

Why We Don't Need This Much Immigration?

- Current immigration flows are **wildly higher than the U.S. immigration tradition** that nurtured America during most of its history. Traditional flows averaged around 250,000 a year from 1776 – 1976. But the number exploded after that. Since 1990, around 1 million legal immigrants a year and more than 800,000 illegal immigrants a year settle permanently in the U.S.
- **Most immigrants are allowed in with no consideration of how they fit in the job market.** Less than 10% of all foreign workers enter the country with any regard to their skills or whether the job market needs their skills. Even employment-based entries are granted without real safeguards to keep them from displacing an American worker or to ensure that Americans have gotten first crack at a job.
- **Millions of Americans can't find jobs.** Around 14 million American workers who want a full-time job can't find one. This counts the officially unemployed, those involuntarily in part-time jobs and those who recently dropped off the official unemployment list. These Americans are at all rungs of the job ladder but disproportionately are looking for work in the lower skilled jobs that are primarily taken by foreign workers. We have a surplus of workers; why would we add more workers through immigration?
- **Black underclass still exists.** Some 40 years after Congress passed laws to provide for the full assimilation of black Americans into the country's political, social and economic life, the lack of job opportunities for these descendants of the American slavery system is scandalous. Around 40% of black American men between 18 and 65 do not have a job. History suggests that, for various reasons, the job market will not open to them if it can fill its needs with foreign workers.
- **Americans with Disabilities Act has not done its job.** This crown jewel of the first Pres. Bush's presidency was supposed to eliminate barriers to the nation making use of the talents and energies of the millions of disabled Americans. Instead, recent reports indicate, it has been a colossal failure as most disabled Americans who want to work still can't find jobs. As long as immigration provides millions of foreign workers, employers don't have the incentive to train and employ disabled American workers.
- **Millions of American and immigrant workers make wages so low that they live in poverty.** Increasing numbers of occupations have collapsed into poverty and near-poverty levels. Most of them are disproportionately filled with foreign workers. Occupations such as those in meatpacking,

dry-walling, other construction trades and hospitality jobs that once paid decent to very good incomes have collapsed into near-poverty or poverty levels. Importing hundreds of thousands of foreign workers into those occupations is a profound policy of injustice against the Americans struggling in them already.

- **Large numbers of American cities are choking on sprawl and congestion.** Nearly 90% of U.S. population growth can be explained by new immigrants and births to immigrants. Every issue of overcrowding and infrastructure inadequacy would be much more easily resolved without adding 30 million or more immigrants and their children to our cities each decade.