

Clinton and Sanders square off on immigration

By *Justin Duckham* - March 10, 2016



MIAMI, FLA. (Talk Media News)- One day after an unexpected nail-biter in Michigan reset the dynamics of the Democratic primary, Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders butted heads over immigration in a heated debate at Miami Dade College's Kendall campus.

Sponsored by Univision, the debate provided Clinton ample opportunity to take Sanders' to task before the target audience of Hispanics for opposing bipartisan efforts to reform the immigration system in 2007.

"Imagine where we would be today if we had achieved comprehensive immigration reform nine years ago," Clinton said. "Imagine how much more secure families would be in our country, no longer fearing the deportation of a loved one; no longer fearing that they would be found out."

Sanders defended himself against the line of attack, which was compounded by CNN footage from that year featuring Sanders arguing that immigration reform would lower wages, by suggesting that the proposed legislation included a guest worker program "akin to slavery."

Clinton shot back that if the program was similar to how Sanders described it, it would likely not have received support from the era's reliable progressives like Sen. Ted Kennedy (D-Mass.) and then-Senator Barack Obama.

Sanders followed the exchange by pointing to her opposition in the Senate to provide illegal immigrants in New York with driver's licenses and saying that there was daylight between the two when it came to children illegally entering the U.S. from Honduras.

"I said welcome those children into this country, Secretary Clinton said send them back. That's a difference," Sanders said.

The night saw both candidates saying that they would be against deportation for children in the country illegally and undocumented immigrants without criminal records, a sharp deviation from the policies set out by the Obama administration.

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