

NO ONE IS ILLEGAL:

Image Credit: No One Is Illegal



Is this grassroots migrant justice group effective?

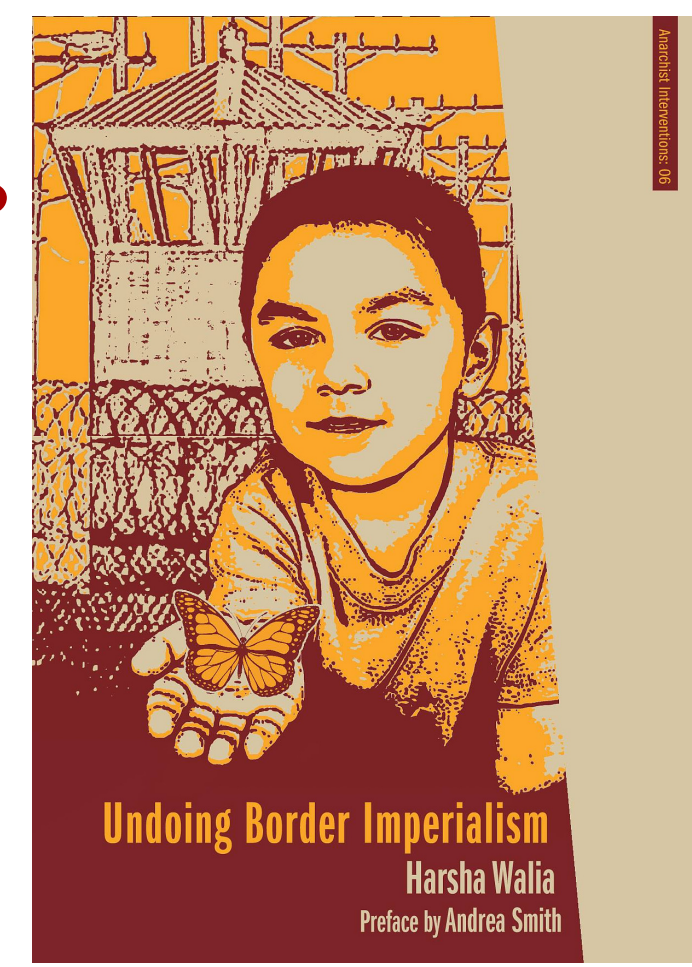
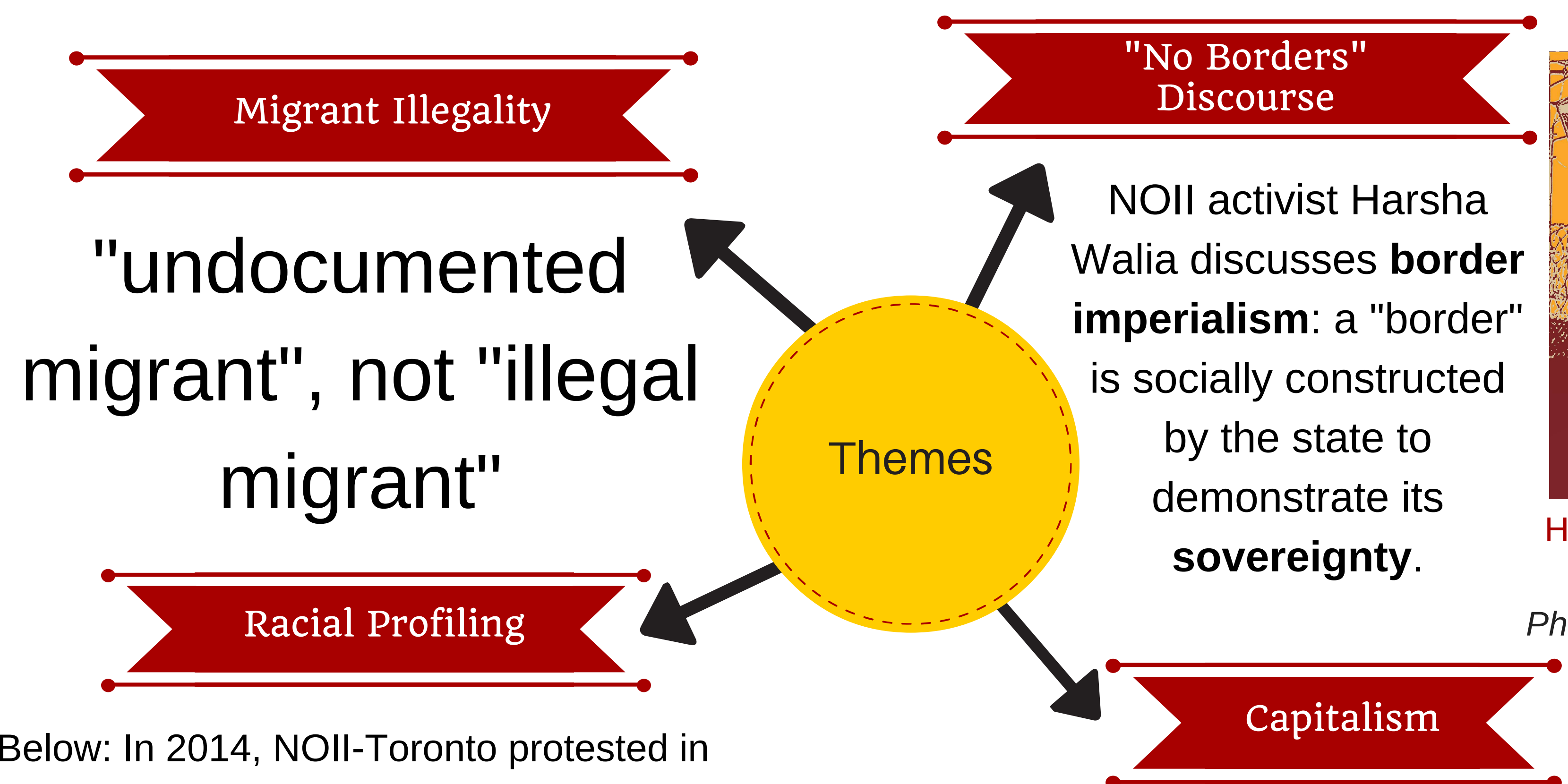
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In a sea of grassroots movements, No One Is Illegal (NOII) stands out in its fight for the rights of refugees, undocumented migrants, and (im)migrant workers while defending indigenous sovereignty. **The purpose of this research paper is to demonstrate the ways in which NOII is an effective migrant justice group, and how it uses grassroots-organizing, i.e. campaigns and protests while using a “no borders” approach to oppose migrant illegality, capitalism and racial profiling.**

After exploring various news articles, journal articles and examining multiple works from NOII activists such as Harsha Walia (author of *Undoing Border Imperialism*), it was discovered that NOII is a very influential social movement. By garnering significant amounts of media coverage, NOII activists have been highly successful in preventing deportations and changing policies, despite the “double-edged sword” of working within a human-rights based framework. They continue to challenge state sovereignty by opposing Bill C-51, which caught the attention of Canada’s former immigration minister Jason Kennedy who deemed them to be “anti-Canadian”.

Fighting for the rights of refugees, undocumented migrants and (im)migrant workers while protecting Indigenous sovereignty



Harsha Walia's book about NOII
Photo Credit: rabble.ca

Below: In 2014, NOII-Toronto protested in response to the **round-up of 21 undocumented workers** in an early morning traffic check. In the same year, NOII-Vancouver **successfully changed transit policy in a similar incident.**



NOII-Toronto protests in August 2014.
Photo Credit: No One Is Illegal

NOII-Montreal: "As migrants, we are displaced from our homelands, due to **global capitalism and imperialism**. This reflects a global apartheid, whereby the **global South is systematically exploited and oppressed, to the benefit of the global North.**"

Below: NOII-Vancouver's 'Transportation Not Deportation' campaign slogan

Public transit should not be a border checkpoint!



Above: In 2006, TDSB passed "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy because of NOII's lobbying efforts

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