

Lives Still in Limbo: UnDACAmended and Navigating Difficult Transitions

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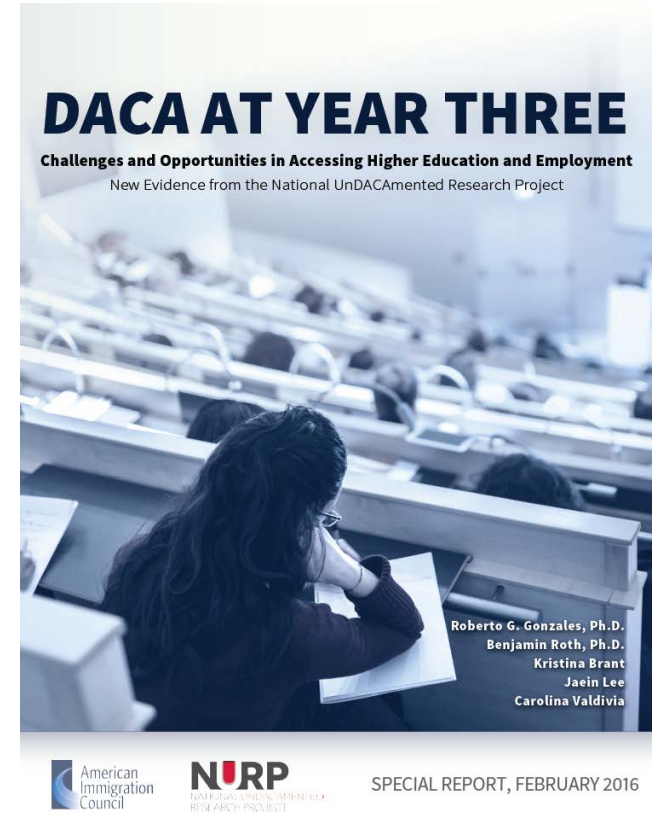
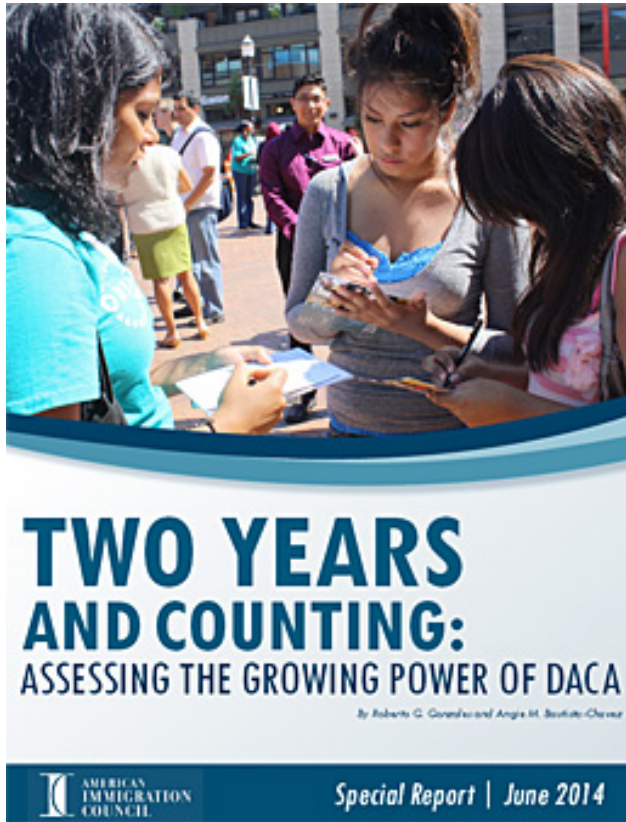
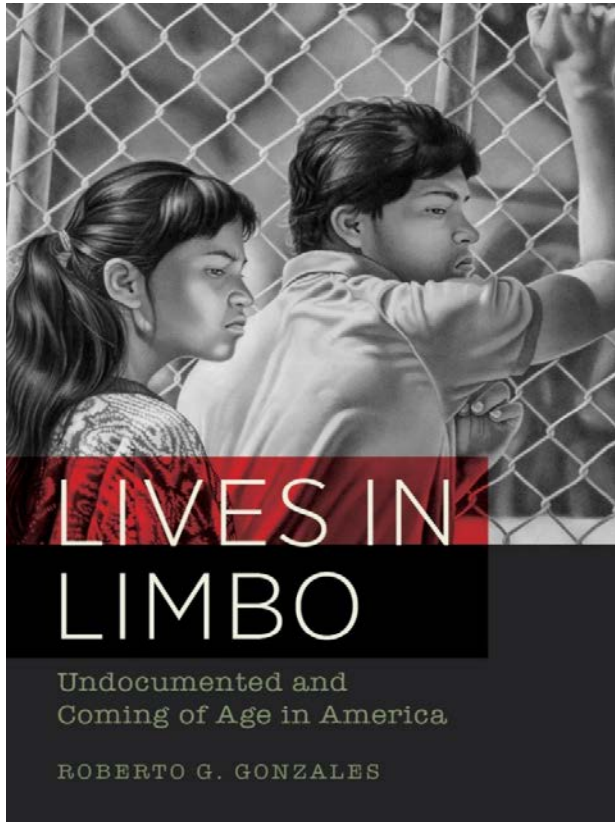
Ending DACA

September 5, 2017 AG Jeff Sessions announces end of DACA



- 6 month wind down – March 5, 2018
- Current being fought in the courts
- Element of Time
- Congress has not been able to come to a solution
- Young people and their families have no other choice but to carry out their everyday lives
- Context of heavy enforcement and anxiety

Studying Undocumented Adolescents



1982 Plyler v. Doe: Partial Integration

- Provided legal access to K-12 schools
- Failed to address education **beyond** high school
- Laws allow undocumented children to go to school, but they **cannot legally** work, vote, travel outside of the country, receive financial aid for college, or drive in most states
- Thus, tens of thousands leave high schools every year encountering uncertain futures

Transition to Illegality

“Awakening to a nightmare”

Blocked paths and uncertain
futures

Stigma and changed social
patterns

Learning to be Illegal

Responses to Stress



Enter DACA

DACA provided **qualified** immigrants with:

- Access to deportation relief
- Renewable work permits
- Temporary Social Security numbers



- **At least 15 years of age or older at the time of filing**
- Under age 31 as of June 15, 2012
- U.S. arrival before age 16
- 5 years of continuous residence in U.S.
- In school, graduated, obtained GED, or enrolled in a literacy or career training program
- No felony convictions, significant misdemeanors, or 3 or more other misdemeanors
- Does not pose threat to national security or public safety

Delayed Transition to Illegality

- Short-term Mobility
- Diminished Fear
- Improved Outlooks
- Greater Sense of Belonging



Shifting the Conversation to the Local Level

STATE AND LOCAL POLICIES

Access to driver's licenses, municipal identification cards

Tuition equity policies

Expand menu of lawful pursuits: internships, community service activities

LOCAL SUPPORTS

Create safe learning environments in schools and foster mentorship

Develop awareness and sensitivity training for school leaders, teachers, staff, and community members

Develop campus resource centers

Identify campus sponsors or liaisons

Provide mental health support

Connect families to legal aid, know your rights trainings, rapid response plans