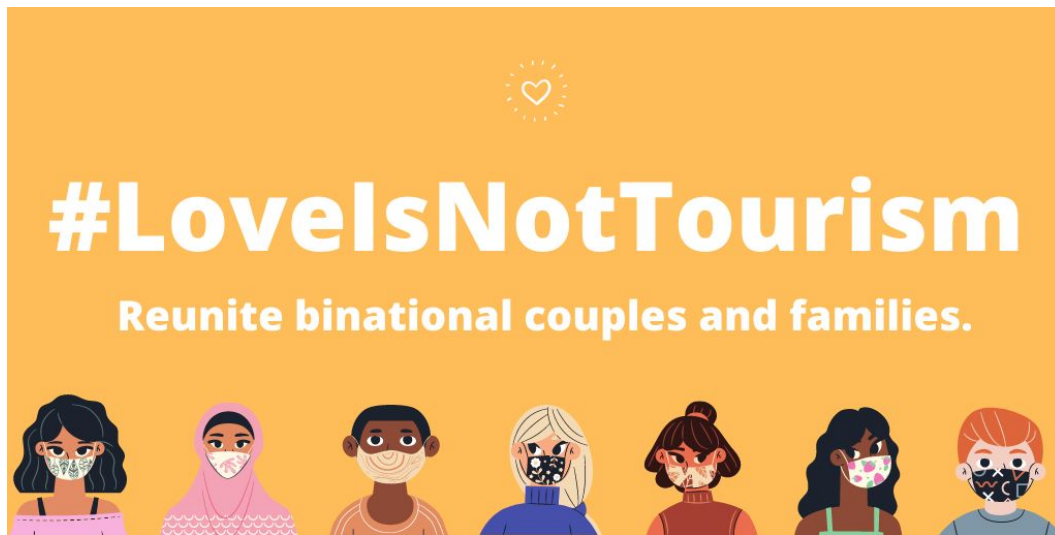


Letter Template adapted from the original [#LovesEssential](#) doc.

Link to this doc: shr.link/loveis

1



[Image by Selina Kramer]

Quick Links

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[How To Call Congress](#)

[Social Media Templates](#)

[Love Is Not Tourism FB Group](#)

LovesNotTourism.org

Latest Call to Action

HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL TWITTER CAMPAIGN - OVER 60K Tweets!!

There are plans to do this regularly until the US is open. Follow @LovesNotTourism on Twitter for regular updates on when the next event is.

We need EVERY SINGLE one of us as well as our partners to join us on twitter during this ONE hour to participate on the “#LovesNotTourism Q&A session” that will be moderated by the twitter account @LovesNotTourism (follow them). The event is generally announced in the FB groups as well.

@LovesNotTourism on twitter will ask us questions regarding WHAT we are going through. Reply to each question (even more than once!) with your answer and ALWAYS “#Loveisnottourism” with every single answer. Comment as much as possible!!!! If we manage to retweet this hashtag over 4000 times, #loveisnottourism can be on the top ten trending topics on Twitter!!! [Who to Tag/A nice list of relevant US twitter handles.](#)



Created: July 8, 2020
 Last Update: Aug 22, 2020
 Compiled by: @profkrishni

7-Day #LovelsEssential U.S. Campaign!

Join me in fighting to immediately reunite thousands of families and partners (safely).

Pre-Work	Sign the White House Petition and share this document with this link: shr.link/loveis Join the FB Groups: Love Is Not Tourism and Couples Separated by Travel Bans Join Twitter and Follow: @is_tourism @lovethrucovid @gsiskind @travelgov @robin_brune @profkrishni Always Use Hashtags: #LovelsNotTourism #LovelsEssential Check Out These Downloadable Images .
Day 1	Call your Congress members ! Then, write/email them. Then, tweet them a personal video or message.
Day 2	Email/tweet to members of Senate and House subcommittees on Border Security and Immigration. Don't forget #LovelsEssential #LovelsNotTourism. Use template .
Day 3	Email/tweet Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi, Senate Leaders Mitch McConnell and Charles E. Schumer.
Day 4	Write to the White House and sign the petition . Call Senate and House subcommittees on Border Security and Immigration. 202-224-7840 and 202-224-6991
Day 5	Call Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi and Senate Leaders Mitch McConnell and Charles E. Schumer.
Day 6	Write to Sec. Michael Pompeo . Tweet to @SecPompeo @SecAzar @TravelGov
Day 7	Call, write, and tweet all/any Judiciary House and Senate members.

Share this plan and document with anyone who wants to join the campaign.

Letter To U.S. Govt. Officials

Dear [U.S. Official's Name],

My name is [Your Name], I'm from [Hometown] and I am contacting you today on behalf of myself and thousands of other couples and families separated indefinitely by the closures and travel restrictions of the United States border.

[Insert your personal story, if you have one.]

On top of this unprecedented health crisis, international families and couples, such as my own, are suffering an incredible emotional, psychological, and sometimes physical toll by being apart from their loved ones, simply because they are unmarried or do not meet the narrow criteria of the travel restrictions implemented on January 3rd (China), February 29 (Iran), March 11 (EU/Schengen Area), March 14 (UK and Ireland), March 21 (Canada and Mexico) and May 24 (Brazil). The closure of routine visa services has further impacted couples and families who were in the process of obtaining their visas at the start of the pandemic. Together, these new restrictions prevent fiancés (including K1 visa holders), couples, grandparents and grandchildren, parents and expecting parents to reunite, indefinitely.

Multiple Facebook groups have been established to unite international families suffering from these border closures; these groups have thousands of members. Many members are currently separated from children, expecting partners, and aging and sick loved ones. Our members have desperately cried out to leaders on Twitter, Facebook, and other social media platforms. Many European leaders have publicly supported our movement using our hashtags #LovelsEssential and #LovelsNotTourism, but it seems my U.S. government is not listening.

While the U.S. reopens schools and businesses and pro-athletes are able to travel across borders following proper health guidelines, we are wondering when we will be allowed to meet our loved ones again. It has been months. Our families have been left without any answers. We are left wondering whether we will remain separated until the end of the year, or even until there is a coronavirus vaccine.

As a fellow American, I ask that you help us and:

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1. Create a clear timeline for the reopening of U.S. borders and resuming of all immigration services, specifically for those separated from their partners and families.
2. Immediately allow partners in durable relationships, regardless of marital status, and family members, regardless of age or marital status, of U.S. citizens and residents to enter the U.S. with safety measures.

Denmark, Norway, and Netherlands have established protocols for allowing partners and family members to enter their countries in ways that respect the current health situation. 7 other EU countries have done the same. Our partners are happy to pay for coronavirus tests and quarantines. We only ask to be reunited with our partners again.

On behalf of many suffering families, I sincerely trust that you will take this request seriously, and I thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
[Your Name]

Our Overall Strategy

(adapted from the #StudentBan strategy by [@ChrisMarsicano](#)):

1. Start **tweeting constantly**. Let's get this thing trending. Stay disciplined. When you tweet, use the **#LovelsEssential** and **#LovelsNotTourism** hashtag every. single. time.
2. **Call** (best) **and write** (still good) your members of Congress and tell them you oppose the travel bans ([full list here](#)). Focus especially on members of the Judiciary Committees in the [House](#) and the [Senate](#). If you want to get super specific, call up the members of [this House subcommittee](#) and this [Senate subcommittee](#). I'll list [some numbers below](#).

In the Senate, committee members [Ernst \(IA\)](#), [Tillis \(NC\)](#) and Graham (SC) all have tough re-election campaigns and therefore may be more willing to take your call.

3. **Write** OpEds, especially academics and journalists, to local papers. Members of Congress have staff that read their constituents' local newspapers every. single. day. If you write an OpEd in your local paper on #LovelsEssential and #LovelsNotTourism, I can all but guarantee a member of Congress or one of their staff members will see it. Write 350-500 words to your local paper opposing the travel and visa restrictions (full list [here](#) and [here](#)). Be kind, not mean. No name-calling. List of US News Outlets to submit OpEds and letters: <https://www.theopedproject.org/submission-information>

Some points to consider including, but do follow these [guidelines](#):

- 1) There is precedent for these exemptions (Denmark, Austria, Netherlands, Czech Republic, Norway);
- 2) Research shows travel bans are ineffective; [Science: The Effect of Travel Restrictions on Pandemic](#)
- 3) The travel ban no longer makes sense when the U.S. has the highest number of cases;
- 4) It is cruel to keep loved ones apart during a pandemic, without any indication of an end in sight.
- 5) We understand the unprecedented risk of Covid-19 and are happy to mitigate all risks by paying for our own coronavirus tests and self-quarantine;

4. **Vote! If you care, and are eligible to vote, then register and vote.** There are primaries being held right now. Your international partner cannot vote, so you must. Check if you are registered to vote [here](#).

Current Action

Sign and share our “Lift the Travel Ban” [U.S. White House Petition](#).

Q&A [Twitter campaign](#) organized by Sabrina Jamil Aman and Kimberly Joy Sowles, moderated by @LovesNotTourism, and in partnership with myself, Celeste Mcleod and James Cartmell.

When: 11am PST, 2PM EST on Tuesday July 28th (Recurring next week?)

When you tweet, make sure you always tag someone (like “@secpompeo”) and have “#LovesNotTourism.”

In reply to @is_tourism Q&A tweets, you might write: @secpompeo *We have been separated for 5 months. I want to be married already.* #LovesNotTourism

Who to Tag:

Politicians (you can pick your reps or general leaders), US media/journalists, Airlines (because they don’t know the rules of who and who cannot enter a country)

Top White House Officials:

@realDonaldTrump @SecAzar @mikepompeo @SpeakerPelosi @SenSchumer @McConnellPress @USCIS

Immigration Advocates:

@David_J_Bier @AILANational @immivoice @cyrusmehta

US Media:

@nytimes @VICE @NPR @1a @AJEnglish @CNN @nowthisnews @madhaeringer @thomson_craig @NPRKelley @ananavarro @washingtonpost @thehill @latimes

US Journalists:

@robferdman @tanvim @MattLaslo @MilenaMikael @jceballosv @NicoleBozorgmir @itscaitlinhd @ahauslohner @aurabogado @mariasacchetti @TatianaYSanchez @stellamchavez @priscialva

Airlines and Airports:

@united @KLM @_austrian @americanair @airfrance @delta @ATLairport @Dulles_Airport
 @airport_FRA @JFKairport @Schiphol
[Other Airline Handles](#)

The Celebrity of Choice:

@bellathorne

Share Your Story

We have journalists, writers, media-affiliated people, and filmmakers interested in sharing your/our story and helping amplify your/our voices. [Submit your story here.](#)

We are trying to get the news to amplify our calls to leaders. We are documenting our stories and trying to share them with as many people as possible, especially the press.

Think about which news media outlets you could submit your letters, [op-eds](#), videos, and audio (NPR?). Which journalists could you be emailing, tweeting, messaging, and pitching your story?

List of US news outlets to submit OpEds and letters:

<https://www.theopedproject.org/submission-information>

Who to Call and Write

Note: Calling is more impactful than emailing. Showing up at a town hall is the best. DC #s (202 area code) are good for general advocacy; local #s are best for constituents who are separated.

1. **Your Members of Congress:** [Find Phone #s Here](#) and [Email All Your Members at Once Here](#)

What to say/do when you call:

1. Members of congress want to hear from their constituents. If you are their constituent, make that very clear in your phone call. Name and city.
2. Reason for calling: "I'm calling on behalf of myself and thousands of other couples and families who have been separated for months because of the U.S. border closures and restrictions. We need the travel ban to be lifted or modified and visa services to be returned to normal so we can be with our partners and families again."
3. Tell your personal story. Why it matters!!
4. Then ask: What can [U.S. Official name] do to help me to reunite with my [person you love]? OR Can [U.S. Official name] take some kind of action to help binational families and partners reunite?
5. Include some reason(s) to support your case: 1) The policy is creating undue and unnecessary pain and suffering for U.S. citizens with international partners and family members. 2) We are happy to pay for our own coronavirus tests and quarantine. 3) There are easy solutions to this problem. Denmark and Austria provide good examples of how we can implement a safe and reasonable exemption. 4) It is cruel to keep loved ones apart during a pandemic. 5) The travel ban no longer makes sense since no other country has more cases of COVID-19 than the U.S.; 6) The travel ban has not prevented the spread of COVID-19 in the U.S.
6. Ask: "I ask that [U.S. Official name] 1) publicly support Love Is Not Tourism movement, 2) create a clear timeline for the full reopening of U.S. borders, and 3) immediately allow partners in durable relationships, regardless of marital status, and family members, regardless of age or marital status, of U.S. citizens and residents to enter the U.S. with safety measures. Denmark, Austria, Sweden, and Norway have all made similar

concessions, even in the midst of this pandemic. We need to do the same.”

7. Ask for your opinion to be recorded and end the call.
8. Be kind, remain calm, and be brief.

2. Senate [Subcommittee](#) on Border Security and Immigration

Majority #: 202-224-7840 | Minority #: 202-224-6991

Key Members:

[Thom Tillis](#) (NC) @SenThomTillis (919) 856-4630 or (202) 224-6342

Brad Watts - Staffer brad_watts@tillis.senate.gov

[Upcoming Online Town Hall](#): **July 14 @ 4PM EST**

[Joni Ernst](#) (IA) @SenJoniErnst (515) 284-4574 or (202) 224-3254

[Lindsey Graham](#) (SC) @LindseyGrahamSC (803) 933-0112 or (202) 224-5972

[John Cornyn \(TX\)](#) @JohnCornyn 202-224-2934

[Dick Durbin \(IL\)](#) @SenatorDurbin 312.353.4952 or 202.224.2152

3. House [Subcommittee](#) on Border Security and Immigration

202-225-3951

Key Members:

[Zoe Lofgren](#) (CA-19) @RepZoeLofgren (408) 271-8700 Zip Code: 95112-5162

[Pramila Jayapal](#) (WA-07) @RepJayapal (206) 674-0040 Zip: 98101

[Ken Buck](#) (CO-04) @RepKenBuck (202) 225-4676 Zip: 80109

[Sylvia R. Garcia](#) (TX-29) @RepSylviaGarcia 832-325-3150 Zip: 77029-1266

4. White House, Speaker of the House, and Senate Leaders

[Nancy Pelosi](#) (CA) @SpeakerPelosi (415) 556-4862 or (202) 225-4965

[Mitch McConnell](#) (KY) @McConnellPress (502) 582-6304 or (202) 224-2541 (office closes at 6pm est)

[Chuck E. Schumer](#) (NY) @SenSchumer (212) 486-4430 or (202) 224-6542

[White House](#) (202)-456-1111 (UPDATE: They are not taking phone calls - use contact form on [their website](#))

[Sec. Pompeo](#) @SecPompeo

@whitehouse @realDonaldTrump @POTUS @SecAzar @StateDept @SecPompeo

@PressSec @kayleighmcenany @SecElaineChao @KellyannePolls @DHS_Wolf

5. [House](#) and [Senate](#) Judiciary Committee Members

Key Members:

[Lindsey Graham](#) (SC) @LindseyGrahamSC (803) 933-0112

[Dianne Feinstein](#) (CA) @SenFeinstein (202) 224-3841

[Rep. Nadler](#) (NY-10) @RepJerryNadler 212-367-7350

Democratic Members

[Patrick Leahy](#) (VT)

[Dick Durbin](#) (IL) @SenatorDurbin 312.353.4952

[Sheldon Whitehouse](#) (RI)

[Amy Klobuchar](#) (MN) @SenAmyKlobuchar 612-727-5220

[Christopher A. Coons](#) (DE)

[Richard Blumenthal](#) (CT)

[Mazie Hirono](#) (HI)

[Cory Booker](#) (NJ)

[Kamala Harris](#) (CA)

Republican Members

[Chuck Grassley](#) (IA)

[John Cornyn](#) (TX) @JohnCornyn 202-224-2934

[Michael S. Lee](#) (UT)

[Ted Cruz](#) (TX)

[Ben Sasse](#) (NE)

[Joshua D. Hawley](#) (MO)

[Thom Tillis](#) (NC) @SenThomTillis (919) 856-4630

[Joni Ernst](#) (IA)

[Mike Crapo](#) (ID)

[John Kennedy](#) (LA)

[Marsha Blackburn](#) (TN)

House Judiciary Committee @HouseJudiciary [FB](#) | @JudiciaryGOP 202.225.6906

Senate Judiciary 202.224.5225

FAQs

Q: Why are you focusing on reaching out to Congress?

A: They are elected officials who are direct representatives of U.S. constituents. They have to listen to their constituents and they have regular means of ensuring that they hear you.

Q: I am receiving some pushback against the campaign. What should I do?

A: Is it a valid concern that they are bringing up respectfully? If so, consider how the campaign addresses that problem. Safety measures, quarantines, tests, following examples like Denmark, Sweden, and Austria, using existing legal visa channels, asking for similar exemptions already being made ([pro-athletes](#), married couples), infections rate in other countries are lower ([Dr. Fauci video](#) on Europe). Be kind. Let's get them to understand and help us.

If not a valid concern, focus your energy elsewhere (on the campaign, support groups, or loved ones, perhaps).

Q: I am not a US citizen. How can I help?

A: Everyone can contribute to this campaign by amplifying the cause. Tweet and retweet a lot. Post about the campaign. Share the link to the campaign (shr.link/loveis) and use the social media templates and content below if you need help on what to say. Invite everyone to join this campaign and to sign petitions (especially the white house one) to support the movement, even if they are not in this situation. Make [this video](#) of Dr. Fauci, other similar videos, and news articles viral. Write OpEds and submit them to U.S. news outlets. Make social media images to share that focus on Congress or the U.S. You can do so much!

Social Media Templates

Inviting Others:

Today, I am joining the 7-Day #LovelsEssential U.S. Campaign because [your best reason].
Join me in fighting to immediately but safely reunite thousands of partners and families,
such as my own.

#LovelsNotTourism

See our campaign here: shr.link/loveis

Comment Invite:

We cannot be together, but we can fight this together: shr.link/loveis
#LovelsEssential #LovelsNotTourism
*

Come get active: shr.link/loveis
#LovelsEssential #LovelsNotTourism
*

Have you seen this? shr.link/loveis
#LovelsEssential #LovelsNotTourism

Day 1:

Facebook (copy and post):

Today, I am calling (literally) my U.S. Congress members [tag them here] to immediately
(though safely) reunite thousands of partners and families, such as my own, separated by
the recent presidential orders. Offices close over the weekends. Will you help me today?

Find your Congress members: govtrack.us/congress/members
Find out what to say: shr.link/loveis
Learn about us: loveisnottourism.org
#LovelsEssential #LovelsNotTourism

Twitter (shorter):

Day 1 of the 7-Day #LovelsEssential US Campaign: Call Congress!

Today, I'm calling (literally) my U.S. Congress members [tag them here] to immediately (though safely) reunite thousands of partners and families, such as my own, separated by U.S. travel bans.

#LovelsNotTourism

Offices close over the weekends. Will you help me today?

Find your Congress members: govtrack.us/congress/members

Find out what to say: shr.link/loveis

Learn about us: loveisnottourism.org

#LovelsEssential #LovelsNotTourism



[Download all images in this document here: imgur.com/a/LIj5lkt]

Day 2:

Tweet(remember to email the letter too):

@SenThomTillis @SenJoniErnst @LindseyGrahamSC @JohnCornyn @SenatorDurbin
@RepZoeLofgren @RepJayapal @RepKenBuck @RepSylviaGarcia

We need you to hear us. We will quarantine & take tests. But we need to be reunited w/ our loved ones. #LovelsNotTourism #LovelsEssential

Learn about us: loveisnottourism.org + shr.link/loveis

Created: July 8, 2020
Last Update: Aug 22, 2020
Compiled by: @profkrishni

Calling ALL couples and families, come get active: shr.link/loveis

#LoveIsNotTourism #LoveIsEssential

[My tweet to retweet](#)



[Download all images in this document here: imgur.com/a/LIj5lkt]

Day 3:

Tweet (remember to email the letter too):

@SpeakerPelosi @McConnellPress @SenSchumer

[Share your story] Allow us to reunite, please.

#LoveIsEssential #LoveIsNotTourism

shr.link/loveis + loveisnottourism.org



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Day 4:

(Remember that today we are making actual phone calls, first and foremost.)

THIS IS CRITICAL! I am calling the @WhiteHouse today to ask that they reunite [personal story or] all partners and families of US citizens & residents who have been separated by US travel bans for MONTHS. This is cruel. #LovelsEssential #LovelsNotTourism [tag other US officials like @POTUS, senator or rep]

Day 5 & 6:

Retweet: <https://twitter.com/profkrishni/status/1282831801602506752>

And tell 'em what it is you want them to hear (your story, your demands, what research says about travel bans, how easy it is to reunite). Use lots of photos!

There is a LIVE Town Hall w/ @SenThomTillis TODAY at 4PM EST! Here is our chance to show-up & tell him directly that we want to be reunited with our partners and families during this pandemic. Event link: access.live/tillis #LovelsNotTourism #LovelsEssential #NC

Other US Official Handles:

@realDonaldTrump @POTUS @SecAzar @StateDept @SecPompeo @PressSec
 @kayleighmcenany @SecElaineChao @WhiteHouse @KellyannePolls @DHS_Wolf
 @grantshapps @KarenPierceUK @EUintheUS @GOPLeader @SpeakerPelosi @TeamPelosi
 @McConnellPress @senatemajldr @SenSchumer @USAmbUK @EUAmbUS @petegauthier
 @chuckschumer @GOP @SenateGOP @HouseGOP @TheDemocrats @HouseDemocrats
 @SenateDems @ewarren @SenWarren @AOC @RepAOC @BernieSanders @SenSanders
 @LeaderHoyer @HomelandDems @davidaxelrod @JEC Dems @COVIDOversight
 @OversightDems @RepMaloney @EricTrump @DonaldJTrumpJr @FLOTUS
 @MELANIATRUMP @IvankaTrump @JoeBiden @BarackObama @HHSgov

Additional Resources

Websites:

<https://loveisessential.info/>

<https://loveisnottourism.org/>

<https://loveisnottourism.weebly.com/>

[This page](#) tracks U.S. visa and entry restrictions related to COVID-19.

Videos

Dr. Fauci Interview Clip on European Travel Restrictions in U.S.

<https://abcn.ws/2ZXwdgB> and <https://youtu.be/VqBA06Fpx60>

Canadian News Clip on Family/Partner Reunification:

<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=756757538404564>

Articles

The US news outlets need more OpEds on the current state of this issue in the US.

22/8/2020 - [Can Love Conquer Travel Bans?](#)

10/06/2020 - [It's Time To Lift U.S. Travel Restrictions On China And Europe](#)

20/05/2020 - [The coronavirus pandemic is pushing America into a mental health crisis](#)

21/04/2020 - [Why Trump's Immigration Suspension Doesn't Make Sense](#)

15/04/2020 - [Research Provides No Basis for Pandemic Travel Bans](#)

13/03/2020 - [How Trump's European Travel Ban Has Impacted My Relationship](#)

“Travel measures that significantly interfere with international traffic may only be justified at the beginning of an outbreak, as they may allow countries to gain time, even if only a few days, to rapidly implement effective preparedness measures. Such restrictions must be based on a careful risk assessment, be proportionate to the public health risk, be short in duration, and be reconsidered regularly as the situation evolves.” - WHO, Feb. 2020, [Updated WHO Recommendations for International Traffic](#)

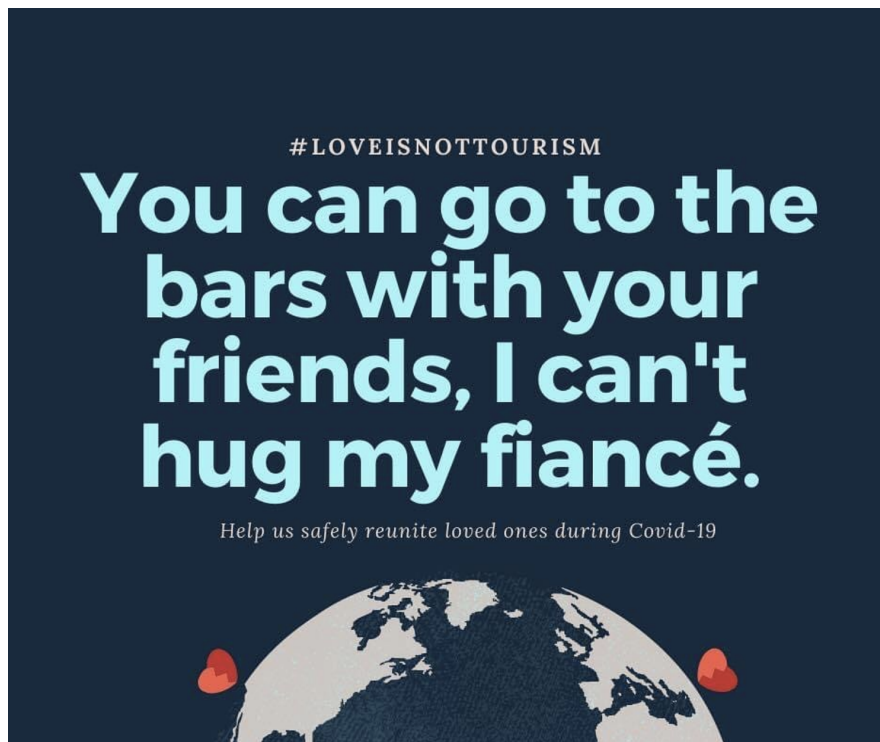
The effect of travel restrictions on the spread of the 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak [Science: The Effect of Travel Restrictions on Pandemic](#)

[Travel restrictions violate international law](#)

Images

Use these on social media if you like. Download all images in this document here:

imgur.com/a/Llj5lkt



[@loveisnottourism on IG]

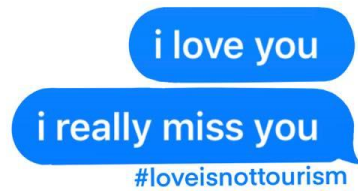


[@loveisnottourism on IG]

Download all images in this document here: imgur.com/a/Llj5lkt



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[Created by Lucy Lavigne, [Sticker Shop](#)]

Download all images in this document here: imgur.com/a/Llj5lkt

#LOVEISNOTTOURISM

While U.S. citizens and permanent residents are exempt, there has been **no indication** of when the travel restrictions will be lifted for the significant others, family, and friends of American citizens.

Plus, most of the restricted countries now have significantly lower COVID-19 cases than the U.S.

#Lovels NotTourism

Those affected by border closures are asking for exceptions so international loved ones can be safely reunited. Many binational couples and families have been forcibly separated for over four months, with no end in sight.

SIMPLIFIED

@NOWSIMPLIFIED Sources: CDC, Travel.State.Gov

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Completed: Town Hall July 14 and 15

Access the event at 4PM EST both days here: www.access.live/tillis

Today's town hall meeting did not go well. The Senator ignored our submitted questions.

Email Brad Watts - his staffer brad_watts@tillis.senate.gov our letter and ask Thom Tillis to answer my questions.

For day 5 and 6 of the 7-Day #LovelsEssential US Campaign, we will need to SHOW-UP! There will be a LIVE town hall where we have two opportunities to SPEAK DIRECTLY with a Senator of NC who is a member of the subcommittee on Border Security and Immigration.

This is particularly important for NC folks to show up and tell their story and make concrete asks:

1. Publicly support us.
2. Introduce legislation that would permit us to immediately reunite with our loved ones, regardless of marital status, and family members, regardless of age or marital status.
3. Propose a timeline for the full lifting of travel and visa restrictions

We can tell him we would be happy to work with him directly to get this very straightforward problem an easy solution.

I really cannot stress how BIG of an opportunity this is. We should show up on both days and we will need someone to record this and share it with the group each day (I'm not tech savvy about that so volunteers would be lovely).

P.S. If you cannot attend, then tweet, email, and call (which was already part of the earlier days in the campaign).

Doing research beforehand is HIGHLY encouraged.

For instance, CATO has an article with research demonstrating that travel bans are ineffective. "Travel restrictions do not prevent the spread of disease and may only delay it for a few days or weeks if implemented prior to the international transmission of the disease." Read the conclusion for the summary. 12 research studies are cited and summarized in this article.

Link: <https://www.cato.org/blog/research-provides-no-basis-pandemic-travel-bans>

Cato scholars regularly provide congressional testimony before legislative committees at the federal and state level.