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Cruelty Against Migrant Children

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I always make sure my children have everything that they need to be happy. I could never imagine leaving them without soap, toothbrushes and clean water, because waterborne diseases are the world's leading killer. However, some women in border patrol custody have complained that agents tell them to drink water from the toilets, because there is no running water to drink in their cells.¹ While those guards abuse those poor people psychologically, I do not even let my children suffer from cold and hunger.

[Trump's] government went to federal court [in June of 2019] to argue that it shouldn't be required to give detained migrant children toothbrushes, soap, towels, showers or even half a night's sleep inside Border Patrol detention facilities.²

A screenshot of a Facebook group page titled "I'm 10-15". The group has 9.5k members. The profile picture shows several horse saddles and bridles. The group bio reads: "Where Old Patrol meets New Patrol. Post your pics. BP and AMO related. Funny, serious and just work related. We are family, first and foremost. This is where the Green line starts, with us." A message in the feed says: "Start a chat or discussion, or use the page as a message board or Q and A session. We are here for each other. Remember you are never alone in this family." The timestamp on the post is July 1, 2019.

- 1 Adolfo Flores. "Women Held in Border Patrol Custody Say They were Told to Drink Water from Toilets." BuzzFeed News. July 1, 2019. https://www.buzzfeednews.com/article/adolfoflores/immigrants-drinking-toilets-water-aoc-border-patrol?fbclid=IwAR0nyg93RkRVbV7g5nD4X3RK9MRyidWXWWhN1CP94TQMWgJ5LW_jO240aow
- 2 Meagan Flynn. "Detained migrant children got no toothbrush, no soap, no sleep. It's no problem, government argues." The Washington Post. June 21, 2019. <https://www.texastribune.org/2019/06/21/detained-migrant-children-no-toothbrush-no-soap/>

Since 2004, 97 people have died in the custody of Customs and Border Protection agents. While more migrants die in their cold cages, these criminals continue to celebrate their evil. They joke and publish racist and misogynist memes in their Facebook group “I’m 10-15,” their code for aliens in custody. They do not respect the law and neither do they value the life of a human being.

In early 2018, federal investigators found a raft of disturbing and racist text messages sent by Border Patrol agents in southern Arizona after searching the phone of Matthew Bowen, an agent charged with running down a Guatemalan migrant with a Ford F-150 pickup truck. The texts, which were revealed in a court filing in federal court in Tucson, described migrants as “guats,” “wild ass shitbags,” “beaners” and “subhuman.” The messages included repeated discussions about burning the migrants up.³



The cruelty against migrant children is inhumane and unjustified and cannot be tolerated. All those responsible must face justice for their crimes, regardless of whether they wear a badge and uniform, or believe themselves important because they are politicians. Nobody is above the law. The cruelty against migrants must end.

³ A.C. Thompson. “Inside the Secret Border Patrol Facebook Group Where Agents Joke About Migrant Deaths and Post Sexist Memes.” ProPublica. July 1, 2019. <https://www.propublica.org/article/secret-border-patrol-facebook-group-agents-joke-about-migrant-deaths-post-sexist-memes>