



Each year the United States grants permanent residency to more immigrants than all the other nations of the world combined. Most people come here believing that with hard work and determination they will end up with a better life--more money and more freedom. In fact, everyone who is in the United States today is either an immigrant or the descendant of an immigrant.

For over 30 years I have been traveling around the world reporting on cultural history. And usually it's pretty easy for me to figure out how a wave of immigrants or conquerors affected the place I was visiting.

I remember a church in Rome where the ground floor was built by a pagan tribe. On top there was a small Roman Temple. Then a hidden Christian shrine and finally a magnificent church. The man in charge of the building was an Irish priest. Each layer represented a different culture. Understanding the culture of each layer below gives you an understanding of what's on top. The layers in the church are the same layers that produced today's Rome.

Because of my work, I have spent most of my life as a stranger in a strange land trying to understand what was going on. A few years ago, I decided I needed to have a look at my own country. I wanted to uncover the true story of immigration to the United States.

EARLY ARRIVALS

Anthropologists tell us that the first people to immigrate to North America came from Asia between 15,000 and 35,000 years ago. They crossed a land bridge that was about a thousand miles wide and ran between Siberia and Alaska. They were big game hunters following herds that were migrating east. Several genetic studies indicate that our entire Native American

population descended from the people of Siberia and they may have descended from a group of only 70 people.

For at least 15,000 years the Western Hemisphere seemed to have developed without any additional immigration. But in 1492, Columbus' first ship arrived in the



Americas and everything changed. For the next hundred years after the voyages of Columbus, just about everyone who came through North America was an explorer looking for a way to get rich as fast as he could.

Starting in the early 1600s, however, we began to get a group of people who wanted to settle in and make a new life for themselves. And like every group that immigrated to the United States they came because things were not working out in their old life. If things at home are fine you stay put. It's when things at home are a problem that you suddenly want to immigrate.

That was the case for most of the people who came here from England in the 1600s. King Charles I, not on my list of nice guys, decided to reestablish the idea that the King ruled by "Divine Right" and could do whatever he wanted, especially when it came to religion. About 20,000 people, known as the Puritans disagreed, and moved to what we now call New England.

Later in the 1600s, in much the same vein, England's King Charles II gave William Penn a huge tract of land which eventually became Pennsylvania. The King, who was a little short of cash at the time, owed 16,000 pounds to Penn. Big Money. The King offered to pay off the debt by giving Penn some land in the American colonies.

The land was actually bigger than England but it was still a win-win deal.

Penn was an aristocrat which the King liked. But Penn was also a Quaker, which the King didn't like. The Quakers had this idea that a government should represent the needs of all of its people. The King thought that was outrageous and apparently some governments still do. So the King took Penn and 10,000 Quakers and threw them into prison. The idea that he could satisfy the debt and at the same time ship Penn and the 10,000 Quakers off to the colonies was a no-brainer.

There was, however, one serious problem that the King did not foresee. The ideas that came to Pennsylvania with the Quakers were the same ideas that formed the basis of the Declaration of Independence and the American Revolutionary War which resulted in the King losing his American colonies. Some days you just can't win.

The colonies that formed the United States began without the rigid class system that was so much a part of life in Europe, Asia and Latin America. Immigrants were attracted to the cheap land, religious freedom and the chance to improve themselves - a chance to escape from persecution and poverty. In the 150 years before the American Revolution, dozens of different religious and cultural groups managed to find a way of living together in relative harmony. It was a major improvement over the bloody Reformation and Counter-Reformation wars that were ravaging Europe.



But not all the immigration was voluntary. Starting in 1619, millions of Africans were taken from their homes and forced into slavery in North America. In

1808, Congress banned the importation of slaves and that appalling traffic slowly came to an end.

THE GREAT WAVES

During the early 1800s, almost all population growth in North America was internal. High birth rates and low death rates shifted the population so that almost

98% of the population was born in America.

But during the 1820's things began to change. That was also the same time that our federal government began to keep track of people who immigrated by boat. And during the twenty year period, from 1820 to 1840, immigration increased every year.



During the 1800s, immigration to the United States increased even further. Europe was in mass confusion---crop failures, famine, shortages of land and jobs, increased taxation, and disease. Millions of people were heading to America.

In 1892, the federal government opened a new immigration center on Ellis Island in New York harbor and for the next 50 years, Ellis was the primary immigration center for the United States government. During its peak years, 1900 to 1924, over twelve million people came through Ellis.

There were three classes of service on the steamships that sailed between Europe and New York. If you could afford to travel in first or second class life was easy. Officials from the U.S. Immigration Service would clear you while you were still in your cabin and you were free to begin your new life.

Third class was a different story. Steamship companies saw the immigrants who traveled in third class as profitable cargo...cargo that even loaded itself. They were called steerage passengers because they were kept in the back of the boat, next to the steering equipment. They were packed together in appalling conditions that were breeding grounds for disease. Thousands of people died during those voyages. And when your ship finally arrived in Manhattan, you were ferried across New York Harbor to Ellis Island.



Barry Moreno has worked in the Museum Services Division at Ellis Island for over a decade and authored a number of books about immigration through Ellis.

BARRY MORENO
ELLIS ISLAND

This is where the Immigration and Naturalization Service brought the aliens, the immigrants, to Ellis Island aboard barges. What they would do is they would bring them from the steamships, and the barges were coming all day long, and they would dock here. Then the immigrants would come out, and directed by men called groupers, they would form two lines. One line, for men and boys and the other line for women and girls. So, then they would continue into this main building at Ellis Island. This is the registry room. This is the place in which the fate of the immigrant was decided by an inspector. And the inspector was assisted by an interpreter in case the shipload of immigrants were non-English speakers, and there was always a clerk at the inspector's side.

The inspector was really looking for ways of keeping the immigrant out of the country, weeding out the alien. That was the idea. You had to find out whether



someone violated the laws in advance of entry. They would find out: Does the immigrant have enough money? Is the immigrant a criminal? Does the immigrant suffer from some contagious disease or immoral disease? Or is he handicapped in some way that would prevent him making a living?

Actually, a good many came with money. They wanted to invest in this country, to buy land and settle down here, buy shops and go into business, and that was the way to do it. You were frugal. You'd save your money, and then you came to America.

If they actually passed through, then the next question was, how soon they could they get off of Ellis Island, because people didn't really like Ellis Island.

In spite of the fact that Ellis was processing twice as many people as it was designed to handle, the staff did a remarkable job. The average immigrant was in and out of Ellis within five hours. Medical exams were completed, stability interviews conducted; there was a place to change your old-country money into U.S.

dollars and a spot to buy railroad tickets if you were going on to some other part of the country. If you were staying in the neighborhood, you went through a door marked "Push to New York". On the other side was a ferry that would take you the last mile of your journey to Manhattan.

IRISH IMMIGRATION

On New Year's Day of 1892, a 15-year-old girl named Annie Moore arrived from Ireland's Cork County and was the first person to pass through Ellis Island.

EDWARD T. O'DONNELL, PH.D.
COLLEGE OF THE HOLY CROSS

The Irish, of course, had been coming since the Colonial period. But their biggest wave was certainly in the 19th century. And their contribution, one of their biggest contributions, was that they arrived in such huge numbers and really shocked America and forced America to really think about what it meant to be an American. By being mostly poor and from Ireland and Catholic for the most part they forced America to rethink what it meant to be American and kind of expanded the definition. America was not particularly pleased with the arrival of the Irish, gradually over time, it took a couple of generations, accepted them as Americans. I mean you can look at something like the St. Patrick's Day Parade. It's held all across the country now every

year on March 17th, it's a celebration of Irish identity but it's copied and replicated by every immigrant group since. Other contributions by the Irish, probably the most evident one is in



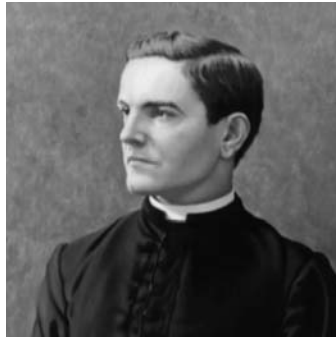
the role that they played in building the American economy as laborers. They came with very few skills and with almost no money, but they did arrive with a need to work and a willingness to work, and if you look across America, the great infrastructure that was built that made America the greatest economy in the world by the early 20th century, the railroads, the canals, the great projects like the Brooklyn Bridge all were built overwhelmingly with Irish labor.

Irish immigration also set a pattern for mutual assistance within a community.

Most of the immigrants who came to the United States during the 1800s were single men. But when the Irish potato crop failed in 1845, and hundreds of thousands of Irish men and women fled to America, many came as families. And of the others who did not come as families, there were almost an equal number of men as women, which allowed for the immediate formation of more families.

Patrick and Mary McGivney were typical of the Irish families that arrived during the middle-1800s. Patrick landed with very few skills and with almost no money, but like most of his fellow immigrants he showed up with the need and the willingness to work.

The McGivney's settled in Waterbury Connecticut and Pat became a molder in a nearby brass mill. The McGivney's were not faced with the prospect of starvation which had haunted them in Ireland but they did live in the grip of poverty. Their oldest child Michael grew up in a community filled with the sorrow that comes along with scarcity.



When Michael was thirteen years old he went to work in a spoon-making factory so he could contribute a few dollars towards the family's survival. At sixteen he left the mill and began his studies for the priesthood. On Christmas Day, 1877, Father McGivney began his ministry as Curate of St. Mary's Church in New Haven, Connecticut.

It was a time when parish clubs were popular. For the most part, they were social organizations that gave the Irish community a chance to hangout. But Father McGivney saw them as an opportunity to build a fund that would provide for the financial needs of families that were overwhelmed by illness or death.

Father McGivney began working with a group of Civil War Veterans that had come to the United States from Ireland. They wanted to form an

organization that would help protect their families during times of stress and they called their group The Knights of Columbus. They wanted to make the point that they themselves were still struggling for equality in our own country, but they were now in the new world.

Today, The Knights of Columbus combine fraternalism with an insurance program that meets Father McGivney's vision of support for families in trouble. There are over one million seven hundred thousand Knights and during the past ten years they have contributed over one billion dollars and four hundred million hours of volunteer service to charitable causes.

ITALIAN IMMIGRATION

Though the Irish opened Ellis Island for business they were the second largest group to pass through --- the largest group were the Italians.

EDWARD T. O'DONNELL, PH.D. COLLEGE OF THE HOLY CROSS

The Italians brought with them first and foremost themselves, by the millions, and one of their most obvious contributions to America were the millions of people that filled the factories, the work sites that built the roads and produced the great abundance of the American economy in the early 20th Century. These are mostly nameless, faceless people that we don't know anything about; except that they were Italian and that they came to America. But among the millions, there certainly are many very notable ones that do stand out. Probably, one of the



best examples being Marconi, who invented the wireless set and eventually founded the company that becomes RCA, one of the biggest and most important corporations in the 20th century. Enrico Fermi won the Nobel Prize for his research in nuclear science. You could shift to the arts and look at people like Enrico Caruso, probably the most popular entertainer in the early 20th century. Into areas like baseball. New

Yorkers would certainly argue and, I think, a lot of other baseball fans would agree, that Joe DiMaggio is one of the great baseball players of all time, Yogi Berra, certainly, another great one. You could shift to Hollywood and see that Frank Capra, the man who brought such great movies, like It's a Wonderful Life to the silver screen. So, you have both lots of nameless, faceless people who made their contribution and then certainly notable ones that stand out.

Another major group came from Eastern Europe, Russia, Poland, Hungary, Austria and Romania. As the 1880s came to a close, Eastern Europe found itself in constant turmoil. Crops were failing. There was agonizing poverty throughout the population and religious persecution was rampant. During a 50-year period starting in 1875, over 2 million Russians took passage to New York. By 1914, two and a half million Poles had passed through Ellis.



EDWARD T. O'DONNELL, PH.D.
COLLEGE OF THE HOLY CROSS

The heyday of Eastern European arrival to America, mostly Jewish, was at the turn of the century, and they were the ones most closely associated with Ellis Island. They came by the millions, largely due to factors in Eastern Europe, persecution, war, famine and general overpopulation. And they arrive in America at this time, usually going through Ellis Island and fill American cities. They're very urban people. And they, like all the immigrants before them, make a tremendous mark. Think about the Jewish contribution to the arts. People, like Irving Berlin to the Gershwins. Go back a little bit earlier. Late 19th century, early 20th century. Vaudeville was probably the most popular form of entertainment in America, and it's overwhelmingly, full of Jewish entertainers. The Marx Brothers were originally a vaudeville routine.

Most immigrants settled near their ports of entry but a large number found their way inland. My mother's mother arrived in New York in 1909 and

went straight to Chicago. Some states, especially those with small populations, tried to attract immigrants by offering jobs or free land for farming. There was also a desire to move to communities that had been established by earlier settlers from their homelands.

As soon as the immigrants arrived they started looking for work. There were jobs, but never enough and employers often took advantage of the immigrants. Immigrant men were generally paid less than other workers and women less than men.

THE GERMAN AMERICANS

We tend to think that the largest number of immigrants to the United States were either Irish or Italian but that's not the case. The 1990 census indicated that over 60 million Americans are the descendants of German immigrants which makes them the largest ethnic population in the country. In 23 states they actually represent over 20 percent of the population.

What we think of as a traditional Christmas celebration is based on German tradition. Most of our great symphony



orchestras and glee clubs are based on German societies. They gave us the kindergarten, the hamburger, the frankfurter and the delicatessen.

In rural areas they pioneered scientific farming, crop rotation and soil conservation. They started some of our most important companies in food processing, brewing, steelmaking, railroading, printing and publishing.

The first permanent German settlement in America was founded in 1683 at Germantown, Pennsylvania by a group of thirteen families who had emigrated from Krefeld. Germantown became the center of German immigration to the American colonies. But many families used Pennsylvania as a staging point to move to other areas.

Military units raised from German American communities played a key role in the Revolution. A

little known but fascinating fact --- George Washington's personal body guards during the war ended up being German-Americans. His first set of bodyguards turned out to be English spies. He felt he could only trust German-Americans. No wonder you never see a picture of him smiling---poor guy was surrounded by assassins.

And yet Benjamin Franklin, that great lover of freedom, was opposed to German immigration. He felt that so many Germans were coming here that they were going to take over the country and turn us into a nation that only spoke German. Franklin complained that the Germans don't look like us; they don't speak our language, and they don't share our values. These are the same arguments that have been used to oppose immigration for decades. And it begs the question---who is "us". These are the same arguments that were used against the Italians, the Irish, the Chinese, the Catholics, the Jews, and today they are being used against Mexicans and Latinos.

DEFINING "US"

CARL ANDERSON

THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Well it's no surprise that waves of immigration have caused waves of resentment and negative reaction. That's been the history throughout the history of the United States. It is clear in the short term there is some disruption to the economy, to daily life patterns and so it's a fact. But what we know in the United States, over time, is that these waves of immigration have brought great benefit to the country and the immigrants do find their place in American society and make a wonderful contribution to it.

The Statue of Liberty has become iconic in American society standing for everything that we prize. But often times we forget what's written on the base of the statue, that great poem by Emma Lazarus talking about the tired, the poor, the homeless. These are the people that came to the country in the millions and the great miracle of



America is that they help build this country into the

wonderful nation that it is. So we might say that the stone that was rejected by the builder in so many countries, in America, became the cornerstone.

Lynda Zengerle is the Partner in charge of immigration practices at the Washington Law firm of Steptoe & Johnson. She believes that a point system might work.

LYNDA S. ZENGERLE, ESQ.

STEPTOE & JOHNSON

There are a number of countries now that have a point system. Interestingly enough, most of them used to be colonies of the United Kingdom. But Australia and Canada and I believe the UK all have what they call point systems. You get a certain number of points for having a certain level of education. You're given a certain number of points for having skills. You get a certain number of points for not having any criminal violations on your record. And when you reach the critical number of points, you're given permanent residency.

So how do you solve the problem - What do you do with the twelve million people who are here? You give them a way that will allow them to



come out of the shadows, which is extremely important for everybody's sake, and having either paid a fine or pay some price - it can't be an amnesty.

Congressman Charles Rangel is the Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee and for many years he's been dealing with the issue of immigration.

CONGRESSMAN CHARLES B. RANGEL

CHAIRMAN, WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

People are not honest enough to admit that there is absolutely nothing that we can do with the 13, 14 or 15 million people that are here illegally. And, so, as long as we talk about them having to go back to where they came from or searching for the path for

citizenship, the dishonesty makes it difficult to come up with a plan that people can understand.

I mean, we have people arguing here as though the terrorists are coming across our Southern border. And, so, therefore, we have to treat this like an act in the war against terrorism. They know that this is not so. And they also should know that if we had the ability to identify each and every person, Mexican or otherwise, extract them out of the general population and send them back where they came from, the economy would collapse.



This country is so beautiful and so great, and has such great opportunity that I can understand how anyone would want to come to the country legally or illegally in order to improve their quality of life. But we have to be a country of laws. And we have to respect it. And we have to make certain that those who want to come in do so legally. Because we've done such a terrible job in the past in terms of who is here and who is staying here. And because most all of these people are hard-working people that are scared to death of exposing themselves for fear of deportation. It seems like we got ourselves into a position that we're going to have to face reality and get on with it, and fix this thing in the future.

And what do I mean by that? I mean, first of all, you make legal the people that are here. And first find out who the heck they are, which is so important if we're talking about national security. And to make them as whole as possible those who are deserving of citizenship. The second thing that you do is to make certain that you don't have a guest-working program to come into the United States and to evaluate what do you have already in the United States so that you can take care of your long term needs.

How does an American treat these types of problems? I would suggest, with sensitivity. Thinking about locking up people, deporting people, keeping the kids and sending the parents back home. To me, that's not America.

THE CHINESE RUSH FOR THE GOLD

By the end of the 1800s China was a madhouse. Its five most important port cities were under the control of foreign powers. Because they were port cities, the local Chinese



were getting a look at the outside world and they soon realized that immigration to Europe or the United States was the best way to improve their lives.

The horrendous conditions in China were the “push”. The need for cheap and subservient labor in America was the “pull”. U.S. employers were so concerned about a supply of labor that they had our government sign a treaty with China that allowed Chinese immigrants to immigrate without restriction.



Able bodied men were recruited under a system that gave them passage to America in exchange for a period of work. They came to be known as “coolies”

after a Hindi word for hired servant. But because they were usually forced to do the most difficult work they probably thought they were being called “ku-li” which in Chinese means “bitter strength”.

When the California gold rush came to an end, the Chinese went to work on the railroads. As usual they did the toughest work for the least money and virtually no credit.

The famous painting made to commemorate the completion of the Union Pacific Railroad that connected the Eastern part of the



United States with the west doesn't show a single Chinese worker. In spite of the fact that over 10,000

Chinese worked on the railroad. On the other hand, a photograph taken at the actual event is filled with Chinese laborers. It's a clear indication of the difference between what immigrants actually contribute to our society and what our society wants to see.

1900 TO 1950

During the 1920's one of the most important political issues was limiting immigration. In 1921 the Federal government passed a law, for the first time, imposing numerical limits on the number of people who could immigrate to our country. Clearly some kind of limitation was necessary but it's sad that the Federal government chose to enact a law that was clearly racist.

During the Great Depression of the 1930's, there were years when more people returned to Europe than immigrated to the United States. It wasn't that things were economically better in Europe. It was the simple fact that it was easier to be poor in a poor country than in a rich one.

REFUGEES AND DISPLACED PERSONS

In 1945, The Second World War came to an end with eleven million displaced Europeans trying to stay alive. Some were able to return to their own countries but for many their countries no longer existed. Some had been displaced by the Holocaust but there were also thousands of people trying to escape the Russian Army as it advanced to the west.

In spite of the obvious need for assistance, American officials did almost nothing to relieve the suffering of the displaced persons. We had moved on to the Cold War with Russia and our priorities had shifted.



A series of laws were passed that were clearly designed to keep people from immigrating to the United States. One of the hurdles for anyone wanting to immigrate was the requirement of

a document showing that the individual would not become a financial burden to the government. Their economic support had to be guaranteed.

President Truman reduced the impact of that demand by allowing blanket guarantees for large numbers of people to be issued by social service organizations. The three most important were religious organizations representing Catholics, Protestants and Jews. These agencies began to play a major role in immigration and they still do.

CARL ANDERSON

THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

One of the first groups of immigrants to come to the United States described this new land as a shining city on a hill. And it certainly has been that for generations of new Americans and in fact we can look at it a slightly different way because America has been so welcoming to so many diverse people, economically, racially, nationally. America truly is that shining city on a hill not just because of the way immigrants have perceived us but the way we have welcomed generations of immigrants.

THE COLD WAR YEARS

For decades after The Second World War, our government's immigration policy was based on a series of contradictions. Some elements were liberalizing. The labor



unions who had opposed new arrivals since the Civil War shifted their position and began supporting European immigration. There were two reasons for labor's shift---first, during the Roosevelt presidency collective bargaining became a recognized part of American industry and the unions felt more secure, and second, many of the union members were the sons and daughters of the type of people who were trying to immigrate.

In 1952, Congress passed the McCarran-Walters Act. It was clearly a response to the Cold War and our fear of communism. It tightened things up but it also put an official end to the ethnic and racial barriers that were preventing people from immigrating to the United States or becoming naturalized. The key word here however is official.

Administration is always more important than legislation. Congress can pass whatever law it wants to pass but whether that law is enforced or not enforced is the key issue.

During the 1960s, 70s and 80s, the increase in legal immigration was mirrored by an increase in illegal immigration. The largest groups of illegal immigrants were from Mexico and Ireland. Ireland had large numbers of well-educated and skilled workers, more than the Irish economy could employ. So many came to the United States with visitor's visas and stayed on to work.

ASIAN, ASIAN-INDIAN& FILIPINO

Throughout history the reasons for immigrating to the United States have always been pretty much the same. If you thought your life was going to improve socially, or economically, you came. If you didn't think there was going to be a significant improvement you stayed put. By 1965 Western Europe was in great shape. And Western European immigration dropped off. Eastern Europe however was in terrible shape and the Eastern Europeans wanted to come here. But the Communist governments wouldn't let them out.

Large numbers of people in the Caribbean, Latin America and Asia felt that coming to the United States would improve their lives and so they immigrated in larger and larger numbers.

CARL ANDERSON

THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

In a way, borders are more important than ever but we have to look beyond borders and no country as rich as the United States has as many miles of border with a country as poor as Mexico. So even though questions of border security are absolutely important we have to look beyond our borders to make sure that economic opportunity, the rule of law, factors that we take for granted as Americans, others outside of America, also have the same opportunities in the future.

The Chinese were the earliest Asian immigrants to America and they now represent greater numbers than any other Asian group. China was a key ally during the Second World War and that led to the repeal of the Chinese Exclusion Act and their right to become

naturalized citizens.

By the early 1980s, the image of a Chinese immigrant had completely changed from that of an underpaid laborer to a highly motivated member of a model minority driven to excel especially in science and technology.

Following the Second World War, there was a massive increase in the immigration of Filipinos. The vast majority were nurses. English was the primary language of instruction in the Philippine hospitals that were training nurses and because the Philippines and the United States were closely associated in many areas, Philippine nurses were educated on the American model.

THE REFUGEE ACT OF 1980

In 1980, during the administration of Jimmy Carter, Congress passed The Refugee Act, which was the first attempt in American history to add human rights



to American foreign policy.

The act was a distinct change. It also introduced the right of asylum and created a new category of refugee. The category was set-up to cover a person who was in the United States, either legally or on a tourist or student visa, or a visiting athlete or a performer, or illegally and claimed the right of a refugee. Eventually, the person must meet all of the criteria of a refugee or be expelled but unlike a refugee who is attempting to enter the United States this person is already in the country. The law also put a cap at 5,000 of this type of refugee per year.

For the first time in the history the United States it accepted the idea that it had an obligation to take in refugees---an extraordinary change in attitude when you consider how our government ignored the needs of refugees during and after The Second World War.

MEXICAN IMMIGRATION

Mexican immigration legal and illegal is a special story. At the beginning of the 20th century a series of



events pushed and pulled more and more Mexicans into the United States. The Mexican Revolution created almost twenty years of chaos

throughout Mexico. That was the “push”.

The development of industrial farming throughout the American Southwest was the “pull”. Advanced techniques for irrigating the land, the introduction of the refrigerated railroad car and the development of a nationwide system for distribution created an ever growing demand for labor and Mexico became the source.

John Steinbeck’s novel *The Grapes of Wrath* immortalized the lives of people forced by The Great Depression to become migrant workers in California. But in reality, the majority of people working on the farms of California during the great depression were Mexican immigrants.

WHAT’S NEXT

It’s true that since 1970, the number of immigrants to the United States has risen but it’s still well below what it has been in the past. The common belief that we are being inundated with immigrants is just not true.



But reaching a balance is difficult. Too many immigrants and you run the risk of introducing a type of tribalism that increases the tension among groups. It can increase crowding, the cost of social services, and pollution. It can also limit the future possibilities for the people who are already here.

CARL ANDERSON

THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Of course, in the issue of immigration, we’ve got to have a strong reaction, effective reaction to criminals that come into our country or people when they’re here who break the law but to treat everyone in the same way. Even when they come from desperate poverty in order to provide for their family, is simply not only mean-spirited but is unjust.

Immigration can produce social difficulties, but it can also produce a new vitality. Immigration changed American culture but it also



proved that diversity, as well as unity, was the source of our national strength.

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AND I HAVENT HAD A BAD DAY SINCE: FROM THE STREETS OF HARLEM TO THE HALLS OF CONGRESS

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