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American Families United Responds to Proposed HUD Rule on Mixed-Status Households: This Rule Doesn't Just Target Immigrants, It Targets American Families.

WASHINGTON, D.C. — [American Families United](#) (AFU), the only national organization led by and for U.S. citizens in mixed-status marriages, is deeply alarmed by the proposed rule from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) that would effectively bar mixed-status families from federally subsidized housing. If finalized, the rule would require every member of a household, regardless of age, to provide proof of citizenship or eligible immigration status in order to remain in HUD-funded housing, putting American spouses and their children at direct risk of eviction. HUD claims the rule will protect "hardworking U.S. citizens", but **the hardworking U.S. citizens in mixed-status families are the ones this rule would push aside.**

Under current regulations, mixed-status families, households by definition where some members are U.S. citizens, can receive prorated assistance based on the number of eligible members. The proposed rule would eliminate that longstanding provision and replace it with a 30-day window, after which the entire household would lose assistance. HUD itself acknowledges that the rule would "adversely affect" mixed-status families. Housing advocates estimate that as many as 80,000 people could face eviction, including more than 37,000 children, many of them U.S. citizens.

"Instead of making it harder for Americans in mixed-status marriages to survive, the government should be focused on fixing the broken immigration system that created this nightmare for so many of its citizens. Each day in this country, Americans are losing their spouses to deportation which is creating insurmountable financial hardship and instead of addressing that problem, the government has removed one of the only life rafts available to them" said **Ashley DeAzevedo**, Executive Director of American Families United. "This is another example of how disconnected elected officials are from the problems facing real Americans. Instead of harming its most vulnerable, I encourage our elected officials to get serious about immigration reform by passing legislation like The Dignity Act.

"AFU's own research shows that nearly 98% of U.S. citizens in mixed-status marriages are already experiencing emotional hardship and 78% are experiencing financial hardship because of our broken immigration system. **This rule would deepen the crisis that American families are already experiencing.**"

The proposed HUD rule follows a pattern that AFU has documented across multiple areas of federal policy: enforcement measures that are described in terms of immigration status but

hit U.S. citizens hard. When a mixed-status family is evicted, it is the American spouse who also loses stable housing. It is the American children who are uprooted from their schools and communities. It is American families who are pushed further into crisis.

AFU urges the public to submit comments during the 60-day comment period and encourages policymakers to consider the full impact of this rule on American families before it is finalized. Immigration policy should be guided by facts, not fear, and no policy that makes American children homeless should be called a solution.

About American Families United American Families United is a grassroots, membership-based organization that supports and mobilizes U.S. citizens in mixed-status marriages. AFU educates policymakers and the public about the real-life impact of immigration laws on American families, builds community and trusted information for impacted citizens, and advocates for bipartisan solutions that keep families together. For interviews or additional comments, please contact press@americanfamiliesunited.org.

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