IF YOU ARE SEPARATED FROM YOUR CHILDREN AT THE BORDER:

1. You have the right to make decisions about your children regardless of your immigration status. The U.S. Constitution protects the rights of families.

2. If you are separated from your children, you do not lose your parental rights. Insist that immigration officials help you. If your children are old enough, tell them to ask for help finding you.

3. Ask immigration officials where your children are being taken. Undocumented children will most likely be placed in a children’s facility that is run by the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR). U.S. citizen children may be released to a relative or placed into U.S. foster care. Tell the U.S. government officials where you would like your children to go.

4. Ask immigration officials to let you make phone calls to talk to your children. If you are in an ICE detention center, call the ICE Detention Reporting and Information Line (DRIL line) at 1-888-351-4024 and tell them you have been separated from your children.

5. You have the right to talk to an attorney. Attend a legal information presentation. Tell the attorney that you were separated from your children. Ask the attorney, a family member, or a friend to contact the ORR hotline at 1-800-203-7001 and tell them you have been separated from your children.

6. If you are being deported and want your children to come with you, ICE may be able to arrange for you to travel together. Your consulate may also be able to help.

For more information about protecting your parental rights, go to: www.womensrefugeecommission.org