

Hello Friend, How would **you** have responded on **January 14, 1942**? [View Online](#) Or [Forward](#) to a friend.



Dear Friend, What Would You Do?

If you were alive on **January 14, 1942** when President Franklin D. Roosevelt issued Presidential Proclamation No. 2537, **facilitating the full-scale internment of Japanese Americans**, how would you have responded?

This is the question facing us all as we await President-elect Trump's inauguration. He ran, and won, on a platform based on **race-baiting, fears of immigrants and refugees, and Islamophobia**. He spoke of developing policies to bar Muslim immigrants from entering the U.S. and to establish a "registry" of Muslim Americans, including those who are U.S. citizens.

There is an old cliché: **the winners write history**. Few people realize that the Supreme Court never disavowed the constitutionality of the government's internment of American citizens during wartime (*Korematsu v. United States*). This means that now, as I write you, there is legal framework already in place for President-elect Trump to follow through on his threats.



If I were alive in 1942, I'd have done then what I need **your** help to do now: act to assure that the human and civil rights of those being scapegoated not be abused. And the way we act is to **create art that responds to this dangerous political climate**. Art that works to eradicate fear, art that builds bridges, art that gives Americans an opportunity to see each other as human beings endowed with the same hopes, fears, and aspirations as everyone else, no matter your creed.

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The [Chicago Tribune](#) recently published a feature story about Silk Road Rising in their newspaper. You can [read that article](#) here.

Friend, if we are to respond to the need currently facing us, we require more support. With your help, we can continue creating art that eradicates fear, builds bridges, and gives Americans a chance to see the interconnectedness of our communities. [Give Today »](#)

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Thank you, and Happy Holidays,
Malik Gillani

P.S. **Now through December 31st, your generosity doubles**—and does double the good—every time you give to Silk Road Rising: a long-time supporter is generously offering a \$25,000 Challenge Grant to help us build our Cash Reserves Fund (applies to new donors; increased gifts; and lapsed donors).

You can double your kindness today and strenghten Silk Road Rising in the process by visiting www.SilkRoadRising.org/donate or mailing your check to Silk Road Rising (77 W. Washington St., BSMT, Chicago, IL 60602). To give by phone, call me at 312-857-1234 x202.

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