Mail Call

A Barton blunder

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hat? As one?

In Thursday's issue of the Bryan-College Station Eagle, U.S. Representative Joe Barton cited illegal immigration from Mexico as the number one concern of his district (6th District, Texas). He was specifically quoted as saying: "In my district, any time you go out, you see individuals of Hispanic descent who appear to be illegal. You drive down the street in a low-income neighborhood and you see 15 or 16 young Hispanic adults sitting on the front porch. Not many families have 15 or 16 children of the same sex." Jpon intense criticism from Hispanic leaders for this remark, Barton offered that he should have said 15 or 16 children of the

Such blatantly racist comments, coming at the time of the year when Mexican-Americans are celebrating their proud and diverse cultural heritage, are an insult to the Mexican-American community of the 6th District. Indeed, many Anglos have expressed their dismay at the tone of Barton's statement. Barton has, in an incredible show of ignorance, perpetuated virtually every negative stereotype of the Mexican-American.

Characteristically, Barton refuses to apologize for his omment. To do so would go against what we know to be his true eelings, which exemplify shameless bigotry and prejudice in the

For a U.S. congressman to make such comments and stand behind them is disgraceful. Barton is supposed to represent all

the residents of his district, not simply those who, by the color of their skin, "appear to be legal.

Rudy Rodriguez accompanied by 22 signatures

What's in an ID card?

I was recently denied entrance to the East Kyle recreation facilities because I did not have my Texas A&M ID card. I offered a paid fee receipt, Texas driver's license and Aggie ring as proof

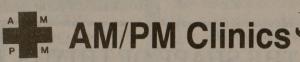
of identification and current enrollment At first, the girl behind the desk stated that I could have altered the picture on my license. After realizing the ignorance of

her statement, she returned to the standard phrase. "departmental policy". Her superior, whom I talked with next, while indicating that he completely understood my situation, said he didn't make the policy, he just enforced it.

My question to the person who makes this policy is, what does an A&M ID card prove that a Texas driver's license, paid fee receipt, and Aggie ring do not?

David M. Holy '86

Letters to the editor should not exceed 300 words in length. The editorial staff reserves the right to edit letters for style and length, but will make every effort to maintain the author's intent. Each letter must be signed and must include the address and telephone number of the writer

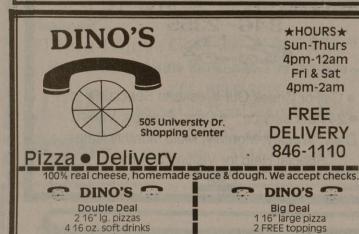


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