

# Stated Clerk issues statement on separated immigrant families

June 16, 2018 by [J. Herbert Nelson](#)

ST. LOUIS ([OGA](#)) Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) General Assembly Stated Clerk the Rev. J. Herbert Nelson, II, [issued a statement](#) from the denomination's 223<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly condemning the Trump administration's new policy of separating young children from their parents at the U.S.-Mexico border.

"What has this nation become?" Nelson queried. "How have we wandered so far from Jesus' kind admonition, "Let the little children come to me..." He also criticized the Justice Department's stated use of separate detention of parents and their children as a "deterrent" to immigration and accused the administration of selective use of scripture, saying the citing of Romans 13:1 to obey the law (presumably whatever the law says), while ignoring the higher scriptural demand that "love is the fulfilling of the law" (Romans 13:10) is a blatant misuse of the biblical message.

[The full text of Nelson's statement](#), dated June 16, 2018.

