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### **Artist Statement**

Child immigrants are often not recognized as “human”. They are seen as something that can be bullied, harassed, played with, and abused. With this poster, I wanted to highlight two things, that these kids are human and the need for them to have a family. This poster is depicting what would be the wishlist of a child immigrant. Of course, they would want toys, video games regular kid things. But more than anything they want their family back. Many of these children are separated from their families at a very young age because their parents were deported. These families leave their countries to find a better future for their kids. They are running from gang violence, politics, and unsafe living environments. While seeking refuge households are invaded and families are separated. The government only cares about deporting these “aliens” not recognizing that they too are people trying to survive in this world. This leaves the children alone and scared. The children carry these problems and hardships to school where they cannot focus and on top of that face judgment from fellow classmates, where they also can’t recognize them as people. This poster should be able to relate to any child that reads the message. They matt see themselves relating to the child's wishlist and comparing it to their own lives. It gives the other children an insight onto what it can be like to have your wishes overshadowed by a necessity. I chose to have

this poster on a train because children are known to never be still. They start to look around everywhere to find some source of entertainment. My poster can be eye-catching to them because they see some things that may be familiar to them. Maybe that might be the background which is a classroom. A place where the majority of kids go on a daily basis can really focus their attention. With this attention, if they are curious enough they may ask their guardian to search up the website in the bottom right-hand corner, therefore both the child and the guardian would be more informed about immigration laws. Or what catches their eye could be the big words saying "Help Reunite Families" this way they will start asking questions. Those fortunate enough to have full families of their own can go home and spread the word about this to their families adding more minds to this issue. While these young children are the main focus. The poster can cause an emotional effect on someone who always missed out on Christmas, on someone who has children, or on someone who never got to express their inner child. If this information gets to the right amount of people families can be reunited, and houses will be full again causing a reaction to the child's way of living. They would be able to feel equal to their peers, their grades can improve, and their overall happiness will tremendously increase. Just from a simple poster thousands of children's lives will change.