

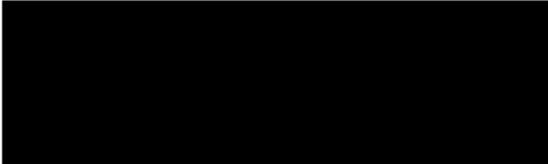
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U.S. Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Office of Administrative Appeals MS 2090
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FILE:  Office: CIUDAD JUAREZ, MEXICO
(CDJ 2004 773 002 relates)

Date: SEP 25 2009

IN RE: Applicant: 

APPLICATION: Application for Waiver of Grounds of Inadmissibility under Section 212(i) of the
Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1182(i)

ON BEHALF OF APPLICANT: SELF-REPRESENTED

INSTRUCTIONS:

This is the decision of the Administrative Appeals Office in your case. All documents have been returned to the office that originally decided your case. Any further inquiry must be made to that office.

If you believe the law was inappropriately applied or you have additional information that you wish to have considered, you may file a motion to reconsider or a motion to reopen. Please refer to 8 C.F.R. § 103.5 for the specific requirements. All motions must be submitted to the office that originally decided your case by filing a Form I-290B, Notice of Appeal or Motion, with a fee of \$585. Any motion must be filed within 30 days of the decision that the motion seeks to reconsider or reopen, as required by 8 C.F.R. § 103.5(a)(1)(i).

John F. Grissom
Acting Chief, Administrative Appeals Office

DISCUSSION: The waiver application was denied by the Officer in Charge (OIC), Ciudad Juarez, Mexico, and is now before the Administrative Appeals Office (AAO) on appeal. The appeal will be dismissed.

The record reflects that the applicant is a native and citizen of Mexico who was found to be inadmissible to the United States pursuant to section 212(a)(6)(C)(i) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (the Act), 8 U.S.C. § 1182(a)(6)(C)(i), for entering the United States by presenting a false entry document. The record indicates that the applicant is married to a naturalized United States citizen and she is the beneficiary of an approved Petition for Alien Relative (Form I-130). The applicant seeks a waiver of inadmissibility pursuant to section 212(i) of the Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1182(i), in order to reside in the United States with her United States citizen husband and daughter.

The OIC found that the applicant failed to establish that extreme hardship would be imposed on the applicant's spouse and denied the Application for Waiver of Grounds of Excludability (Form I-601) accordingly. *Decision of the Officer in Charge*, dated December 26, 2006.

On appeal, the applicant states that her family is suffering extreme hardship. *Form I-290B*, filed January 25, 2007.

The record includes, but is not limited to, a letter from the applicant's husband. The entire record was reviewed and considered in arriving at a decision on the appeal.

Section 212(a)(6)(C) of the Act provides, in pertinent part, that:

- (i) In general.-Any alien who, by fraud or willfully misrepresenting a material fact, seeks to procure (or has sought to procure or has procured) a visa, other documentation, or admission into the United States or other benefit provided under this Act is inadmissible.
- (iii) Waiver authorized.-For provision authorizing waiver of clause (i), see subsection (i).

Section 212 of the Act provides, in pertinent part, that:

- (i) (1) The Attorney General [now the Secretary of Homeland Security, "Secretary"] may, in the discretion of the [Secretary], waive the application of clause (i) of subsection (a)(6)(C) in the case of an immigrant who is the spouse, son, or daughter of a United States citizen or of an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence, if it is established to the satisfaction of the [Secretary] that the refusal of admission to the United States of such immigrant alien would result in extreme hardship to the citizen or lawfully resident spouse or parent of such an alien...

The AAO notes that the record contains several references to the hardship that the applicant's daughter would suffer if the applicant were denied admission into the United States. Section 212(a)(6)(C) of the Act provides that a waiver, under section 212(i) of the Act, is applicable solely where the applicant establishes extreme hardship to her citizen or lawfully resident spouse or parent. Unlike a waiver under section 212(h) of the Act, Congress does not mention extreme hardship to United States citizen or lawful permanent resident children. In the present case, the applicant's spouse is the only qualifying relative, and hardship to the applicant's daughter will not be considered, except as it may cause hardship to the applicant's spouse.

In the present application, the record indicates that the applicant married her husband on March 16, 1994 in Mexico. In 1994, the applicant entered the United States by presenting an imposter entry document. On an unknown date, the applicant departed the United States. In January 2000, the applicant attempted to enter the United States by presenting an entry document in someone else's name; however, she was apprehended by the United States Border Patrol and returned to Mexico. On July 16, 2004, the applicant's husband became a United States citizen. On August 16, 2004, the applicant's husband filed a Form I-130 on behalf of the applicant. On August 30, 2004, the applicant's Form I-130 was approved. On December 20, 2005, the applicant filed a Form I-601. On December 26, 2006, the OIC denied the Form I-601, finding the applicant entered the United States through fraud and misrepresentation, and she failed to demonstrate extreme hardship to her United States citizen spouse.

The AAO notes that the applicant does not dispute that she misrepresented herself in order to gain entry into the United States; therefore, the AAO finds that the applicant willfully misrepresented material facts in order to obtain a benefit under the Act and is inadmissible under section 212(a)(6)(C) of the Act.

The applicant is seeking a section 212(i) waiver of the bar to admission resulting from a violation of section 212(a)(6)(C)(i) of the Act. A waiver under section 212(i) of the Act is dependent first upon a showing that the bar imposes an extreme hardship to the citizen or lawfully resident spouse or parent of the applicant. Hardship the alien herself experiences upon removal is irrelevant to a section 212(i) waiver proceeding; the only relevant hardship in the present case is hardship suffered by the applicant's naturalized United States citizen spouse. Once extreme hardship is established, it is but one favorable factor to be considered in the determination of whether the Secretary should exercise discretion. *See Matter of Mendez*, 21 I&N Dec. 296 (BIA 1996).

In *Matter of Cervantes-Gonzalez*, 22 I&N Dec. 560, 565-66 (BIA 1999), the Board of Immigration Appeals (Board) provided a list of factors it deemed relevant in determining whether an alien has established extreme hardship to a qualifying relative. The factors include the presence of a lawful permanent resident or United States citizen spouse or parent in this country; the qualifying relative's family ties outside the United States; the conditions in the country or countries to which the qualifying relative would relocate and the extent of the qualifying relative's ties in such countries; the financial impact of departure from this country; and significant conditions of health, particularly when tied to an unavailability of suitable medical care in the country to which the qualifying relative would relocate.

On appeal, the applicant states she resides in Mexico, and “[t]he separation from [her] husband has caused extreme hardship to [her] husband, to [her] child and to [her].” The AAO notes that the applicant’s daughter resides in Mexico with the applicant, and it has not been established that she is suffering any hardship by living in Mexico. Additionally, as noted above, hardship the applicant herself experiences upon removal is irrelevant to section 212(i) waiver proceedings. The applicant states she “would like for [her] daughter to grow up in the country of which she is a citizen.” In a letter dated November 10, 2005, the applicant’s husband states his daughter “wishes to be in this country, learn English, go to school here and have both [her] parents with [her].” The AAO notes that, as noted above, the applicant’s daughter is not a qualifying relative for a waiver under section 212(i) of the Act. Additionally, the AAO notes that the applicant’s husband is employed in Alaska; however, it has not been established that he has no transferable skills that would aid him in obtaining a job in Mexico. Furthermore, the AAO notes that the applicant’s husband is a native of Mexico who speaks Spanish, he spent his formative years in Mexico, and it has not been established that he has no family ties in Mexico. The AAO finds that the applicant failed to establish that her husband would suffer extreme hardship if he joined the applicant in Mexico.

In addition, the applicant does not establish extreme hardship to her husband if he remains in the United States, maintaining his employment. The AAO notes that as a United States citizen, the applicant’s husband is not required to reside outside of the United States as a result of denial of the applicant’s waiver request. The AAO notes that the record fails to demonstrate that the applicant will be unable to contribute to her husband’s financial wellbeing from a location outside of the United States. Moreover, the United States Supreme Court has held that the mere showing of economic detriment to qualifying family members is insufficient to warrant a finding of extreme hardship. *INS v. Jong Ha Wang*, 450 U.S. 139 (1981).

United States court decisions have repeatedly held that the common results of deportation or exclusion are insufficient to prove extreme hardship. *See Hassan v. INS*, 927 F.2d 465, 468 (9th Cir. 1991). For example, in *Matter of Pilch*, 21 I&N Dec. 627 (BIA 1996), the Board held that emotional hardship caused by severing family and community ties is a common result of deportation and does not constitute extreme hardship. In addition, *Perez v. INS*, 96 F.3d 390 (9th Cir. 1996), held that the common results of deportation are insufficient to prove extreme hardship and defined extreme hardship as hardship that was unusual or beyond that which would normally be expected upon deportation. In *Hassan, supra*, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals held further that the uprooting of family and separation from friends does not necessarily amount to extreme hardship but rather represents the type of inconvenience and hardship experienced by the families of most aliens being deported. The AAO recognizes that the applicant’s husband has endured hardship as a result of separation from the applicant. However, his situation if he remains in the United States, is typical to individuals separated as a result of removal and does not rise to the level of extreme hardship.

A review of the documentation in the record fails to establish the existence of extreme hardship to the applicant’s husband caused by the applicant’s inadmissibility to the United States. Having found the applicant statutorily ineligible for relief, no purpose would be served in discussing whether she merits a waiver as a matter of discretion.

In proceedings for application for waiver of grounds of inadmissibility under section 212(a)(6)(C)(i) of the Act, the burden of proving eligibility remains entirely with the applicant. *See* section 291 of the Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1361. Here, the applicant has not met that burden. Accordingly, the appeal will be dismissed.

ORDER: The appeal is dismissed.