

Option 2: Restrict Immigration

The world is changing. War, terrorism, hunger, and disease plague an ever-growing portion of humanity. Protecting the United States from the economic, security, and cultural threats posed by outsiders must be the country's first priority. The United States is a strong country militarily and economically, but it cannot solve the world's problems. As the planet's population soars from more than seven billion today to an estimated ten billion by the year 2050, the United States must recognize that it can do little to end the misery that haunts much of the world. Meanwhile, the forces of economic change have left millions of U.S. citizens struggling to keep up, and the growing threat from Muslim terrorists must not be ignored. At a time when protecting the security, economy, and culture of the country is crucial, the United States cannot afford to keep the door open every year to roughly one million newcomers.

The world's disadvantaged people cannot be blamed for wanting to enter the United States. Many of them lead difficult lives and face hardship, hunger, and violence. But the United States has already given too much. The United States also has a duty to stop the senseless influx of immigrants, undocumented people, and refugees who may bring with them their foreign or even anti-U.S. religions, cultures, and ideologies. The United States should drastically reduce the number of immigrants it accepts and commit the resources necessary to take control of U.S. borders and prevent terrorism. It is time to focus on what is best for the citizens of the United States.

Option 2 is based on the following beliefs

- By depending on government resources for education and healthcare, immigrants divert financial resources that should be used to benefit U.S. citizens.
- Although the United States is a country of immigrants, high levels of immigration of people who do not speak English, have different values, practice Islam, and do not want to assimilate threaten U.S. stability and prosperity.
- High levels of immigration deprive low-wage workers in the United States of opportunities for economic advancement.
- Immigration is a threat to U.S. security and safety. In particular, people from war-torn, Muslim-majority countries might hold beliefs and practice religions that threaten the security of people in the United States.

What policies should we pursue?

- Reduce the number of immigration visas awarded annually.
- Focus on providing U.S. citizens, not immigrants, with the skills and education they need to contribute to the U.S. economy and lead prosperous lives.
- Strengthen border control by increasing the number of Border Patrol agents, constructing impassable barriers at major crossing points along the U.S.-Mexico border, and swiftly deporting undocumented people.
- Deny entry to all Muslim immigrants, including refugees, until international Muslim terror organizations are no longer a threat.
- End the policy of granting automatic citizenship to the U.S.-born children of non-citizens.
- Deny education, healthcare, and other social services to undocumented immigrants.

From the Record

Benjamin Franklin, "Observations Concerning the Increase of Mankind, Peopling of Countries, etc.," 1751

"Why should Pennsylvania, founded by the English, become a Colony of Aliens, who will shortly be so numerous as to Germanize us instead of our Anglifying them, and will never adopt our Language or Customs, any more than they can acquire our Complexion."

John Jay, first chief justice of the Supreme Court, speaking about Catholic immigration

"We should build a wall of brass around the country."

Theodore Roosevelt, in an address to the Knights of Columbus, October 12, 1915

"There is no room in this country for hyphenated Americanism.... The one absolutely certain way of bringing this nation to ruin, of preventing all possibility of its continuing to be a nation at all, would be to permit it to become a tangle of squabbling nationalities."

Samuel Gompers, president, American Federation of Labor, April 28, 1921

"So many immigrants coming into this country will break down the standard of living of our people. Shutting out from our shores the poor of other nations and races is caused by the law of necessity and self-protection consequent upon our industrial system."

Wayne Lutton, an anti-immigration activist, at a Council of Conservative Citizens conference, 1999

"We are the real Americans, not the Hmong, not Latinos, not the Siberian Americans. The native Americans are not real Americans, they came from Siberia.... We are the descendants of the real Americans."

Presidential candidate Donald J. Trump, in a written statement, December 7, 2015

"Donald J. Trump is calling for a total and complete shutdown of Muslims entering the United States until our country's representatives can figure out what is going on. According to Pew Research, among others, there is great hatred towards Americans by large segments of the Muslim population."

President Donald J. Trump, in a tweet, January 16, 2018

"We must have Security at our VERY DANGEROUS SOUTHERN BORDER, and we must have a great WALL to help protect us, and to help stop the massive inflow of drugs pouring into our country!"