that now looks like a war zone.

### Economic Facts About the Border Region

- 15 million live and work in the border region from San Diego, CA to Brownsville, TX
- Mexico is currently our 3rd largest trading partner with \$494 billion in total goods traded during 2012.  
<http://www.ustr.gov/countries-regions/americas/mexico>
- One in every 24 workers in the U.S. depend on trade with Mexico.  
<http://www.wilsoncenter.org/sites/default/files/Working%20Together%20Full%20Document.pdf>

### Facts About Militarization

- Border Security cost U.S. taxpayers 18 billion per year. That is more than the FBI, ATF, U.S. Marshals, DEA and the secret service combined.  
[http://articles.chicagotribune.com/2013-06-16/opinion/ct-edit-immig-20130616\\_1\\_border-security-border-agents-mexican-border](http://articles.chicagotribune.com/2013-06-16/opinion/ct-edit-immig-20130616_1_border-security-border-agents-mexican-border)
- Building more border fence will cost \$16 million per mile.  
[http://www.nytimes.com/2013/03/03/world/americas/border-security-hard-to-achieve-and-harder-to-measure.html?\\_r=0](http://www.nytimes.com/2013/03/03/world/americas/border-security-hard-to-achieve-and-harder-to-measure.html?_r=0)
- Drone flights cost 3,200 per hour which is equal to 43 million per year and the Department of Homeland Security' Border Patrol has spent \$240 million on a drone program that is — according to an internal audit — remarkably ineffectual.  
<http://www.businessinsider.com/homeland-security-is-throwing-money-away-with-their-hapless-drone-program-2012-6#ixzz2ifsYhsPA>
- The proposed senate immigration legislation will add 20,00 new agents and 700 miles of more fencing.  
<http://www.cnn.com/2013/06/20/politics/immigration-senate/>

### Facts About Revitalization

- Delays due to outdated infrastructure cause the United States to lose \$116 million per minute at the five busiest ports along our southern border.  
[http://www.themonitor.com/opinion/columnists/article\\_c0f65242-042f-11e3-821d-001a4bcf6878.html?mode=jqm](http://www.themonitor.com/opinion/columnists/article_c0f65242-042f-11e3-821d-001a4bcf6878.html?mode=jqm)
- Border enforcement buildups have created chokepoints at ports of entry affecting more than 215 million people and 13 million containers entering legally every year.  
[http://transborder.bts.gov/programs/international/transborder/TBDR\\_BC/TBDR\\_BCQ.html](http://transborder.bts.gov/programs/international/transborder/TBDR_BC/TBDR_BCQ.html)