

Seventeen-year-old Football Star Jamiel Shaw

If President Obama really wanted to unite the nation against senseless violence, he would be discussing the following case:

On March 2, 2008, as 17-year-old Jamiel Shaw was walking home, Pedro Espinoza, an illegal alien from Mexico and member of the 18th Street Gang, pulled alongside the teenager and asked him what gang he was in. According to witnesses, the high school football standout did not answer him; he did not answer because he had no part of gang life.

Espinoza then opened fire on Jamiel, shooting him first in the stomach and then again, execution-style in the head. He died only a few feet away from his family's home. His father actually heard the gunshots that would take his son from his side forever. At the time of his murder, Jamiel's mother, Anita Shaw, was deployed in Iraq with the United States Army. She returned home for his funeral.

In November 2012, Espinoza was found guilty of first-degree murder and sentenced to death [‘Gang member sentenced to death in Jamiel Shaw slaying,’ *Los Angeles Times*, November 2, 2012]. As Jamiel's father, Jamiel Shaw Sr., testified before the House Judiciary Committee, June 13, 2013, “The illegal alien charged with murdering my son was arrested in November 2007 on a prior arrest of assault with a deadly weapon and battery on a police officer. Yet he was given early release from jail on March 1 (a Saturday night). The very next day, he executed my son and left him for dead like he was a piece of trash on the streets. ... To this day, we still don't know why the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LACSD) negligently released him from jail and why he was given a six-month early release. We still don't know why Immigration & Customs Enforcement (ICE) didn't pick him up from jail or if ICE was even called by LACSD for pickup. They refuse to tell us what happened.” [Reported by Matthew Boyle, “Father Recounts Son's Murder by Released Illegal Gang Member,” www.Breitbart.com, 14 June 2013.]

It is noteworthy that the *Los Angeles Times* did not inform its readers that Espinoza was in the country illegally and was let out of jail less than 24 hours before he murdered Jamiel Shaw. Because Los Angeles is a “sanctuary city” for illegal aliens, even violent gang members such as Espinoza are all too often placed back into the communities they terrorize, rather than turned over to ICE for deportation.

The Shaw family continues to fight for the passage of “Jamiel's Law,” which would force Los Angeles law enforcement agencies to crack down upon and target illegal alien gang members [www.isupportjamielshaw.com]. In late 2010, Dave Gibson spoke with Jamiel's aunt, Althea Rae Shaw, who said of her nephew, “I just miss him so much. He loved his country and he was so proud that his mom was serving in Iraq ... he couldn't wait to see her come home. We need a city council geared to protecting American citizens instead of illegal aliens. ... We need public officials who will stop bowing down to illegal aliens.”

Jamiel Shaw was not a gang member, nor was he on suspension from school when he was murdered. He did not use drugs, he did not burglarize homes, and he did not spew racist epithets because he had a good, Christian family. Jamiel was simply a good kid with a very bright future, loved by a strong family ... a family who still loves him and still fights for him.

– Dave Gibson with Wayne Lutton [Dave Gibson is a former legislative aide to a Virginia state senator and writes widely on crimes committed by illegal aliens.]