

# The Right To Migrate

## by Paul VanRaden

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**A free, online book about human rights for you:  
the right to leave your nation; to live in our nation.**

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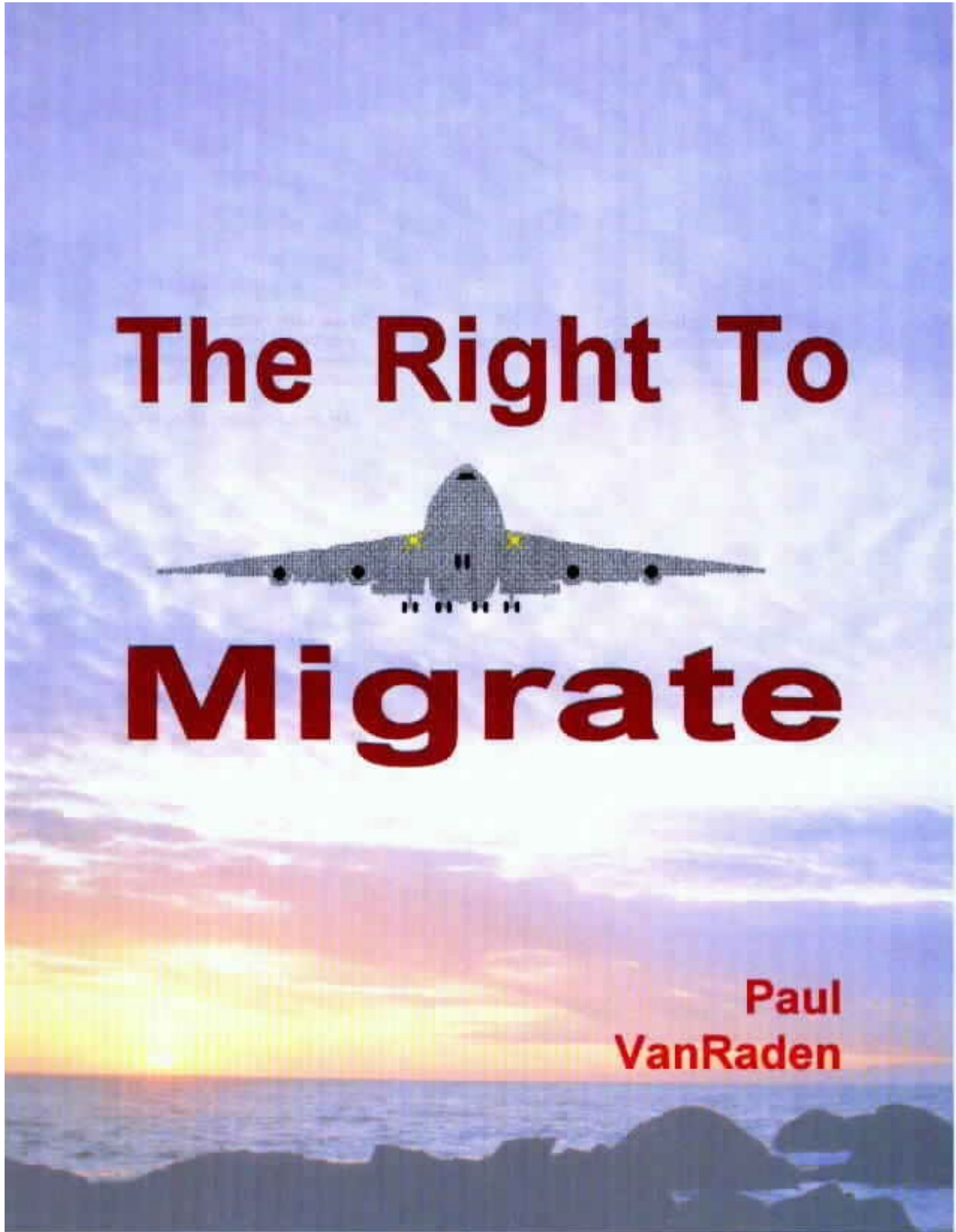
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## Foreword

Forward is the way that most of us travel, but other people may tell us to stop and go backward if we reach their border. All of us will have more places to go and more rights if we make immigration legal and border police illegal. As Americans, or Europeans, or Australians, or people, we value our rights. The right to migrate, which most people do not have, may have the highest value. This book explains why people should have the right to move forward.

I wrote this book in easy English. You only need to know a few hard words such as immigration. If we have a right to migrate, that means that each of us could find a new home on any side of any border. When you find the right place for you, you and your neighbors should try to live in peace. You also have a right to sit where you are and read this book. You can begin in any chapter and then go to any other chapter. In this book, you have a right to migrate.

## Chapter 1

### MIGRATION

#### MIGRATION

Once upon a time, there was no migration on earth. Nothing went anywhere except for the wind and the splashing waves. Before living things grew up and began to move, nothing swam in the sea, walked on the land, flew in the air, or blasted off into space. Today, lots of living things migrate, including many animals and a few humans. Some of us go so far as to think that we have a right to migrate. I believe that you have a right to migrate unless you are in jail or your parents tell you that you are still too young to migrate alone.

Animals began migrating long before humans had rights. When the first fishes opened their eyes, they saw that the sea was large. By moving their tails from side to side, they could go forward and find food anywhere. Early plants drifted with the waves, and later plants grew and climbed all over the land. As the grass got greener on the other side of the seashore, some animals crawled or hopped from the sea up onto the land to find new food and fresh air. Later, air-breathing animals such as dolphins and whales moved down off of the land and back into the sea.

Birds began flying around above the land and the sea. Penguins swam to Antarctica. Above the Arctic circle, polar bears walked around. Yaks climbed over the Himalayas. Men went to the moon.

#### RULES

Here on earth, people get in the way of each other. Billions of people (including me) agree that we need some rules when we migrate. We need to stop at red lights and go at green lights. We need a license to drive a car or a ticket to ride a train. We need to remain seated during takeoffs and landings. We need to buckle our seatbelts.

No special rules are needed when we want to move from one city to another city. We just go. Many, many rules block our paths, though, when we try to move from one country to another country. Immigration officers tell us to stop or wait or go back home. If we want to go forward, they push us backward. National governments have pushed us people into pens.

Most birds, fish, insects, etc., still get to choose where on this planet to live. Adult humans should be free, too, to move from the homes they have now to the homes they hope to have. Those who move shouldn't need permission from those who sit still.

## **GOALS**

To have peace and happiness, citizens in each nation or community must obey some rules. These rules might improve life for just the dictator who wrote them or improve life for most of the citizens that form a democratic government. A national government can care very much about its citizens and care less about noncitizens. International governments can treat all people as citizens and improve life for everyone, including you and me. At least that's the goal.

Rules and laws that stop migration make some people happy and others sad. When the rules hurt more people than they help, we should change the rules. Nations that put up walls to keep citizens safe also take some freedom away from every noncitizen. Nations that build fences to keep poorer noncitizens away from their richer citizens hurt many people to keep a few happy. Noncitizens outnumber citizens, and thus walls often do much more harm than good.

The goal regarding migration should be laws that seem fair to each person, and more happiness in general for everyone. In democratic nations, governments already have such goals for their citizens. At least that's what they say. Within such nations, citizens can move around and choose where to live. Within nations, we let people migrate.

## **SIDES**

A bird may migrate outside of his nation. Do birds really need to fly so far, or should they stay in the nations where they were born? Life for birds might be less work within cages than living free, but also less fun. A cage or a wall or a fence can keep harm away from you, but also can keep you away from some good things on the other side.

You can be on my side. I won't tell you where to live and you won't tell me where to live and we could each find happier lives. If we take away the borders that separate us, we'll all be on the same side. Our governments should give us that choice. Our rules should say that migration is right. Then all of us will live happier ever after.

## Chapter 2

### THE NEED TO MIGRATE

Without migration, we wouldn't be where we are today. We would still live in the places where we, or our parents, or our ancestors lived in the past. We would all still be where we came from. Migration has given us and many other living things a chance to move to more interesting places and to live better lives. If nothing and no one moved, life might seem more like death. Our futures would be very limited. We can't get very far without migration.

With migration, people can go from where they are now to where they want to be. They might go there just to visit, or to study, or to work, or to stay. They might change their minds many times or just wander around. Or, like migrating animals, they might plan ahead and use different homes to match the needs of the time and season. **People need the freedom to boldly go where other people have gone before.** With migration, we wouldn't have to wait for life to come to us. With a right to move, we could go far.

#### TOOLS

Many methods have been invented to make migration easier. Sandals and shoes helped people to move farther and faster even over very rocky roads. Winter clothes let them move away from the earth's warm equator and toward its cold poles. Donkeys, horses, and camels began to carry people from here to there. Wheels let people carry more of their things to places further away. Now, with ships, planes, technology, and a ticket, each of us can go anywhere easily.

By tomorrow, you could walk the sidewalks of any of the world's major cities or sit on the shore of some minor island barely on the map. Before buying your ticket and before packing, you should first study the map to be sure the place you choose is right for you. Be sure you have enough money to survive. Before you go to live somewhere, try to determine if the life you're going to is better than the life you have now.

#### RESOURCES

Wherever they go, people need to find resources such as food, water, and shelter just to stay alive. One resource required to support people is land, particularly farmland. Table 1 shows how much farmland each nation has and ranks those nations by the number of people supported by each hectare. A hectare is 10,000 square meters or 2.3 acres. Nations such as Japan, China, and the United Kingdom have little farmland but many people while others such as Australia, Canada, and the United States have much farmland but few people.

**Table 1. Nations Ranked by People Per Hectare of Farmland**

Rank	Nation <sup>1</sup>	Hectares of		People per
		People	Farmland	Hectare
		(millions)		(millions)
1	Japan	125	4.5	27.8

2	Egypt	62	2.8	22.1
3	China	1,209	96.0	12.6
4	Bangladesh	118	9.7	12.2
5	Viet Nam	73	6.7	10.9
6	United Kingdom	58	6.1	9.5
7	Philippines	66	9.2	7.2
8	Germany	81	12.1	6.7
9	Pakistan	137	21.3	6.4
10	Indonesia	195	31.0	6.3
11	India	919	169.7	5.4
12	Italy	57	11.9	4.8
13	Mexico	92	24.7	3.7
14	Nigeria	108	29.9	3.6
15	Iran	66	18.2	3.6
16	Brazil	159	49.0	3.2
17	France	58	19.4	3.0
18	Thailand	58	20.8	2.8
19	Poland	39	14.7	2.7
20	Turkey	61	27.5	2.2
21	Spain	40	19.7	2.0
22	Ukraine	51	34.4	1.5
23	United States	261	187.8	1.4
24	Argentina	34	27.2	1.3
25	Russia	147	129.5	1.1
26	Canada	29	45.5	.6
27	Kazakhstan	17	34.8	.5
28	Australia	18	46.5	.4
	WORLD	5,630	1,448	3.9

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<sup>1</sup>Nations listed are those that contain more than 1 % of the world's farmland or more than 1 % of the world's people.

Source: FAO Production Yearbook, United Nations, 1994.

With modern transportation, each person might find a place with the resources they seek. Unfortunately, many people remain without resources because others have taken vast land areas or whole continents for themselves. Europeans once felt the need to migrate to places like Australia, North America, and South America, but today their descendants can't see why another person might need to migrate.

Resources stay in one place. You can go get them, or you can pay extra to have them sent to you. You and your descendants should not have to stay in one place, waiting for someone else to give you a permit to move. Why should people remain planted in place? Our nations should allow us to migrate. Limits on immigration are not needed even for crowded nations and are especially immoral for a nation with resources that far exceed its people's need.

## FOOD

Nations with the highest population densities may have difficulty producing enough food for their citizens from their limited land, while other nations easily produce more food than their citizens can consume. As a result, only rice and vegetables may be affordable for people in the most crowded nations while citizens of empty nations with lots of land more frequently can choose to eat steak, eggs, and ice cream.

Export of food is one strategy to make living conditions more equal, but sometimes the eggs break, the ice cream melts, and the steak gets cold before it reaches the consumers halfway around the world. A better strategy is to let consumers move closer to food sources. Consumers may want to move not only for economic efficiency but also for food security, so that political instability, natural disaster, or even war would not necessarily leave them hungry.

Population densities could remain unequal and unfair for hundreds of years unless limits on migration are removed. Average population density in the world in 1994 was 3.9 people per hectare of farmland, while the United States had only 1.4 people per hectare. If 10 million new immigrants began entering the United States each year, its population density would not equal the current world average until 2041, more than a generation away. If immigration is held to its current .5 million, the United States will not support its fair share of the world's people before 2933, more than 30 generations from now.

These calculations ignore population growth independent of migration, which may increase rather than decrease national differences in population over time. If current laws remain in effect, Americans may rest peacefully knowing that their great, great, great, etc. grandchildren will have the same unfair advantages that Americans now enjoy.

Population densities could become equal only if a minimum of 2 billion people moved out of overpopulated nations and into underpopulated nations. Numbers of immigrants that might come from and go to each of the major places to live are listed in Table 2 along with the 1994 population.

In Table 2, each nation's fair share of the world's population was calculated as its hectares of farmland multiplied by 3.9. This fair share for each nation will increase in the future as the world population grows. Only the most overpopulated and underpopulated nations as of 1994 are listed. Potential emigrants (from) and immigrants (to) are the difference between the nation's current population and its fair share. Total immigrants for the world were summed from the nations in Table 1 plus 28% for the smaller nations not listed.

**Table 2. Immigrants and Emigrants Needed to Make Population Densities Equal.**

(millions)		Migrants					1994 Popu- lation	Immigrants (millions)
		From China	From India	From Japan	From Bang- ladesh	From Indo- nesia		
–	To United States	192	59	25	19	17	261	+470
–	To Russia	149	45	19	14	13	147	+363
–	To Australia	67	20	9	6	6	18	+163
–	To Canada	61	19	8	6	5	29	+150
–	To Kazakhstan	48	15	6	5	4	17	+118
–	To Argentina	29	9	4	3	3	34	+71
–	1994 Population	1,209	919	125	118	195	5,630	
–	Emigrants	-835	-255	-108	-81	-74		2,037
	(millions)							

The immigrants to each nation are assumed to come from each other nation in proportion to that nation's surplus. Similarly, emigrants from each nation are assumed to move into each deficit nation in proportion to that nation's deficit. For example, China could supply 835 million or 41% of the total of the 2 billion emigrants and the United States could accept 470 million or 23% of the 2 billion immigrants. If migration were legal, the number of Chinese people entering the United States could easily be 192 million, calculated as 41% times 23% times 2 billion migrants.

Actual numbers of immigrants could be much larger if populations of medium density also use their right to migrate. For example, some people from France might move to Canada and then sell or rent their old homes in France to immigrants from India, who might sell or rent their old homes in India to immigrants from Bangladesh. Many people from Indonesia may wish to make new homes in nearby Australia instead of going to places all over the world (as assumed in Table 2). Neighboring nations might become good friends instead of enemies as their people mix and their cultures blend.



## **PROPERTY**

The wind, the rain, the cold, and hunger can find people no matter where they live. To protect themselves, people seek shelter, keep food, clothes, and supplies nearby, and rent or own property. If a thief takes your things or breaks into your house, you should call the police and they should arrest the thief. Private property must be protected. The things that you buy, or inherit, or receive as gifts should be yours until you sell, or discard, or give them away. In nearly all nations, that is the law.

An immigrant and a citizen both have a right to buy things (such as airplane tickets) but have no right to steal things. If an immigrant or a citizen moves to your city, rents an apartment near you, walks down your street, and breathes the air in front of your house, nothing of yours has been stolen. But if your city or your nation builds a wall to keep him out, then your government has kept him away from all of the air, all of the streets, all of the apartments, and all of the jobs in your city or nation. You have stolen all of those things from him.

## **TERRITORY**

The earth's seas are still described as international waters, but earth's land has been divided among many separate nations. The national government that controls each land area decides who may live there, who may visit, and who must stay out. Some governments also limit the exit of people from the nation. The usual reasons for rejecting immigrants from some other nation are that the other nation's people are poorer or have a different language or values. Some governments limit immigration simply to prevent crowding, and some limit emigration simply to prevent good taxpayers from leaving.

Humans are not the only animals to create and defend artificial borders and territories. Many predators try to keep all other predators off the land they have marked as their own. If predators can agree upon borders, they can spend more time catching prey and less time fighting against others of their own species. But to maintain such borders, predators must often threaten to use force and sometimes actually hurt or even kill each other. Fortunately, most other species are much less violent. They spend more time finding local food sources and less time threatening their neighbors. Human governments might agree to keep their national territories but to stop chasing their neighbors away.

Large territories may be best because they give the people (or animals) within them more room and more opportunity.

Unfortunately, when a small population holds onto a large territory, those outside the territory are left with less room and less opportunity. Jobs, products, inventions, and ideas available in one place will remain unknown in other places if borders are closed. People in small nations will have fewer new things to buy and a smaller market for their own products, inventions, and labor. If borders are opened, citizens will have more jobs and more time to defend liberty instead of territory.

As people migrate and cultures become mixed, genes will, too. People can marry others of their own race, but won't have to. More choices and more genetic variation result when mixed populations gradually replace separated populations. Territorial animals often find mates from outside their own families or territories to avoid inbreeding and to give the next generation a broader, healthier sample of genes. Without migration and within a small, separated territory,

genetic diseases can increase in frequency. Fortunately, harmful mutations are masked when populations are mixed.

National governments often claim a sovereign right to defend borders and territory. The immigrants they turn away do not threaten to move the borders or take away territory. The immigrants wish only to find a place to live, to work, and to be treated as citizens. They are peaceful. The governments who stop them are warlike, fighting to control their turfs and to enforce national segregation. Someday, the people will realize their sovereign right to control governments and to cross borders.

## CLOTHES

Today, people are still stopped at national borders, but their clothes and other personal belongings can migrate freely. My clothes were made in 25 different nations and sent across national borders to me. In each of these nations, one or more workers worked part-time for me, sewing the clothes that are now here in my closet in the U.S. The work was mostly of good quality, so I was happy to pay for it. The workers can work for me where they are but they can't move around. The laws that keep them in their place seem a little like slavery. Pick some cotton for me, sew a shirt for me, and stay in your place.

The clothes that I wear were purchased at shopping malls near Baltimore, MD and Washington, DC. My wife chose most of them. She buys clothes that look nice and have medium price, without regard to who made them or where. Table 3 shows where the workers live and what they made for me. Workers may be content to sit still, but apparently clothes have a need to migrate.

Table 3 shows that many people from around the world already have worked hard to please me. I haven't met them or talked to them, but I know that some of them would be willing to walk a mile in my shoes. Already they gave me the shirt on my back.

**Table 3. Migration of Clothes into Paul's Closet as of February 4, 1996**

<b>Origin</b>	<b>Immigrant Items</b>
Bahrain	long-sleeve shirt
Bangladesh	pants, shorts (2) long-sleeve shirt
Brazil	shoes
Chile	sweat pants, sweat shirt
China	shoes, vest, shorts, pajamas (2) flannel shirt, short-sleeve shirts (2)
Costa Rica	underwear (3)
Dominican Republic	underwear (3), long-sleeve shirt, short-sleeve shirt
Guatemala	T-shirt
Honduras	long-sleeve shirt
Hong Kong	blue jeans
India	flannel shirt short-sleeve shirts (2)
Jamaica	flannel shirt
Jordan	long-sleeve shirt

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Macau	pants
Mauritius	shorts
Mexico	shorts
Mongolia	pants
Netherlands	T-shirt
Pakistan	short-sleeve shirt
Philippines	short-sleeve shirt
South Korea	suit, short-sleeve shirt, long-sleeve shirts (4)
Sri Lanka	pants, long-sleeve shirt
Taiwan	sweat shirt, flannel shirt, long-sleeve shirt
Turkey	long-sleeve shirt
United States	suit, pants (2), sweat pants, sweat shirt, flannel shirt, T-shirts (3) shorts (3), blue jeans, underwear (9) long-sleeve shirts (5), short-sleeve shirts (2)

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## MIGRANTS

Most nations accept tourists but reject workers. A few rich and talented people can cross borders almost whenever they want, but average people must live and work where they were born. A few skilled workers may be allowed to immigrate. For people without much money, tourism is difficult because earning money while outside of their country is illegal. Why should laws encourage the spending of tourism but discourage earning?

Famous people migrate because good jobs are waiting for them everywhere. Poor people may need to migrate because the jobs they have now are going nowhere. Rich people can afford to migrate to nice homes in nice nations. Common people such as me should have a right to migrate, too. Table 4 lists jobs that might require you to work in foreign lands and gives examples of the people who have worked in these migrant jobs.

**Table 4. Migrant Jobs and Migrant Workers.**

<b><u>Migrant Job</u></b>	<b><u>Migrant Worker</u></b>
Actor	Arnold Schwarzenegger
Airplane pilot	Charles Lindbergh
Artist	John James Audubon
Astronaut	Neil Armstrong
Author	George Orwell
Ballet dancer	Mikhail Baryshnikov
Baseball player	Jose Canseco
Buddhist monk	Dalai Lama XIV
Businessman	Andrew Carnegie
Church leader	Pope John Paul II
Composer	Sergey Rachmaninoff

Diplomat	Benjamin Franklin
Doctor	Albert Schweitzer
Explorer	Jacques Cousteau
Football (soccer)	Pele
Journalist	Peter Jennings
Hockey player	Wayne Gretzky
Magician	Harry Houdini
Model	Naomi Campbell
Missionary	Mother Theresa
Military	Douglas MacArthur
Musician	John Lennon
Preacher	Billy Graham
Publisher	Rupert Murdoch
Sailor	Ferdinand Magellan
Scientist	Mary Leakey
Tennis player	Martina Navratilova
Writer	<u>Ernest Hemingway</u>

Most of the people that I listed moved once to find work and then kept moving as the job required. For some, such as Rachmaninoff, Baryshnikov, Navratilova, and Canseco, their biggest move was out of a Communist nation and into a democracy. Others, such as Magellan, Cousteau, and Armstrong, worked in places that no nation claims, exploring the width and depth of the sea or taking a giant leap for mankind to the moon. Pilots and diplomats also earn their livings by moving between nations.

At least three of these migrant workers earned the Nobel Prize for Peace (Dalai Lama, Albert Schweitzer, and Mother Teresa). Modern religious leaders tour the world so that they can teach the people in person. Some authors, writers, and journalists have the reverse job, going to see what's happening in the world and reporting news or sending stories back to us. Publishers of these stories may also need to relocate to new homes closer to their global businesses. Do people with talent travel, or does travel lead to talent? Orwell and Hemingway each lived in six or more nations for years at a time. They really migrated.

Musicians, magicians, models, and actors also migrate so that they can appear in front of more fans and fancy scenery. Many jobs in the military, in science, or in business also require travel, but often to places that the migrant doesn't choose or wouldn't choose. Migration is not always direct, as the artist Audubon found when moving from Haiti east to France and then west to the United States. A shorter route must exist.

Professional athletes migrate so much that no one notices. Tennis players, skiers, golfers, race car drivers, or track and field athletes simply fly to the next big event and try to win the top prize paid in whatever money that nation uses. Whole teams travel across borders together in soccer, football, basketball, hockey, and baseball. The players must work in more than one country because the leagues are international.

To conclude, if you don't like your job or if you're very good at your job, you should think about moving. Fame and fortune and migration go hand in hand.

## COMPETITON

Athletes from ancient Greece were invited to compete in Olympic sporting events every 4 years to exhibit their skills and to determine who was best. In the 20th century, athletes from all over the whole world come together for the Olympics. When the games begin, the host nation may be disappointed if athletes from all nations can't be there. In such sporting events, we hope that every human has at least a chance to compete. When we compete, the rules say that each of us should be judged only on performance and not on place of birth. The idea that all people can participate as equals is very popular. Ratings are high.

When the Olympics are over, each person must return to their own nation. Athletes may compete for gold medals in the host nation but not for jobs. The host nation makes its own rules about jobs and usually says that its own job seekers must finish first. People from other nations must jump over more hurdles and often are not allowed even to cross the starting line.

Of course, businesses may be disappointed if job seekers from some nations could not attend or could not stay. They may believe that politicians and political differences should not stand in the way of friendly competition among all.

Olympic competition for gold medals is fun to watch but involves only a few thousand people. Free and fair competition for jobs is a participation sport that could be held all over the world all the time, not just in one city once every 4 years. Let the job Olympics begin. The winners will be rewarded, and the losers will not be deported.

## Chapter 3

### THE RIGHT TO MIGRATE

People like to choose where to live and where to work. Our governments might help us to find better homes and better jobs, or at least they should let us look for the good life without help. Instead, many governments pass and enforce laws that keep us away from our chosen locations or vocations. Relocation onto much of the earth's surface is now illegal. When national governments stop or limit migration, they take away our freedom. They often remove opportunity from the poorest people first, and they rarely ask for consent from the people that they govern (you).

The right to leave any nation already is a basic principle of international law. The right of any peaceful person to enter and to live in any nation also will become law when the majority of people agree that immigration is right and segregation is wrong. Soon, each person will be free to choose where on earth to live, and each government will be required by international law to respect your choice.

#### HISTORY

Thousands of years ago, people from Asia discovered and moved onto three new continents. Immigration onto North America, South America, and Australia was still legal at that time because no previous humans had discovered these lands. The children of these first immigrants continued moving forward and eventually spread across the Americas and Australia. Other explorers from Asia found and moved to most of the islands in the Pacific Ocean. At that time, travel was hard but immigration was easy.

Five hundred years ago, Europeans sailed west in search of Asia. Instead, they found immigrants from Asia living in the Americas. When large numbers of Europeans began to arrive, many Asian-Americans feared that any goods consumed by the guests would leave too little left for their own population to survive. At that time, only limited numbers of bison, teepees, and jobs were available in America. Europeans, however, were living in much more crowded places and believed that land could be farmed, houses built, and jobs created in America more easily than in Europe. Many assumed they had a right to migrate, even if the natives said, "NO."

For at least two centuries, the Asian-Americans fought to defend their continents from the new immigrants trying to move onto them. The citizens of America lost their long war against the immigrants from Europe and Africa. The winners earned by trade, by negotiation, by force, and by their larger numbers, their right to immigrate. Entry into the United States was free to nearly everyone during and after this war. The number of people living in the Americas thus rose rapidly. For example, the population of the United States today is hundreds of times larger than when Columbus landed.

In 1776, European-Americans living on the east coast of North America declared to the world that the pursuit of happiness is an inalienable right of all men. A century later, U.S. citizens were free to pursue happiness from the Atlantic coast to the Pacific coast, but aliens arriving from other lands had their inalienable rights removed. European-Americans began to believe that this land taken from the Asian-Americans was now theirs alone, and they didn't need to share it with others.

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The previous owners had some reservations regarding this new claim of collective ownership. The Asian-Americans had hoped to keep rather than share their continents, but the immigrants came anyway.

After a century of welcoming all, the United States government changed its policy to “NO TRESPASSING” on the land of the free. Laws restricting entry into the United States began with one designed to keep out criminals and prostitutes in 1875. Migration across the Pacific Ocean was stopped over the next 40 years by laws excluding Chinese in 1882, Japanese in 1907, and all other Asians in 1917. A literacy test also passed in 1917 and required all other immigrants to read and write before standing on U.S. land.

Quotas on numbers of immigrants accepted from each foreign nation were enacted in 1921 and 1924. Foreigners with close relatives in the United States moved to the top of the waiting list and front of the line in 1965. Recently, American efforts to slow immigration were no match for the immigrants willing to cross its borders without waiting in line. Since 1986, U.S. employers must help the government take opportunities away from immigrants. Now, you can be fined or jailed if you give each person an equal chance to work.

## DEMOCRACY

A foundation of democracy is that our governments should pass and enforce laws only if they have consent of the governed. In other words, we should get to vote on the laws that affect us. The immigration laws of a nation govern directly only the potential immigrants and not the citizens. The current residents of a nation may want to limit immigration, but the potential immigrants (the governed) probably would like to keep their options open. Laws that govern others without their consent and that allow some people to control others without their consent are not democratic. In a democratic world, immigrants could vote with their feet and fight for their rights.

The right to migrate already is law within most nations. In 1948, the United Nations declared that free migration should be permitted within every nation. The U.S. Supreme Court ruled in 1875 that all people within the United States may move from one state to another as they choose. Americans agree that their lives are better and their opportunities are increased because state border guards are illegal.

Similarly, a majority of the world's people might agree that each of us should be allowed to move, to work, and to live on any side of any international border. Attempts of any nation to deny us those opportunities should be illegal. Thus, international laws should require each nation to allow free immigration and emigration just as nations require states within to permit entry and exit of all citizens. Then, we will be citizens of the world instead of just a nation.

Almost everyone believes that, within nations, governments may tax the rich to help the poor. A majority of the world's people, including many residents of poor nations, might even vote to tax the rich in some other nation to help the poor in their own. In a democratic world, the rich could not get away from taxes simply by drawing a border between themselves and the poor. And in a democratic world, artificial borders could not keep the poor from moving to lands of opportunity.

Apartheid and immigration restriction are similar policies. First, draw a boundary around you and your friends or your nation and declare that you are a separate society and will each take care of each other. Then, declare that everyone outside your boundary belongs to some other society and they are responsible for their own problems. Apartheid, in which one group of people excludes

and denies opportunity to others, is evil. Immigration restriction, in which one group of people excludes and denies opportunity to others, is equally evil.

Free migration will bring equality to the world's people but will take time. Forced migration of slaves was once used to equalize the supply and demand for labor around the world. More recently, the United States has used a mild form of forced migration to obtain equal rights and equal opportunities more quickly. Students sometimes are bused across neighborhood boundaries to equalize their opportunities.

In the world community, however, rich and poor nations keep their people separate, and their inequalities remain. An international busing plan and affirmative action for those hurt by immigration laws might reduce inequalities quickly. More cautiously, free migration and repeal of the international segregation laws would give each person a fair chance at success and provide increased opportunities for all.

## MORALITY

People of high moral quality have worked hard to reduce many forms of discrimination within modern democracies and should be congratulated. Fewer people, however, have worked hard to take away the much more severe and harmful discrimination practiced at national borders.

This remaining form of discrimination harms the billions of people outside the nation and, instead of being outlawed, is promoted and enforced by national governments. This form of discrimination says to outsiders, "If you weren't born here, you don't belong here." The people who especially don't belong are economic migrants, people searching for a better life for themselves and their families.

Animals often are treated better than humans when they arrive at national borders. Fish swim from the rivers out into the oceans and back into the rivers again while refugees are turned away or arrested. Many mammals live as they choose on either side of national borders while humans confine themselves to one side. Geese and butterflies are allowed to live in Mexico in the winter, to tour the United States during the spring, and to raise families in Canada in the summer, all without even applying for a passport. Although some of these migrating animals are unemployed and homeless, most live well and few ask for government support. Should we somehow make geese settle down instead of flying to wherever life seems best, or should we make people more free to follow their example?

Immigrants can be treated as equals only if citizens give up some of their advantages. Do free people give up advantages so that others also can be free? Past events such as the American Civil War and World War II show that people sometimes sacrifice greatly to extend freedom to others.

A better analogy for immigration reform, though, is the example of men voting to allow women also to vote, which required little sacrifice from men except to repeal an unjust limitation. When those in power have good wills and lose their urge to limit the lives of others, the meek may finally inherit the earth.

Religious people often believe that their missionaries have a right to migrate and to build new churches in distant lands. A more useful, less costly idea might be to allow those in distant lands to worship here in our existing, unfilled churches. Some churches do have programs to help new immigrants. Instead of sending help to the needy in unfortunate, far-away places, churches should protest the immigration laws at home that force the needy to stay in unfortunate, faraway places.



Few people who have tried recently to move from a poorer to a richer nation have been able to claim, "I was a stranger, and you welcomed me." People who are chased away from the easier life and greater opportunities in the missionary's nation might conclude that the missionary is not so kind and the religion not believable. Practice what you preach.

## ECONOMICS

Free market principles now are being taught and used across much of our world. In a free market, each person may choose what to buy, when to sell, where to live, how hard to work, etc., to maximize his or her own well-being, with just enuf (enough) rules to prevent one person from stealing from or hurting others.

Laws that limit other products or laborers from entering a market or a nation are seen as "protectionist." People who like the free market dislike such laws. Nations that keep goods and services out force their consumers to pay more. The outsiders willing to provide those goods and services for less are forced to remain in more limited markets and poorer jobs. Protectionist laws, including limits on immigration, reduce opportunities on both sides of the border.

Economists might agree that economic activity within a nation would decline if citizens were prevented from choosing where to live and to work within the nation. Economists also have observed that economies around the world are becoming linked. An economist able to put these two ideas together would predict that total economic activity of the world will be higher and average standard of living greater when citizens of the world are free to move around it.

Governments that count citizens as assets rather than liabilities might expect to profit by obtaining more citizens using immigration. Open borders allow new taxpayers to enter freely, but advertising and incentives could speed the flow of immigration and yield higher long-term profits to the government. A greedy government might set up an agency to search for potential immigrants around the world, to help them move to and get established in their new country, to learn its rules, and eventually to become its citizens. Such an agency could be given a nice name such as Immigration and Naturalization Service so that immigrants would think its goal was to help them.

Social welfare programs often are used to ensure a good life for all the citizens of a nation. Some nations have welfare support levels much higher than the average income in other nations, and the "poor people" in one nation might look rich to most other people in the world. With free migration and many poorer people entering a nation, fewer welfare dollars would be left for its own, richer people. Removing some comfort, security, and money from the rich to give increased opportunity and a better life to the poor is regarded by most people as a good thing to do. The really poor of the world may have little chance of becoming rich in their current country but might easily do well in another.

## POPULATION

Free migration does not affect total population or average population density, it simply allows people to live where they want to live. Certain areas of the world could soon become overcrowded if the right to migrate was granted to all. Some areas already are crowded, but keep in mind that people living in crowded places like New York City, Tokyo, or Mexico City are there voluntarily. Some limits on migration might be needed, but these should be mutually agreed by all people affected.

The world's people might want to limit migration into certain protected lands, just as citizens within nations have mutually agreed not to live in city, state, or national parks. Perhaps the world would declare the United States to be an international park where foreigners could visit but only natives could stay. Earlier Americans proposed this same idea to Columbus when he came to visit.

The whole planet was a park before humans began using parts of it to live, to work, and to play on. Humans may wish to remember the earth's earlier condition by protecting certain wilderness areas, but these protected areas surely would not include Chicago, Barcelona, or Melbourne. Protection of a city or nation from peaceful entrants is simple protectionism: denial of equal opportunity to others.

People wishing to limit immigration sometimes compare their nation's situation to that of a lifeboat. They would like to help the struggling immigrants, but they fear their whole boat might sink if any more people are let in. This analogy is backward, however, because many of the potential immigrants actually do arrive in little lifeboats, while the citizens that send them back to sea stand securely on large continents that have little chance of sinking.

Even the best land can support only limited numbers of people. Some nations feel they already have their fair share of the world's people and want no more. People living in densely populated nations might see immigration reform as long deserved land reform. People with lots of land might think that overpopulated nations are responsible for their own problems. The Americans that greeted Columbus may have hoped that the European nations would solve their own problems instead of shipping their people overseas.

If we stop immigration out of more populated nations, then we discriminate against people because they exist. If the world is overpopulated, then excuse me for living. If I use too much space or resources, then I'm ashamed. But if I decide to move and to make life better, then I'm not ashamed. Citizens of overpopulated nations today should be allowed to move and to make life better, just as European citizens did centuries ago.

Nations with the most people will have the most votes in the democratic world to come. When international law reflects the majority's urge to be free, national borders will be reopened to immigration.

## REALITY

Equal rights and opportunities for all people are nice in theory but will so much freedom work well in practice? What problems could result from opening all borders to all immigrants? Should some nations again accept all immigrants even while other nations continue to block the pursuit of happiness? Do the benefits of free migration outweigh all costs?

Free migration across continent-sized areas of the earth seems to work well. Residents of Perth, Australia may move to Sydney, or to any other town on that continent, without asking anyone's permission. Similarly, citizens of the United States can move freely across most of the North American continent and even to and from Hawaii and other islands far away.

Citizens of Panama, Russia, and Turkey each can migrate back and forth across portions of two continents. Free migration across the globe also might work well but must overcome the larger differences in language, religion, and income across nations or continents as compared to within.

When people move, populations become mixed. With free migration, people of many different backgrounds might choose to live in the same place. After generations of migration, your neighborhood might begin to look like an Olympic village. Perhaps all of the United States will

someday look like Hawaii. Table 5 shows the result of past migration to Hawaii. In states, nations, and continents of the future, no nationality might have a majority, and life might be good.

**Table 5. The Hawaii example: descendants from each place of origin as a percentage of total population.**

Origin:		Descendants from:	
Continent	Country	Country	Continent
%	%		
Asia		41	
	Japan	30.4	
	Philippines	9.5	
	China	1.3	
	Korea	.3	
Pacific Islands		26	
	Native Hawaiian	2.1	
	Part Hawaiian	23.2	
	Samoa	.2	
Europe		22	
	Portugal	7.5	
	Other	14.6	
Africa		<	
		1	
Mixed		9	
Other		1	
Total Population	833,448	=	
	100%		

Source: 1975 Office of Economic Opportunity census. Published in *Immigration Issues in Hawaii*. 1978. Washington, DC:

United States Commission on Civil Rights.

Bad effects of free migration could include increased crime, disorder, and temporary unemployment. Employers might fire overpaid, protected, local labor and instead hire unprotected, underpaid immigrants, thus ensuring that equal work gets equal pay. Governments and political systems could be changed as large numbers of new immigrants get the right to vote. Nations with citizens that leave in large numbers also may face difficult times. The lower economic activity and loss of laborers might cause the remaining citizens to demand that their government change.

The East German government recently changed when control of migration failed and its citizens threatened to leave in large numbers. However, freedom to leave would have been no good and the threat to leave not believed unless the people had places to go. Many western nations worried about possible costs of accepting thousands of poor from the east. One government treated

the people across the border as equals of its own citizens and thereby soon obtained the citizens and land on the other side of the border as its own. If more good governments followed this example of welcoming others, more bad governments soon might fall.

## **PATRIOTISM**

The Pledge of Allegiance is a statement of loyalty to the United States and ends with the words “with liberty and justice for all.” George Bush repeated those words often as a presidential candidate in 1988, but while president he broke that pledge by withholding liberty and justice from millions of potential Americans trying to enter the United States. Americans who stop others from becoming Americans are not patriots, and people who prefer their nation’s current citizens to its future citizens are not very futuristic. Perhaps patriotism should be defined as the desire that one’s nation actually attempt to provide “liberty and justice for all.”

Patriotic Americans often have said yes to the idea of letting more people become patriotic Americans. Thomas Jefferson believed that “all men are created equal” and that each person has a right to pursue happiness. He asked again for open immigration policies and a shorter wait for citizenship in his 1801 State of the Union address as president. Abraham Lincoln’s 1864 Republican Party Platform stated his belief that “Foreign immigration which in the past has added so much to the wealth, resources, and increase in power to this nation - the asylum of the oppressed of all nations - should be fostered and encouraged by a liberal and just policy.” Presidents Wilson and Truman both vetoed new limits on immigration. John F. Kennedy remarked, “In giving rights to others which belong to them, we give rights to ourselves and our country.”

“Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free...” Are Americans still free to believe in and to act upon these words carved into the statue of Liberty Enlightening the World? Is it possible to enlighten others in the world by telling them to keep out, which clearly limits their liberty? Do current immigration laws usually favor the tired and poor or rich and connected?

Patriots believe in holding on to national principles, not simply in holding on to national advantages. If the people wishing to enter my nation are friendly, the people standing in their way are my enemies.

## **RESPONSIBILITY**

In times of war, people may be held responsible for the acts of their government. Soldiers shoot at each other without knowing who or which of them is responsible for the war. Whole cities are leveled so that the people can no longer support their government. Enemies have few rights during war, and governments may also remove some rights from their own citizens. Large numbers of soldiers may be drafted and sent to fight in the war against their will. The right to migrate, like many other rights, may not exist during war.

Embargos may be used instead of war when one government breaks the rules of international society. The embargoed nation and its people will then suffer from the lack of goods normally available. Because many embargoed nations are not democracies, the people there may feel they are not responsible for their government but would simply like to leave it. The only way to vote against their government is with their feet. Why should they stay and work for an evil system?

Allowing a government's taxpayers to escape might do it more harm than refusing to let goods from the outside in. When good governments refuse people, bad governments get to control them.

During peace, citizens of all nations might expect to go in peace. The closing of borders to immigrants might be seen by the rest of the world as an act of war. Instead of sending their armies out to steal land from neighbors, such nations steal land from the rest of Earth simply by making it unavailable. Force is required in either case to take land away from the people who would like to live on it. Governments defend their actions by claiming that those across the border are responsible for their own overpopulation and poverty.

Population growth rates are still high in many nations even though governments promote smaller families, birth control, and sterilization for their citizens. The largest nation, China, encourages couples to have just one child. A one-child or no-child family in China has caused no overpopulation and so should not be locked inside China for this crime. Even the fourth child in a Chinese family causes less overpopulation than the author, who was the fifth in his American family.

Families that use more space and resources also cause crowding for everyone else. If the people of a crowded nation are blamed for having too many children, the people of less populated nations should share equal blame for fencing off such large areas of earth for their exclusive use. These fences force the crowded to remain crowded generation after generation even if they limit population growth to zero. Nations that build fences simply steal away the rights of others. The use of force to obtain an extra slice of the pie is not responsible: it is theft.

The use of force to keep poor people in poverty is also irresponsible. A fence and border guards do not result in equal opportunity. If good jobs are not available in one nation, let its people find them in another. If one nation has no resources and the next has plenty, let them share. Sharing is much better than stealing, which is how the governments in North America, South America, and Australia obtained their territory. Poor people should not apologize for being born in a bad place. They should move.

## STRATEGIES

When the world's people join in international democracy, we will all get to choose where to live and to work. Until that happens, a plan to get us to our goal is needed. We who respect the rights and opinions of all people today will lead the way toward and be best prepared to deal with true democracy and true freedom for all people when that time comes.

Billions of people have been refused the right to migrate. Potential immigrants have not been well organized and cannot vote on laws that would allow them to enter the nations they choose. Freedom of immigration can be obtained, but only with pressure from those willing to vote for the rights of others.

All candidates for public office should be asked to comment on immigration policy. By making immigration a larger issue in local and national elections and in international politics, citizens eventually might elect governments willing to recognize the rights of others. When the citizens of each nation succeed in electing governments more friendly to foreigners, the right to migrate will become universal.

Leaders in the fight for the right to migrate may be those already acting on their beliefs, obeying their right to pursue happiness, and thereby disobeying the current, immoral laws. A previous leader, Martin Luther King, Jr., was often arrested for going to and into places that other people said were reserved just for them. During the 1960's, the United States realized that

segregation was wrong and changed its laws. World equality will come when world leaders finally put an end to segregation.

Immigration laws should be challenged in court using the commonly accepted principle that one group of adults may not limit the actions of another group of adults without their consent. Only international governments may control international migration, and even then the individual's right to pursuit of happiness, liberty, and life should have high priority.

Protests and visible anger outside the United States might help convince the United States to repeal its restrictive immigration laws. But even if the people of China, Japan, India, and Africa get very angry, they could not, even all working together, hope to defeat the United States, to take away its land, and to put its people on reservations, as its people did to the previous residents. Such action perhaps could be justified, but a better approach for those living in other lands is simply to appeal to the moral conscience of the American people and their respect for human rights, including the right to migrate.

Ideas, actions, and policies that cause much good for many people generally are favored. The numbers of potential immigrants and the potential increases in their standards of living are large. The policy of reopening closed borders has big benefits and small costs, which makes free migration a right worth having. Let's act on this idea. The right to migrate should belong not only to animals but also to humans again.

## Chapter 4

### POEMS FOR IMMIGRANTS

Your own experiences or my words and logic may have convinced you by now that migration is okay. Other people are not as easily convinced by cold, hard reasoning. They would prefer a friendly poem instead of an argument. I like to read cold, hard logic instead of poems, but I also like to listen to music. The words that you hear in songs are really just poems. The best music and songs sell many copies that get played over and over again. Books of poems sell poorly and then sit for years collecting dust after you take them home, if anyone does. Even though my cold, hard logic said that I shouldn't have, I wrote 12 poems and included them in this chapter.

Titles of the poems are:

Not American Yet  
 Let Yourselves In  
 Here in Bangladesh  
 Have, Have Not  
 Surface of Sphere  
 Dr. Chen on Set-Aside Land  
 Dred Scott, Afraid Not  
 Our State: Stay Out  
 Study, then Leave  
 We, The People  
 Musical Countries  
 National Cages  
 Global Happiness

Some of these poems just provide philosophy, some describe imagined events, and some describe real people and real events. Dred Scott was a real person who thought that he was free to migrate until the U.S. Supreme Court told him to leave Illinois and go back to slavery. One of my real friends from China, Dr. Chen, helped me to write one of the poems. I may have learned more about the United States from his questions than he learned from my answers during his sabbatical visit to Iowa.

One poem refers to several of my fellow graduate students, their spouses, and their children. The foreign students and I took all the same classes and received the same college degrees. When we graduated, I took one of the jobs listed on the college bulletin board and they took a flight out of the country. That's the law.

The final poem gives some general philosophy that may be worth a try.

The poems are written with verses and choruses so that eventually they could be composed into an album of songs. Right now they are just a chapter of poems. You should skip to the next chapter if you like songs but not poems.



## Not American Yet

Been studying, been practicing  
Learned the alphabet  
Been hoping, been praying  
But not American yet  
Gonna get there some day  
If it's nice, I will stay  
Who cares if your quotas are met

Citizen east, meet citizen west  
Sit at the feast, meet dozens of guests  
Citizen south, meet citizen north  
Thousands shut out, might fit in this fort

Been scheming, been dreaming  
My move is now planned  
Been packing, been waiting  
Time to cross Rio Grande  
Gonna make things that say  
Made in U. S. of A.  
Til you catch and deport me again

Citizen east, meet citizen west  
Sit at the feast, meet dozens of guests  
Citizen south, meet citizen north  
Thousands shut out, might fit in this fort

Been thinking, been asking  
What is right, who is wrong?  
Been living, been working  
Where I think I belong  
Gonna live life my way  
Where I'm born ain't where I stay  
Earth is small, we can all get along

## Let Yourself In

I love my part of earth I  
earned it by birth. You  
were born in a dump So  
you must clean it up.  
I don't care anymore  
To open my door.  
Keep knocking, I won't let you in.  
Keep dreaming, I won't let you in.

If you come to my country,  
I'll ask you to go.  
If you'd like to get lucky,  
My answer is no. Billions of  
you, what can I do? Freedom's  
nice, but it's not for you. Equal  
rights better not come true.

My country's so great.  
I'm in it, you ain't.  
Your country's nowhere.  
Feel free to stay there.  
You can ask til you're blue.  
I won't answer you.  
Keep asking, I won't let you in.  
Keep trying, I won't let you in.

If you come to my country,  
I'll ask you to go.  
If you'd like to get lucky,  
My answer is no. Billions of  
you, what can I do? Freedom's  
nice, but it's not for you. Equal  
rights better not come true.

Eventually you'll win;  
You'll let yourselves in.  
You'll realize some hour  
That with numbers, there's power.  
Use the new world order:  
Sue to get thru my border.  
Outvote me, and then you'll get in.  
Outvote me, and let yourselves in.



## Surface of Sphere

Earth's surface is just the right size  
Each person needs just a nice slice  
Each acre that's spare  
Equals some other's share  
Four times pi R squared

What we have here, is surface of sphere  
Turns once each day, circles sun each year  
Many square miles, some empty some dense  
Few continents, few billion residents

Australians, have very much  
East Asians, hardly enough  
We can't change the land  
We can change our stand  
We'll cross those lines in our sand

All of us here on this surface of sphere  
Turn once each day, circle sun each year  
Few continents, few billion residents  
Turn none away, let's be free not fenced

Longitude deals with time zones  
Latitude distance from poles  
From space, you're a dot  
There's space for a lot  
You decide your best spot

All of us here on this surface of sphere  
Turn once each day, circle sun each year  
Few continents, few billion residents  
Turn none away, let's be free not fenced

## Have, Have Not

Mountains of food, mountains of food  
We'd eat it all  
If we could  
Surplus of land, way too much land  
Export it all  
To Japan

Have, have not. We have, you've  
not.

Border guards between us  
Put there by meanness A meanness  
that we have, you've not.

Happy people, pampered people  
Having it all  
Is legal

Poor foreigners, strange foreigners  
Stay outside all  
Our borders

Have, have not. We have, you've  
not.

Border guards between us  
Put there by meanness  
A meanness that we have, you've  
not.

Our nation's big, our neighbors' trig  
Tells them we all  
Are like pigs

Wipe out your sin, wipe off your chin  
Invite them all  
To come in

Have, have not. We have, you've  
not.

Border guards between us  
Put there by meanness  
A meanness that we have, you've  
not.

## Here in Bangladesh

*No luck before, no chair no more*

No luxuries before the flood  
Now all we have is mud  
No charity, no more disgrace  
Now we will leave this place

Not much to lose, not much to miss  
Just friends here in Bangladesh.  
We hope to move, we must confess  
From our home here in Bangladesh.  
*Where should we be, my family?*

Where should we build our future house:  
Russia, Brazil, or Laos?  
Where should we raise our family:  
Ukraine or Italy?

Not much to lose, not much to miss  
Just friends here in Bangladesh.  
We hope to move, we must confess  
From our home here in Bangladesh.

*My friends just might reverse my plight*

My friends all say, write an essay  
To enter USA  
To whom it may, we'll come to stay  
Migration is okay

My words just might, reverse my plight  
Migration is my right.  
You'll see the light, you'll say all right  
Migration is our right.

Not much to lose, not much to miss  
Just friends here in Bangladesh.  
We hope to move, we must confess  
From our home here in Bangladesh.

## Dr. Chen on Set-Aside Land

Field real flat, what crop that?

Profound question, Professor Chen  
No mouths it feeds, we call it weeds

This farm dumb? His head numb?

His empty plot, earned him a lot  
My taxes went, to pay his rent

Why you waste, such big space?

These fields produce, too much for us  
If no demand, we set aside land

No one here, wrong time year?

Chen, you can see, our land's empty  
But you can't hide, you're set aside

Huge country, here I free?

You can be free, through '83  
You then must go, visa says  
so

Where you from, wasteful one?

From Europe's shores, my  
ancestors

Fought Sioux for  
farms, Their land's  
now ours

Come your shore, billion more?

Immigrant ships, can't make more trips  
'Cause we control, these fields we stole

Unload boats, then count votes?

Chen I approve, it's time to  
move

Malianwa, to Iowa

## Dred Scott, Afraid Not

Move this man back to misery  
He's not Dred Scott, his master is me

Haul these Haitians home to Haiti  
Ease back these blacks into slavery

Force these foreigners to flee  
And teach them each why they're not free

We're shocked and stunned  
Slaves must not come  
Straight from their slums to steal freedom  
Step on free land, we'll stop you and  
We'll ship you back, you stupid man  
Dred Scott, afraid not.  
Dred Scott, afraid not.

When will World War II expire?  
Erase these Asians from our empire

Rush these Russians to Red Square  
We have to have more room to spare

Irish isle lacks food this year  
We'll ship some chips, just don't come here

We're shocked and stunned  
They must not come  
Straight from their slums to steal freedom  
Step on free land, we'll stop you and  
We'll ship you back, you stupid man  
Dred Scott, afraid not.  
Dred Scott, afraid not.

Quotas keep our club empty  
No room for humans in this country

Dred's old dream is dangerous thinkin'  
We'll kick you quick off the Land  
o'Lincoln

Finally find your freedom, boy?  
No sir, master, not in Illinois

## Our State: Stay Out

We can't go to Chicago We'll  
annoy all Illinois

Strict new law restricts Utah For  
the best with border test

Gays and straights from lesser states Have  
been banned from Maryland

Delaware, you're well aware  
Voted for this quota war

Imitate, emulate  
Mighty nations mimic states  
Immigrate, escalate.  
Isn't nativism great?

Our state, stay out. Stay out of our state  
Fifty states, stay out. Stay out of our states

No new work so now New York  
Saves its jobs for native snobs

Tried in vain to hide in Maine  
They all first ask place of birth

Small Vermont has all they want  
Georgian cops yell foreign! stop!

Texas fear ejects us we're  
Just aliens like Mexicans

Imitate, emulate.  
Mighty nations mimic states  
Immigrate, escalate.  
Isn't nativism great?

Our state, stay out. Stay out of our  
state  
Fifty states, stay out. Stay out of our states

## Study, then Leave

One from Taiwan, two from Thailand  
Were my good friends, went back  
as planned

One Syrian, two Tunisians  
Were Iowans, now home again

Two from Kenya, four from Brazil  
I gained from you, I got no bill

Born on our soil, but Moms sent back  
To Cairo, Seoul, Brazil, Iraq

In U.S. you'll learn	philosophy
Study to earn	highest degree
No time to burn	school isn't free
When done return	to poverty

Pack up pre-doc, back to Peru  
Why you cry doc? China needs you

Why you wanna, stay and not fly To  
Botswana, to Uruguay?

Two found true luck, I watched marry  
U.S. to Dutch, U.S. - Chile

Once in awhile, we let you stay  
Mostly we smile, just go away

In U.S. you'll learn	philosophy
Study to earn	highest degree
No time to burn	school isn't free
When done return	to poverty

## We, The People of Earth

Beware when your rules limit life for me  
Be careful, it's cruel to crush liberty  
Men cherish pursuit of happiness  
Declare this old truth self-evident

Hear ye. Hear ye. Here is our  
call

We pledge liberty and justice for all  
From third world to first  
Every person on earth  
Hears that dream from the past  
We'll be free, free at last

We do best we can, we obey golden rule  
We soon hope to end segregation, it's cruel  
But you may not enter, we take who we  
choose  
Exclusion again, immigration refused

Hear ye. Hear ye. Here is our  
call

We pledge liberty and justice for all  
From third world to first  
We, the people of earth  
Have a right to move  
Cast your vote. It's approved

We're told that a wealthy minority  
Controls the world's working majority  
We know we can earn equality  
Be bold, demand world democracy

Hear ye. Hear ye. Here is our  
call

We pledge liberty and justice for all  
From south pole to  
north  
We, the people of earth  
Seek more perfect union  
A new birth of freedom  
E pluribus pluribus unum

## Musical Countries

Round and round, glued to globe  
 Gravity won't let go  
 Change the law, let us roam  
 Which nation should be home?  
 Which country should you call home?

Take life slow, leave Tokyo  
 Maybe go try Mexico

Hate success and high-tech stress?  
 Start afresh in Bangladesh

Flee Great Wall, fly to St. Paul  
 Head to mall, and have it all

Round and round, legally  
 Disregarding gravity  
 No more wait, your mass is free  
 Go find opportunity  
 Greater opportunity

City's full, you're sick of  
 Seoul?  
 Instead you'll love Istanbul

Stupid plan to pick Sudan  
 Pack again for Pakistan

Mozambique's no easy hike  
 Can Mom make Bombay by bike?

Round and round, a steady pace  
 Lots of time and tons of space  
 Plot your course, win your race  
 Cross our line with happy face  
 Cross our line, or smile in place

## Musical Countries

(continued...)

Like less toil? Let's live from  
 oil!  
 Rich and royal, on Saudi soil

Can't grow grain in dry  
 Bahrain?  
 Catch a plane, remain in Spain

Farm near Perth or work Fort  
 Worth  
 Find pay dirt on foreign earth

Round and round, you and me  
 Census count makes us see  
 Tons of space in some countries  
 People waiting patiently  
 People going to be free

Friendly Canada now plans  
 No more ban on fellow man

Tensions ease, we cross the seas  
 No more seized as enemies

Universe for you to search  
 Foreigners, at home on earth

Round and round, it's bound to be  
 Brave new world where all are free  
 Bring me to reality  
 Really do let all be free  
 Really do let my friends be

## National Cages

In national cages the people keep still  
They exercise daily with little free will  
The zookeepers watch for a fight, for a thrill  
The fence is so strong it is wrong  
The border is, too, it's strong and it's wrong  
A nation so strong must be wrong

Who said zoos were fair?  
Who'd choose to bed there?  
To move is forbidden, instead you just stare  
Through bars and closed borders at lands that look spare  
So lucky do some nations' natives appear  
We're locked in our zoo once again one more year

In national cages we sit like an ape  
Not happy to stay, just scared to escape  
Afraid if we break out, we'll miss our inmates  
The animals snooze and they lose  
Those caught in the zoo, they snooze, and they lose  
The humans, they snooze, and they lose

Who said zoos were fair?  
Who'd choose to bed there?  
To move is forbidden, instead you just stare  
Through bars and closed borders at lands that look spare  
How stunted do some nations' natives appear  
We're stuck in our zoo once again one more year

From national cages we finally escape  
We notice our neighbors are humans, not apes  
The guards in the way just open the gates  
The animals see us go free  
The humans do too, they know we'll be free  
The humans, yes we, will go free

## Global Happiness

How are you world? Heard you were blue  
Have you been harmed? Who would hurt you?

Humans were sad, but they had no excuse  
How to be happy? Here is a clue

Have you been told of this wonderful plan:  
The highest of goals, the sum over man?

Youngsters and mothers, aliens too  
Do unto others as they should to you

Measure earth's happiness, treasure her sum  
Make sure earth has enuf, for everyone  
Smiles for the masses, geysers of fun  
Square miles of laughter, pleasure by the ton

Make sure we have, a heavenly time  
No telling how tall our total could climb  
Make sure we have, a heavenly climb  
No rush to run up the rungs, we have time

His, hers, mine, yours  
Increase the total, including your own

His plus hers plus mine plus yours  
Think of the total, instead of your own

Multiplication makes the sum grow Lots  
of locations creation can go

Add to earth's total, subtract what is owed  
Maximize happiness over this globe

Measure earth's happiness, treasure her sum  
Make sure earth has enuf, for everyone  
Smiles for the masses, geysers of fun  
Square miles of laughter, pleasure by the ton

Make sure we have, a heavenly time  
No telling how tall our total could climb  
Make sure we have, a heavenly climb  
No rush to run up the rungs, we have time

## Chapter 5

### SONGS FOR IMMIGRANTS

Music is a traveler, crossing our world, meeting so many people, bridging the seas.” So said The Moody Blues in their hit song *I'm Just a Singer (in a Rock and Roll Band)*. Rock and roll singers often are heard around the world and sell millions of albums in many countries. Their songs rarely contain messages like “My country's better than yours, so stay out” but instead sometimes contain nice phrases that a variety of people will want to hear.

Immigration songs are not as numerous as love songs, but some of the world's most famous musicians have directly expressed their affection for the immigrant and not for the governments who stop immigrants. Those stopped may want to shout or sing “let me in, immigration man” along with Crosby and Nash in their 1972 song *Immigration Man*. Refugees should plan ahead and bring along loud speakers with which to blast the song *Gimme Shelter* by the Rolling Stones into the nation of their choice.

Some people can't wait to immigrate. Those who move without a permit may find, like the group Genesis in their song *Illegal Alien*, that “it's no fun being an illegal alien.” Other people can't wait to get away from it all with a ticket to *Katmandu* or to *Kashmir* or *Two Tickets to Paradise*. A few people would rather be *Walking on the Moon* than on the earth.

Some migration songs tell sad stories. An immigrant may find himself a *Long, Long Way From Home* and never manage to settle down to find out what a good wife someone like *Brandy* would be. *Wooden Ships* by Crosby, Stills, and Nash tells about bad things that can happen when ships sail and people mix, but asks anyway that immigration be free and easy.

“Maybe I'm a dreamer, but I'm not the only one” said John Lennon in his song *Imagine* describing a world shared by peaceful people with no more need for country borders. The music video for this song shows his own example of a British man with a Japanese wife living in America. Entry into the United States was difficult for Lennon even as one of the most famous people in the world (see Editorials for Immigrants). His life as an immigrant was cut short in 1980 by a violent native. Lennon's dream lives because he shared it with so many others.

Immigration songs are popular even with some politicians, as Michael Dukakis proved in 1988 by selecting *America* by Neil Diamond as the theme song for his presidential campaign.

Songs that support the title and idea of this book are listed on the following pages. Only songs played on local radio stations were chosen, so all are fairly popular. In fact, 12 of these 33 immigration songs were listed among the top 500 rock and roll songs of all time according to WCXR radio in Washington, DC.

The earliest song is a direct attack on U.S. immigration policy by Arlo Guthrie in 1961. Most songs are from the 1970's and 1980's and a few may be older than shown because the year was obtained from a “live” or “greatest hits” album rather than the earliest release.

The songs listed fit onto two cassettes and have a total playing time of about two hours. Hopefully soon such cassettes or compact discs (CDs) will be available for purchase for about \$20 at a music store near you. The albums containing these songs are available for a total of \$300. The listed songs can then be copied onto a blank cassette or CD. After listening just a few times, you,



too, might become a concerned, patriotic citizen of the world like the musicians who create and sell such songs.

To save money, you may want to buy only the songs or albums that match your musical tastes. The softer songs include *Bridge Over Troubled Water*, *America* (Simon and Garfunkel), *Mexico*, and *Imagine*. The harder songs include *Immigrant Song*, *Kashmir*, *Love Walks In*, and *Gimmie Shelter*. Local radio stations may play these songs for free if you call in a request. Then, lots of other people will enjoy the songs too.

*Message in a Bottle* by The Police is the first song listed. Its title and story could be metaphors for this book and the search for others who believe in a right to migrate. A man hopelessly alone on an island puts his message for help into a bottle and throws it into the sea. Nothing happens and he feels lonelier until finally a hundred billion bottles wash onto the shore, sent by other lonely castaways also hoping for help.

Some writers of the listed songs may not have wanted to argue for open immigration; their words just happen to say that we should all be free to move. The last song, *I'd Love to Change the World*, doesn't really mention immigration but provides a nice conclusion and some great guitar solos.

**Table 6. Songs for Immigrants**

Side One			
	Song / Group	Year	Key Words from the Song
1	<i>Message in a Bottle</i> The Police	1979	I'm sending out an S.O.S. to the world Hundred billion castaways looking for a home
2	<i>America</i> Simon and Garfunkel	1972	I've come to look for America They've all come to look for America
3	<i>Border Song</i> Elton John	1974	Holy Moses, I have been removed Holy Moses, let us live in peace
4	<i>Mexico</i> James Taylor	1977	Oh, Mexico. I've never really been, but I'd sure like to go. I forgot to go home, I guess I'll have to go now
5	<i>Immigration Man</i> Crosby and Nash	1972	Let me in, immigration man Let me in, irritation man
6	<i>On the Turning Away</i> Pink Floyd	1988	Just a world that we all must share. Is it only a dream that there will be no more turning away?
7	<i>Chicago/Change the World</i> Graham Nash	1988	We can change the world, rearrange the world. Rules and regulations, who needs them? Open up the door

8	<i>I'm Just a Singer</i> Moody Blues	1972	I'm just a wandering on the face of this earth Meeting so many people who are trying to be free
9	<i>Gimmie Shelter</i> Rolling Stones	1969	If I don't get some shelter I'm gonna fade away War ... is just a shot away, love ... is just a kiss away
10	<i>Love Walks In</i> Van Halen	1986	Some kind of alien waits for an opening, then... comes walking in
11	<i>Goin Mobile</i> The Who	1971	Keep me moving. Watch the police and the tax man miss me. The world's my home when I'm mobile.

**Table 6. Songs for Immigrants (cont.)**

<u>Side Two</u>			
	<b>Song / Group</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Key Words from the Song</b>
12	<i>Illegal Alien</i> Genesis	1983	Over the border, the promised land, everything is easy I don't trust anyone, it's no fun being an illegal alien
13	<i>Imagine</i> John Lennon	1975	Imagine there's no country, imagine all the people living life in peace, sharing all the world
14	<i>Come Sail Away</i> STYX	1977	I'm sailing away, because I've got to be free We'll search for tomorrow on every shore
15	<i>Breakfast in America</i> SuperTramp	1979	Take a gamble, cross the water. I'm hoping it's going to come true, but there's not a lot I can do
16	<i>Bridge Over Troubled Water</i> Simon and Garfunkel	1970	I'm on your side, like a bridge over troubled water I'm sailing right behind, like a bridge over troubled water
17	<i>America</i> Neil Diamond	1981	On boats and on planes, they come into America Never looking back, they come into America today
18	<i>Proper Stranger</i> The Guess Who	1969	Take my hand and show me where to go I'm a proper stranger, all alone with a million others
19	<i>Share the Land</i>		I'll shake your hand, I'll share the land

	The Guess Who	1970	that they'll be giving away when we all live together
20	<i>Deportees</i> Arlo Guthrie	1961	They chase you like outlaws, like rustlers, and thieves And all they will call you will be deportees
21	<i>Long, Long Way from Home</i> Foreigner	1977	I hope we'll be here when they're thru with us. Millions of faces, still I'm alone. I'm a long, long way from home
22	<i>Wooden Ships</i> Crosby, Stills, and Nash	1988	If you smile at me, I'll understand, that's the same language everywhere. People on the shore let us be free

**Table 6. Songs for Immigrants (cont.)**

Side Three			
_____	Song / Group _____	Year _____	Key Words from the Song _____
23	<i>Two Tickets to Paradise</i> Eddie Money	1977	I'm gonna take you on a trip so far from here. Pack your bags. I've got two tickets to paradise.
24	<i>From Silver Lake</i> Jackson Brown	1972	She'll find him waiting for his boat in some city far away. He wanted just to be on his way across the sea.
25	<i>Rock Me on the Water</i> Jackson Brown	1972	The road is filled with homeless souls. I'm gonna leave you here and get down to the sea. The wind is with me.
26	<i>Love Train</i> O Jays	1972	People all over the world join hands, get on board, start a love train. The next stop will be ...
27	<i>Brandy</i> Looking Glass	1972	Lonely sailors talk about their homes. He couldn't stay, no harbor was his home. My life, love, and lady is the sea.
28	<i>Goin to California</i> Led Zeppelin		Made up my mind to make a new start, I'm going to California. I took my chances on a big jet plane.
29	<i>Immigrant Song</i> Led Zeppelin	1970	We'll drive our ships to new land Peace and trust can win the day
30	<i>Kashmir</i>		I am a traveler of both time and space. I will return again.

	Led Zeppelin	1975	We'll move into Kashmir. Let me take you there.
31	<i>Katmandu</i> Bob Seger	1975	I want to go somewhere where nobody knows my name. I'll miss the USA but nobody loves me here anyway.
32	<i>Walking on the Moon</i> The Police	1979	We could walk forever walking on the moon. We could be together walking on the moon.
33	<i>I'd Love to Change the World</i> Ten Years After	1971	I'd love to change the world, but I don't know what to do, so I leave it up to you.

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## Chapter 6

### MOVIES FOR IMMIGRANTS

We can hear about a right to migrate in words and songs, but movies let us see migration in action. When people on the big screen move or try to move, we can see their choices and their problems from their angle. Movies can help us focus on the names, faces, and feelings of individual immigrants. With our eyes open, we can see the harm to immigrants caused by native fear and prejudice. Movies with action, humor, big stars, and big budgets can get immigrant stories noticed by millions of people who otherwise would not see the immigrant's view. Fortunately, many movies which support the title and idea of this book already have been made.

Migration was a subject of movies even before movie actors could talk. Charlie Chaplin starred as *The Immigrant* in a 1917 silent film showing a few events in the life of one poor immigrant arriving in America. A hundred years earlier, many immigrants were forced to move to America. The passengers on one ship, *The Amistad*, won the right to return back to Africa. During World War II, refugees from Europe looked for shelter anywhere, even in *Casablanca*. The American Film Institute in 1988 named *Casablanca* the second-best movie of all time.

Films about cowboys and Indians were very popular for many years, and the heroes often were the immigrants who rode their horses onto land that once was “for natives only.” The 1952 movie *The Savage* starring Charlton Heston shows that violence can be avoided only after both sides accept the other's right to exist and to move.

Long ago, European nations made colonies around the world and allowed or even helped their citizens to migrate to and from their colonies. Recent movies have shown how these immigrants with great opportunity interacted with the much poorer natives in earlier years. The very popular movie *Out of Africa* (seven Academy Awards, best picture) was based on writings of a European immigrant to Africa in the early 1900's. *A Passage to India* and *Inn of the Sixth Happiness* picture how the European immigrants may have adapted to the differing cultures and people of India and China.

In America, natives were removed from most of their land as Europeans migrated west. *Far and Away* shows how these immigrants cooperated and competed with each other as they moved from a crowded country into a new one where land was free. *Thousand Pieces of Gold* and *Hawaii* show how a few people left much more crowded countries in Asia to become Americans. *Golden Gate*, *A Great Wall*, and *The Joy Luck Club* tell more recent Asian-American stories.

Today, poor people migrate toward nations with higher paying jobs and more freedom. Stories about those who cross borders to find opportunity and those who guard borders to remove opportunity have been the focus of some good movies. *Journey of Hope* (1990 Academy Award winner, best foreign language film) tells the true story of a Turkish family who mistakenly believed that Switzerland was a friendly country. *El Norte*, also a foreign film with English subtitles, tells of a brother and sister who escape from Guatemala only to be chased again by the Americans. *The Border*, starring Jack Nicholson, tells of one of the border guards doing the chasing. Some days he wonders if he is doing more harm than good.

Strong feelings about immigration lead to civil war in the film *Idaho Closes Its Borders*. The United States says yes to refugees but individual states say no.

The paths of migration are blocked even between countries and groups of people who seem almost equals. *Green Card* (best picture, 1991 Golden Globe Awards) shows the things a French man might do to avoid being deported from the United States back to France. In *Gung Ho*, U.S. auto workers and their new Japanese bosses discover that all must work together or all will lose their jobs. When cultures blend together, even natives can be deported if their faces look too foreign. *Born in East L.A.* and *My Family* both show American citizens being rejected from the United States, hoping to someday return to the land of the free.

Movies that focus on immigration are listed on the following pages. Twenty-three of the 32 movies were available for rent from local video stores, and 5 others were shown recently on television. Thus, most are both popular and easily available. Many of the movies were selected from a complete search of the 1991 Halliwell's Film Guide (HarperCollinsPublishers, Inc., New York.) A few others were added to the list by family and friends. With a video cassette recorder plus about \$2.50, you can rent a movie and see a new view of immigration in just 2 hours, more or less.

Different people may enjoy different types of movies. Children of all ages might like the cartoon *An American Tail*, the *Coneheads* from space, or the funny acting of *The Immigrant*. Many of the movies contain bad language, even in several languages, but most show little or no sex and only the violence that happens in real life. *The Border* and *El Norte* have more violent scenes, and *The Border* and *Coming to America* have one or two nude or topless scenes.

The title of *Coming to America* is actually backward and the roles are reversed in this humorous movie. The only immigrant is a poor young New Yorker who moves to Africa to find a much better life with her handsome prince. In migration, all roads can lead to happy endings once the roadblocks are removed.

**Table 7. Movies for Immigrants**

	<b>Movie / Star</b>	<b>Type / Source</b>	<b>Year / Length / Summary</b>
1.	<i>The Alamo</i> John Wayne	Western	1960, 3 hr, 40 min Americans immigrate into Mexico and then fight to remove Texas from Mexico.
2.	<i>An American Tail</i> Steven Spielberg	Cartoon Universal	1986, 1 hr 21 min A Russian mouse family risks an ocean voyage to find an America with fewer, friendlier cats.
3.	<i>The Amistad</i>	History Dreamworks	1997, 2 hr 30 min Mutiny on a slave ship gives African citizens the right to return to their homes.
4.	<i>The Border</i>	Drama	1981, 1 hr 48 min

	Jack Nicholson	Universal	A Texas border guard sees that a better life for himself is not worth the great harm his job causes to others.
5.	<i>Born in East L.A.</i> Cheech Marin	Comedy Universal	1987, 1 hr 25 min An American gets no chance to return home after being deported by mistake to Mexico.
6.	<i>Casablanca</i> Humphrey Bogart	Drama Warner Bros	1943, 1 hr 42 min A man with no nation hosts refugees from many nations awaiting visas to nations still free.
7.	<i>Coming to America</i> Eddie Murphy	Comedy Paramount	1988, 1 hr 57 min A wealthy young man travels overseas to find a bride to share the good life with him in Africa.
8.	<i>Coneheads</i> Dan Aykroyd	Comedy Paramount	1993, 1 hr 30 min Illegal aliens from the planet Romulus use fake documents to trick the Immigration and Naturalization Service.
9.	<i>El Norte</i> Zaide Gutierrez	Drama Engl. subt.	1983, 2 hr 19 min Two Native-Americans flee Guatemala to search for better lives farther north on their continent.

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**Table 7. Movies for Immigrants (cont.)**

	<u>Movie / Star</u>	<u>Type / Source</u>	<u>Year / Length / Summary</u>
10.	<i>Far and Away</i> Tom Cruise	Drama Universal	1992, 2 hr 20 min Two Irish immigrants find freedom and free land in an America that welcomed all.
11.	<i>Fitzcarraldo</i> Klaus Kiniski	Drama Anchor Bay	1982, 2 hr 38 min An Irishman succeeds against great odds at building an opera house in the Peru jungle.
12.	<i>Golden Gate</i> Matt Dillon	Drama Am. Playhouse	1993, 1 hr 30 min An FBI agent in San Francisco hunts for evil in Chinatown and finds good instead.
13.	<i>A Great Wall</i> Peter Wang	Comedy Mainline	1987, 1 hr 42 min A Chinese-American executive returns to China after 20 years to visit a sister he left behind.

14.	<i>Green Card</i> Gerard Depardieu	Comedy Touchstone	1991, 1 hr 47 min A fake marriage designed to fool the Immigration and Naturalization Service somehow leads to love.
15.	<i>Gung Ho</i> Michael Keaton	Comedy Paramount	1986, 1 hr 50 min Japanese managers are invited to a small U.S. town to run its car factory and save its jobs.
16.	<i>Hawaii</i> James Michener	Drama UA	1966, 3 hr 6 min Chinese, Japanese, Americans and native Hawaiians all try to live together on a few small islands.
17.	<i>Hunt for Red October</i> Sean Connery	Drama Paramount	1990, 2 hr 15 min Immigration is a very risky move for the commander of a Soviet submarine.
18.	<i>Idaho Closes Its Borders</i> Beau Bridges	Comedy HBO	1997, 1 hr 40 min The governor of Idaho refuses to welcome refugees and causes a civil war.

**Table 7. Movies for Immigrants (cont.)**

	<b>Movie / Star</b>	<b>Type / Source</b>	<b>Year / Length / Summary</b>
19.	<i>The Immigrant</i> Charles Chaplin	Silent Mutual	1917, 20 min Two immigrants become friends on their voyage to America and continue their friendship on land.
20.	<i>Inn of the 6th Happiness</i> Ingrid Bergman	Biography	1958, 3 hr An English woman travels to China, becomes a citizen, gains friends, and adopts a family.
21.	<i>Josephine Baker Story</i> Lynn Whitfield	Biography HBO	1991, 2 hr 9 min A poor African-American woman finds fame and fortune in Paris as a dancer.
22.	<i>Journey of Hope</i> Xavier Koller	Drama Swiss, Eng. sub.	1990, 1 hr 51 min A Kurdish family from Turkey risk and lose everything in their illegal attempt to find a better life in Switzerland.
23.	<i>The Joy Luck Club</i>	Drama	2 hr 19 min



	Tsai Chan		Hollywood Pict.	Asian-Americans search for lost relatives and share experiences from both sides of the Pacific.
24.	<i>Lonely in America</i>	Drama	1991, 1 hr 34 min	
		Arista	An Indian immigrant to New York City uses night school and hard work to overcome loneliness and find success.	
25.	<i>My Family</i>	Drama	2 hr 7 min	
	Jimmy Smits	Engl. subt.	An Hispanic family stays in America even though the mother, a U.S. citizen, is deported.	
26.	<i>Out of Africa</i>	Drama	1985, 2 hr 41 min	
	Meryl Streep	Universal A	A European woman in colonial Africa eventually returns to Denmark, a place where her Kenyan friends cannot go.	

**Table 7. Movies for Immigrants (cont.)**

	<u>Movie / Star</u>	<u>Type / Source</u>	<u>Year / Length / Summary</u>
27.	<i>A Passage to India</i> Judy Davis	Drama Columbia	1984, 2 hr 43 min British immigrants to colonial India make new friendships that are nearly ruined by a false accusation.
28.	<i>The Perez Family</i> Marisa Tomei	Drama Sam Goldwyn	1995, 2 hr 15 min Cuban immigrants learn to help each other in a land where few people help you.
29.	<i>The Quiet Man</i> John Wayne	Drama RPC	1952, 2 hr 33 min An American prizefighter moves to Ireland to find peace but finds turmoil instead.
30.	<i>The Savage</i> Charlton Heston	Western Paramount	1952, 1 hr 35 min A few people with much land fight against many more who wish to immigrate.
31.	<i>Ten Commandments</i> Charlton Heston	Religious Paramount	1956, 4 hr 5 min Moses wins the right to migrate and leads a large exodus out of Egypt.
32.	<i>1000 Pieces of Gold</i>	Drama	1992, 1 hr 40 min

	Rosalind Chao	Maverick	A Chinese woman is sold to an Oregon miner, is freed, is pushed around, and finally stands her ground in this new land.
33.	<i>The Three Amigos</i> Chevy Chase	Comedy Orion	1986, 2 hr Three American film stars fight for truth, justice, and the American way in Mexico.

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## Chapter 7

### IMMIGRANTS

Real migration lets real people find better lives. In this chapter, twelve recent immigrants give you an idea of who they are and what they have come to find in the United States. Before you see their essays, I try to explain where my own ideas came from and how I came to believe that foreigners are people, too.

#### ESSAY 0 by P. V. from the United States

On the farm where I grew up, we were too busy feeding the world to think much about foreigners or immigration. We knew that the hungry people were far away and sometimes saw pictures of them standing in long lines in Africa or Asia to receive our American grain. My family and I worked overtime to grow more grain to give to charity. While just a teenager, I saw the solution to both problems. Hungry people shouldn't be standing in long lines; they should be here helping us.

Only one other house could be seen from our house, and it belonged to a Korean woman and American man who met and married while he was in the army. Our lives didn't seem too crowded because of her, and on hot days she would bring a cold drink for us when we were working near their house. Their young children brightened the neighborhood.

In a college town, you see more foreigners and get more chances to think about life from their viewpoints. Most students come for just a few years, but many stay. American students often complain about the foreign accents of their professors and teaching assistants. Because college is expensive, students want to hear clear lessons. If students learn about not only the usual lesson but also about other ideas, languages, and cultures through those foreign accents, then they can get several skills at once.

At the University of Illinois, the most advanced course I took was taught by a professor from Uruguay. The substitute teacher was from Sri Lanka. They both did a great job. Professors for some of my other college courses were from France, India, and Japan. Travel is not so necessary

if the world comes to you. Also, I began to notice that foreigners often will talk about important topics that few Americans care about.

As a graduate student, I was surrounded by foreigners. They came at me from all directions, captured my attention, and left with it. From Africa came a woman who wanted to solve bigger problems than those found in America. One day she met me on the stairs and screamed "I hate all Americans!" Slowly, I began to agree with her. From India came a friend who could laugh and smile all day, watch M-TV all night, and then out-think all of the Americans in class. From Iraq, a volunteer who helped teach me computer programming. And from Germany, someone whose interests were closer to mine than any American I had met.

The graduate student offices at Iowa State were not segregated. Each office held about five people. In one office, the five students were from five different continents. In most offices, at least three continents were represented. My own office had mostly Americans, but also two Dutch students and one each from Germany, Yugoslavia, South Korea, and Canada during my 5 years.

We often traveled together to summer meetings, usually with two Asians, one African, and one or two Americans in my car.

One year one of the South Americans went along to California and taught me how to swim during the trip. He got along okay with North Americans like me, but his best friend was North African. Together, we discovered that people are people. I'm trying to publish our bold, new idea.

Housing was also not segregated in the town of Ames, Iowa. The graduate dormitory was a mixture of everyone from everywhere. The only informal segregation I saw was when the foreign students gathered to watch the evening news, and the Americans didn't bother. After a semester in the dormitory, I rented a house for 2 years and an apartment for 3 years and shared the rent with roommates from Greece, Syria, Tunisia, Germany, the Netherlands, and the United States. Some were easier to live with than others, but I couldn't judge that ahead of time based on where they were born.

Some of the foreign students tried to stay and get work in the United States after earning their degrees, and a few were given permission. Most knew even before coming to study that they would have to leave. Ideally, jobs are where you find them. A student from Greece earned his Ph.D. in the office next to mine in Wisconsin, found a nice job in Canada right away, and then a better job in Sweden two years later. In reality, jobs and people often are separated by law. Korean and Chinese friends asked about government jobs such as mine. As a good bureaucrat, I had to tell them, "We don't discriminate, but you can't get a permanent job here. You might get a temporary job if no Americans apply."

Many of the foreign couples that I knew had babies while visiting the United States and looked forward to some day when these American citizen children might bring them back here to stay.

The subject of citizenship and the right to work came up often whenever my single friends or I would date someone from a different nation. Falling in love and thinking about getting married are exciting. Much less fun are reading the government rule book and hearing your friends say that your date just wants to use you to get past the U.S. immigration service. My roommates from Germany and Tunisia and I each ended crossnational relationships in part because of immigration law.

A Florida taxi driver, originally from Spain, told me not to worry so much about American laws. He came here illegally and soon became legal. Getting into Ecuador, where his wife is from, or Colombia, or even Mexico, had been much more difficult.

Hatred, violence, crime, disease, all sorts of bad things might result when different cultures mix. My neighbors in Laurel, MD, were mixed - about 40% black, 40% white, 20% other - but were very peaceful. Across the street from my apartment was a small mall and my bank. Of the three bank tellers, one was from India. Chinese families ran the video rental and dry-cleaning shops. Three of the five barbers at the barber shop were from Southeast Asia. My lawn was mowed by a Central American immigrant. The woman who cleaned my office was from West Africa. My doctor was from India. For 5 years, I saw only good things there.

The Chinese woman who rented videos was so nice that sometimes I stopped there just to talk. When I asked “Do you have kids?”, she tried hard to answer correctly. She said, “I have one kids. I have one kid. I have one children. I have one child.” That's just the number her government told her to have. By moving to Maryland, she improved her own life and also mine. Her video business provided longer hours, less cost, and more convenient service for me than if she had stayed in China. I need more neighbors like her.

Three years after I left Laurel, I heard news that a Hispanic immigrant there had been kicked to death by five teenagers. If we view noncitizens as having no right to be here, then maybe those teenagers were right to protect their turf. If we view all people as having equal rights, then we need to teach our teenagers and our border guards not to kick people.

The best way to learn that immigrants are people is to meet some of them and talk to them. Language can be a problem. Usually the foreigner does the hard part and learns a second or third language. The native's part is easy: just choose simpler words, go slower, and let the other person know which of their “words” you understand or don't understand. For an American, these skills may be much more useful than learning some other language. Most of my foreign friends had years of training in English before they arrived in the United States. They just needed to get some honest reaction to make sure that what they said made sense. Foreigners sometimes apply foreign rules to English words, and in some cases the resulting sentence sounds smarter than official English.

Then you can both learn something.

## **WRITERS**

Another way to learn about immigrants and their feelings is to read what they have written. A sample of stories and letters by recent immigrants fills out the rest of this chapter. The Rockford (IL) Literacy Council asked its students to write such essays for practice and to show their progress. Then, tutors helped the students improve their English. Katie VanRaden, my mother, selected the writings, which provide a picture of the recent immigrants to her hometown of Rockford (which is near Chicago), IL. The writers are from China, Hong Kong, Laos, Mexico, South Yemen, Thailand, and Viet Nam.

### **ESSAY 1 by S. N. from Viet Nam**

#### **MY STORY**

This is my story in about first time I get to job. I went to looked the job. Me and my sister both going to Personnel AIR FORCE & ARMY EXCHANGE. We are went in to applicant a any job sale clerk, cashier, or backer ect... The boss there are hired me and my sister. We are so happy.

The both we went home, next day we are going to work. I am afraid. Because, I never worked for AMERICA before. But I went to work about a week after that I'm not be afraid no more. I have a job sale clerk, my sister have job cashier. We're get pay every two weeks.

When get pay we're give money to our mom. I have a big family five sister and five brother. I'm number four of family. Me and my sister was worked together about six years to service ARMY. My sister she meet one office soldier. She get married and both went to United State. But she wrote letter to me every month, about two years after she went to United State. The American soldier some went back to the United State, still have very few soldier in to VIET-NAMES.

My sister told my and my daughter go to United State. I wrote the letter to my sister and send the paper document me and my daughter. She make paper going to United State. I get document form my sister. I went to Embassy SAIGON into VIET-NAMES. I am go get to Pass-Port. I still worked a few month, I was lay off helper my mom worker a market. End the 1972. We're living home fly to United State.

When me and my daughter both we when to air line my family was cried very much. I miss my family very much both we cried. We are stay to air line over night ate and sleep. When the air line stop to Chicago AIR FORCE. We went out to air line walking in customer check. I looking my sister, I don't see her was to many people. But my daughter saw her. I was surprice my daughter still remember her. When my sister living my daughter was six years old.

My sister went to Chicago pick us up. We were no coat, no jacket was snow out side. We're went to the car was very colder. She take us home, went we are get home a drive way was to much snow. I caried two suite case, I was feld down to snow.

## **ESSAY 2 by N. A. from South Yemen written in 1991**

### **My Trip to America**

In order to go to America I had to travel from S. Yemen to N. Yemen to stay for six months. The government did not want me to leave S. Yemen. I had to work very hard to make them let me go. After a long wait we were allowed to leave on a plane for America.

We got to America on December 27. It was cold and snowy. It was the first time I had seen snow. I wanted to walk to my new home right away not knowing that it was so far away. My husband said "Are you crazy? We have to go by car."

The next day my husband took me to Cherry Vale [mall]. We went to Bergners and I could not believe all the dresses. I could not believe they had so many in my size. I bought two right away.

Next we went to the market. I was surprised to see so much food and everything so clean and no long lines. I like all the grass and big trees.

I am very happy to be in America.

## **ESSAY 3 by M. P. from Viet Nam written in 1993**

Dear all friends,

I would like to tell you what caused my family to leave my country VIETNAM, and how my family came to United States.

My family lived in the city of VUNG TAU which is not too far from the city of SAIGON, the capitol of the Republic of VietNam. At this time, I was in the Republic Government Army. From January to April, 1975, most of the cities of South VietNam were occupied by soldiers from the Communist Government, who came from North VietNam. The last day of South VietNam, known as the Republic Government, was on April 30, 1975. On the same day, troops from the Communist Government converged in the streets of Saigon and the VietNam's war broke out between North and South and the War was ended.

My family and some of my friend's families left Vung Tau on a small boat that could hold about fifty people. We wanted to turn back to Saigon to look for my parents and relatives, but we didn't have enough time. While we were on the boat, we could see about fifty or more other small boat. My boat left the seashore of Vung Tau about ten miles, we saw a big navy ship of Taiwan and my boat came closely to the navy ship. The soldiers on the ship rescued us. We lived on the Taiwanese ship for two days and then we went directly to the Subic Base, belonging to the American Navy in the Philippines. We lived there for one day and then we were taken by airplane to the island of Guam. We lived in Guam only one week. After living in Guam for a short time, we were sent to a refugee camp provided by the American Army in Little Rock, Arkansas. We lived in the refugee camp from May to August, 1975 and my family was soon sponsored by Holy Family Church in Rockford.

When my family came to Rockford on August 20, 1975, I was missing one of my children. At that time we left Vung Tau, my eldest daughter was staying with my mother-in-law in Saigon. Now she is here in the United States and in the last year at the Northern Illinois University. We started becoming acquainted with our new life. It was so difficult at first because we didn't know how to speak English. Now our life is fine and we appreciate the American custom. All members of my family are American citizens.

We are happy with our new life, but we will never forget our country where we grew up. Someday we hope to return to our country to visit our relatives and our old friends.

God bless you all.

**ESSAY 4**      **by M. D. from Viet Nam**

**My Three Best Friends**

My three best friends are Dung, Phong, and Hai. We met when I was seventeen years old. We have been friends for thirteen years. Now Hai and I are thirty, and Dung and Phong are twenty-eight.

All of us came from Saigon, Vietnam, but now all of us live in the United States. I live in Rockford, Illinois. Hai lives in San Diego, California. Dung lives in Sioux City, Iowa. Phong lives in San Jose, California.

I met Dung in a coffee shop in Saigon. We liked to drive around in my motorcycle. He fixed typewriters. He left Saigon in 1983.

He walked from Vietnam through Cambodia to Bangkok, Thailand. He stayed at a refugee camp in Thailand for five years. Then in 1988 he went for six months to the Philippines at another refugee camp where he learned English.

He came to the United States in 1989 and lived in Chicago first and then moved to Sioux City. He works in a meat plant. He got married in Chicago and has one child. Four weeks after I came to the United States in January, 1992, I met Dung in a Vietnamese grocery store in Chicago. We were happy to see each other again. Since he has moved to Sioux City, we phone each other. This summer, he and his family will visit me in Rockford. I will be happy to see him.

Dung introduced me to Phong. Phong lived next door to Dung in Vietnam. He sold cars and motorcycles. He learned a lot of English in Vietnam. He went to school for four years. In February of 1991, he went to the Philippines for six months. He helped translate Vietnamese into English.

He arrived in the United States in April or August of 1991 and went to San Jose, California. His brother got him a job at the casino. He learned how to be a card dealer. He was so good that he is now boss over the other card dealers. He married just this November. He wants me to move to San Jose and work in the casino. I might go to Vietnam with him next year when he returns to visit his parents.

Phong and Dung introduced me to Hai. In Vietnam he made clothes. He studied English for one and one half years. He arrived in the United States three months after me. He now lives with his sister in San Diego, California. He goes to college. He hopes to be a salesman. He works part-time delivering newspapers. Phong and I may visit Hai next year before we go to Vietnam.

I hope to be friends with Dung, Phong, and Hai for the rest of my life. We have had many good times together.

**ESSAY 5**      **by anonymous from Thailand**

**Why I came to U.S.A**

We have 6 members in our family. My parents have four children, their are two boys and two girls, and I'm the second child. Currently, my father is a Thai soldier in Thailand, and my mother is a housewife. When I was in Thailand, I studied at the University of Thailand. Fortunately after several years in school, I graduated with a degree in Physical Education. Most of the time in Thailand I love playing sports. Especially volleyball because I'm good at it. In Thailand, I worked at hotel for 5 years. My job was to contact and helping people. Including foreigners who were in

Thailand for vacations. The big reason why I came to United States is to improve my English. So I could help many many people back in Thailand. Beside that, English is very crucial for me. Because today where ever I go, I have to face society by using English to communicate with people.

I decided to come to Rockford because I have cousins and friends here. They gave me an advice about the good quality of Rockford College. They also sent me I-20 form in order to apply for student visa. Back in Thailand before I came to United States. First, I went to the U.S embassy in Bangkok to interview to approve for my visa to come to United States. Fortunately one week later after my interviewed, I was approved to come to United States. And then I flew from Thailand directly to O'hare airport at Chicago. After that I studied at Rockford College for 3 semesters. I took English language course and I also played volleyball for school. Recently, I have information from my friend about Rockford Literacy Council which I would like to sign up for tutoring. Now I'm so appreciate and I also enjoy studying with my tutor.

### **ESSAY 6 by T. K. from Laos**

I was born in Laos Savanaket. I studied at school than I go to high school 4 years more. That all twelve years for studied.

I finished school 1980. I still with my family 7 / 9 / 1981. I came to Thailand, with freinds and by boat.

I lived in Napho Camp, about five years.

And I got two dauthers. In 1986 I arrived in Philipine camp. I lived there 6 months to studied English.

After that I arrived in Washington state. It first State of America my family stayed in 6 hr or 7 hr. Next second state is Minesota. I lived in Minneapolis airport five mn.

Than I get in next airplane (small). In plane have ten people, I flied to Waterloo about forty-five mn (45').

When airplane stop, my family get out the door and saw two or three people, they bring big camera taked my family picture.

My friends and cousins their wait in side. I haved Amarican, Lao friends, and they talk about my family.

The Lutheran Church my sponsor. They are very nice than my family love them very much. After two days I saw my news at the TV and newspaper. I lived Waterloo, IA two years ago.

And I moved to IL Rockford.

Thank you for reading.

### **ESSAY 7 by J. from China written in 1991**

Dear Hu giang:

How are you? I hope you are very well!

Time runs very fast. My husband and I have been in America more then one year.



America is a beautiful country. I like the people here and we are happy here.

The United States has fifty states.

My second brother and little sister live in the California. My oldest sister lives in Illinois. My address is [     ] Belvidere, IL.

One years ago my husband and I began to learn sign language. Some words of sign are the same as Chinese signs. Now we can do a little sign language. I am happy. I have another teacher, her name is Mrs. [ R. E. ]. She lives in Rockford. Twice a week she comes by her car to the Belvidere library to teach me English. She is a very good teacher. I like her very much.

We plan to move to Madison, Wisconsin to be near my daughter.

We hope our daughter in Madison will be able to find a job for us.

Your friend  
J.

### **ESSAY 8     by Y. L. from Hong Kong**

American was a very strange place to me when I moved here. Something was different from Hong Kong and I'm not very good in speaking English either. I lived in Chicago for a while but after a year or so I moved to Rockford because I couldn't find a good work there. Some said I don't have a high school diploma in American, other just made up reasons and reasons.

I was little bit luckier when I moved to Rockford. I started to make some friends and with their helps, I had moved twice trying to find a better school for my children in Rockford. Now they go to a good school and my wife with me have a good job too.

In American some good and some were bad. Especially in math. I think the math standard level is way too low. It is much lower than many countries. Further, according to a twelve nation survey done by the U.S. Department of Education, Americans were at the back of the class in calculating ability. That is only one reason, "American education is too free wheeling."

### **ESSAY 9             by R.A. from Mexico**

#### **My Trip to the US**

In March, 1990, I came to United States from Mexico. I was 23 years old and did not speak English. This was my first big problem because when I went to the store, the salesman would ask if he could help me. All I could do was point to things I wanted or take someone with me. A year later I got English classes.

When I first came, I felt like a rich man, because in Mexico I didn't go to Sears and malls as they were more expensive. I thought all the people were rich. I saw the people with cars, good clothes and telephones. I was surprised that it was easier to get work in the United States. In Mexico, I could get a job, but they don't pay enough money to live. Hot water in the house is very nice. The food is better, because I can get more kinds of food easier. I like to eat in MacDonal's!

The American people were helpful and friendly. They tried to help me understand how to do things and speak English. One day when we were going to work, we had a tire blowout and we went to a house. The woman let us in to use the phone and then in a few minutes she came out

with a rifle and told us to get out of the house or she would shoot us. We left and got in the van and went down the road with the tire flopping. We had to walk to work when the tire fell off.

Now I study English with a tutor and go the classes. I want to understand English and have people understand me. I want to have a good job, home and family some day. In the future, I want to go to school and get a GED and then I will think about the future. I know now that all the people are not rich, but that they have a lot of things and want to be happy.

### **ESSAY 10 by L. M. from Mexico**

My name is [ L. M.] and I been here in U.S. for almost nine years. I still remember when I came. I was so confused because all the houses and streets were the same to me and one thing the I noticed was the Rockford is so peacefull. Why am I saying this? Because I came from Mexico City and I don't like big cities anymore that's why I prefer to stay here with my daugther Laura. I really like it here.

### **ESSAY 11 by F. L. from Mexico**

On July 10, 1981 I came from Mexico to Rockford, IL., to visit my brother on my vacation. I liked Rockford for the life it had to offer.

The jobs are different in that they require more skill. I'm glad I'm learning English as a second language.

The thing I do not like living in the United States is I am far away from home and I miss my family.

My ambition is to study for citizenship. I know that I will be happy here and to became a citizen.

### **ESSAY 12 by P. P. from Thailand written in 1992**

I was born in Chiangmai, north in Thailand. When I was about 12 years old my Dad died. I stopped going to school at age 13. I worked every day on a farm. The farm people paid me to work.

I was poor when I was a child. I didn't support have time to play with other children. I had to support my mom. I grew up without love. I was always busy working for a living. Work on the farm is hard work. I was tired of it. When I turned 18, my cousin asked me to come work for her. I say yes. I came to live with her for 4 years.

Then the telegram came to my cousin's house. The telegram said my mom had passed away. It takes 4-5 days for a telegram to come to my cousin's house. By that time my uncle had burned my mom's body. They don't keep dead body that long. In Thailand the weather is warm all year around. I feel so sad I don't get to say goodbye to my mom at all. I really miss my mother.

My story has a happy ending. I met my husband when he was a GI. He asked me to marry him. At first I was scared because I only know him for 6 months, and I didn't speak English. I came

with him to America in 1976. I made the right choice to come with him because I didn't have anybody back home.

I have been in the United States for 16 years now. I have two daughters. Their names are Sarah and Amanda. Sarah is 11 years old and Amanda is 9 years old. I am so lucky that I have a good husband. He loves me.

### **ESSAY 13**

**by S. C. from Laos**

I lived in Lao in 1979. I went to Thailand to the refugee camp. 5 years I stayed with my husband and two daughters there. My husband died in the camp. In 1985 we went to the Philippines. after six months there, we flew to America.

We came to my sister in Rockford, IL. It was cold and very different. My daughters like the school here. I learned to drive here. Sometimes I am scared, there are so many cars. I like to go to school and learn English.

I like to write a letter to my mother-in-law in Lao. I plan to go back and visit someday.

### **REACTION**

Some of the people who read these essays will conclude from the imperfect English and strange experiences that the writers don't deserve to be Americans. Others will read the essays and feel good that these writers have found better lives.

When I read the essays, I sense that the writers were adults, even if their English writing is not yet perfect. If they or other adults want to move to Rockford, we should let them. People are people, and all of us should be free to move.

## **Chapter 8**

### **FRIENDS OF IMMIGANTS**

Now the Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those that bless you, and him who curses you, I will curse; and by you all the families of the earth shall bless themselves." Genesis 12:1-3 [Holy Bible]. 2000 BC.

They also took their cattle and their goods, which they had gained in the land of Canaan, and came into Egypt, Jacob and all his offspring with him. Genesis 46:6 [Holy Bible]. 1630 BC.

Then the Lord said, “I have seen the affliction of my people who are in Egypt, and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters; I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey...” Exodus 3:7-8 [Holy Bible]. 1200 BC.

The time that the people of Israel dwelt in Egypt was four hundred and thirty years. And at the end of four hundred and thirty years, on that very day, all the hosts of the Lord went out from the land of Egypt. Exodus 12:40-41 [Holy Bible]. 1200 BC.

Moses my servant is dead; now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, you and all this people, into the land which I am giving to them, to the people of Israel. Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given to you, as I promised to Moses. Joshua 1:2-3 [Holy Bible]. 1160 BC.

Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there till I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.” ... But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, saying, “Rise, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child’s life are dead.” And he rose and took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. Matthew 2:13-14,19-21 [Holy Bible]. 3 AD.

Ask, and it will be given you; seek, and you will find; knock and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. Matthew 7:7-8 [Holy Bible]. 30 AD.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these include life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, that to secure these rights governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed... Thomas Jefferson et al. Declaration of Independence. July 4, 1776.

... the natural right which all men have of relinquishing the country in which birth or other accident may have thrown them, and seeking subsistence and happiness wheresoever they may be, and hope to find them. Thomas Jefferson. 1776.

China is the richest country in the world, without any other. ... When we are assured that China is the most fertile country in the world; that almost all of the land is in tillage; and that a great part of it bears two crops per year; and further, that the people live very frugally, we may infer with certainty, that the population must be immense. ... And not to dwell on remote instances, the European settlements in the new world bear ample testimony to the truth of a remark which, indeed, has never, that I know of, been doubted. A plenty of rich land, to be had for little or nothing, is so powerful a cause of population, as to overcome all other obstacles. ...the happiness of the Americans, depended much less upon their peculiar degree of civilization, than upon the

peculiarity of their situation, as new colonies, upon their having a great plenty of fertile uncultivated land. Thomas Robert Malthus. *An Essay on Population*. June 7, 1798.

I cannot omit recommending a revisal of the laws on the subject of naturalization. Considering the ordinary chances of human life, a denial of citizenship under a residence of fourteen years is a denial to a great proportion of those who ask it... And shall we refuse the unhappy fugitives from distress that hospitality which the savages of the wilderness extended to our fathers arriving in this land? Shall oppressed humanity find no asylum on this globe? Thomas Jefferson. State of the Union. December 8, 1801.

The aboriginal inhabitants of these countries [American natives] I have regarded with the commiseration their history inspires. Endowed with the faculties and the rights of men, breathing an ardent love of liberty and independence, and occupying a country which left them no desire but to be undisturbed, the stream of overflowing population from other regions directed itself on these shores; without power to divert, or habits to contend against, they have been overwhelmed by the current, or driven before it; now reduced within limits too narrow for the hunter's state, humanity enjoins us to teach them agriculture and... to encourage them to that industry which alone can enable them to maintain their place in existence. ...they are combated by the habits of their bodies, prejudice of their minds, ignorance, pride, and the influence of interested and crafty individuals among them, who feel themselves something in the present order of things, and nothing in any other. ...in short, my friends, among them is seen the action and counteraction of good sense and bigotry. Thomas Jefferson. Second Inaugural Address. March 4, 1805.

The system of passports has become much more rigid and vexatious during the last half-century. The only civilized countries in which passports are not required are the British Isles and the United States. *Penny Cyclopaedia*. 1840.

The earth does not belong to us - we belong to the earth. Chief Seattle, 1854.

I am not a Know-Nothing [antiimmigrant, anti-Catholic party member]... As a nation we began by declaring that "all men are created equal." We now practically read it "all men are created equal, except negroes." When the Know-Nothings get control, it will read "all men are created equal, except negroes, and foreigners, and catholics." When it comes to this I should prefer emigrating to some country where they make no pretence of loving liberty - to Russia, for instance, where despotism can be taken pure, and without the base alloy of hypocrisy. Abraham Lincoln. Letter to Joshua Speed. August 24, 1855.

In regard to the Germans and foreigners, I esteem them to be no better than any other people, nor any worse... Inasmuch as our country is extensive and new, and the countries of Europe are densely populated, if there are any abroad who desire to make this the land of their adoption, it is not in my heart to throw aught [anything] in their way, to prevent them from coming to the United States. Abraham Lincoln. Speech to Germans in Ohio. February 12, 1861.

What is a “sovereignty,” in the political sense of the term? Would it be far wrong to define it “A political community, without a political superior?”... Whatever concerns the whole, should be confided to the whole ! to the general government; while, whatever concerns only the State, should be left exclusively, to the State. ...it is a struggle for maintaining in the world, that form, and substance of government, whose leading object is, to elevate the condition of men ! to lift artificial weights from all shoulders ! to clear the paths of laudable pursuit for all ! to afford all, an unfettered start, and a fair chance in the race of life. Abraham Lincoln. Special Session of Congress. July 4, 1861.

The earth is the mother of all people, and all people should have equal rights upon the earth. Chief Joseph, Nez Perce Indian reservation, Idaho, 1877.

We have no right to keep these struggling millions out from our fertile fields and broad prairies. Richmond Mayo-Smith. *Emigration and Immigration*. 1890.

I am eager to express to [Garry] Davis my recognition of the sacrifice he has made for the well-being of humanity. In voluntarily giving up his citizenship rights he has made himself a ‘displaced person’ in order to fight for the natural rights of those who are the mute evidences of the low moral levels of our time. Telegram from Albert Einstein, 1948.

**Article 13.** (1) Everyone has the right to freedom of movement within the borders of each state. (2) Everyone has the right to leave any country, including his own, and to return to his country.

**Article 14.** (1) Everyone has the right to seek and to enjoy in other countries asylum from persecution. (2) This right may not be invoked in the case of prosecutions genuinely arising from non-political crimes or from acts contrary to the purposes and principles of the United Nations.

**Article 15.** (1) Everyone has a right to a nationality. (2) No one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his nationality nor denied the right to change his nationality. **United Nations General Assembly. Universal Declaration of Human Rights.** December 10, 1948.

We do not need to be protected against immigrants from these countries ! on the contrary we want to stretch out a helping hand... In no other realm of our national life are we so hampered and stultified by the dead hand of the past as we are in this field of immigration. Harry S. Truman. Veto of National Origins Quotas. June 25, 1952.

It is certain that Asian governments deeply resent the immigration policies of Western nations... The resentment, however, stems more from insult and outrage than from any real desire to send out hordes of migrants... The United States took the lead in the restriction of immigration with the 1917 literacy test and the Quota Act of 1924... Cultural snobbery, economic fears, and general timidity have prevented underpopulated nations from throwing open wide their gates to all who would come... Overcrowding, never pleasant, becomes the more difficult to bear if there are large, empty spaces nearby labelled “no admittance.” K. & A.F.K. Organski. *Population and World Power*. 1961.

Extremism in the defense of liberty is no vice. Moderation in the pursuit of justice is no virtue. Barry Goldwater. Republican National Convention. 1964.

Not too long ago two friends of mine were talking to a Cuban refugee. He was a businessman who had escaped from Castro. In the midst of his tale of horrible experiences, one of my friends turned to the other and said, "We don't know how lucky we are." The Cuban stopped and said, "How lucky you are? I had some place to escape to." And in that sentence he told the entire story. If freedom is lost here there is no place to escape to. Ronald Reagan. National television address. October 27, 1964.

Our age has been called the space age, but I would like to call it the age of the people. Revolutionaries, liberators, and political leaders have always talked of the people, but for the first time now, "we the people" does not mean a few representing the many, but the masses themselves, each of whom is poignantly conscious of his individuality, each one of whom is seeking to assert his rights and to voice his demands. Indira Gandhi. United Nations General Assembly. October 14, 1968.

We are gathered here under the aegis of the United Nations. We are supposed to belong to the same family sharing common traits and impelled by the same basic desires, yet we inhabit a divided world. How can it be otherwise? There is still no recognition of the equality of man or respect for him as an individual. In matters of colour and race, religion and custom, society is governed by prejudice. Indira Gandhi. United Nations Conference, Stockholm. June 14, 1972.

Thus, we may face a great coalition of the lands of would-be emigrants standing in opposition to the lands that erect barricades to shut out would-be immigrants. ... Without the reestablishment of freedom of immigration throughout the world, there can be no lasting peace. Ludwig von Mises. *The Clash of Group Interests*. 1978.

If you want me to release ten million Chinese to come to the United States, I'll be glad to do that. Deng Xiaoping. Private statement to Jimmy Carter. Washington, DC. 1979.

Can we doubt that only a Divine Providence placed this land, this island of freedom, here as a refuge for all those people in the world who yearn to breathe free? Jews and Christians enduring persecution behind the Iron Curtain, the boat people of Southeast Asia, Cuba, and of Haiti, the victims of drought and famine in Africa, the freedom fighters in Afghanistan,... Ronald Reagan. Republican National Convention. July 17, 1980.

But there remain armed guards and checkpoints all the same ! still a restriction on the right to travel, still an instrument to impose upon ordinary men and women the will of a totalitarian state. ...Tear down this wall. Ronald Reagan. Berlin, Germany. June 12, 1987.

I got a letter from a man the other day, and I'll share it with you. This man said you can go to live in Turkey, but you can't become a Turk. You can go to live in Japan, but you cannot become

Japanese - or Germany or France - and named all the others. But he said anyone from any corner of the world can come to America and become an American. Ronald Reagan, January 20, 1988.

Why ... not insist that all positions (jobs) in every society be open to any qualified person, regardless of international borders or the nationality of the applicant? Frederick G. Whelan. *Open Borders? Closed Societies?* 1988.

Since becoming president, they took away my ordinary passport but didn't give me anything in return. So this [World Passport] is my first passport as president. It is a most precious document. Vaclav Havel, President of Czechoslovakia. 1989.

Entering the United States is always connected with paperwork. Lufthansa Airlines. Standard in-flight announcement. May 17, 1991.

In the years since becoming a "stateless" person, I've consistently - and dramatically asserted the human right to travel freely as a citizen of the world. At countless borders, I have presented my own documents and explained my status as a World Citizen. I've challenged the authority of national governments, sometimes with remarkable results. Of course, I have seen the inside of many jails along the way, simply because I don't have a passport issued by a national government. On the other hand, many countries have admitted me not merely as a visitor but as an honored guest. Many other World Citizens have had similar experiences. Garry Davis. *Passport to Freedom*. 1992.

We welcome all refugees to our country and condemn the efforts of U.S. officials to create a new "Berlin Wall" which would keep them captive. Libertarian Party (USA). Party Platform. 1992.

The day will come when there will be no borders. Carlos Santana. Concert in Mexico City. May 22, 1993.

The world will become one in 100 years. Young-Chul Jung. Des Moines, Iowa. August 8, 1993.

We can't build a wall around America. Bob Dole. Regarding North American Free Trade. August 22, 1993.

Should it be legal for people to travel or move into and out of the U.S. without limitation? ... Yes. All individuals have the same rights, regardless of where they were born or where they live now. Anyone willing to take responsibility for himself or herself has the right to travel and seek opportunity, including across international borders. America has always benefitted from immigrants who arrive with nothing, work hard, start businesses, become educated and improve America's economy. David Bergland. *Libertarianism in One Lesson*. 1993.



As we become citizens of the world, it seems to me wrong that we should put up new borders, and reduce ourselves to a smaller geographic entity. Daniel Johnson. Swearing in as Quebec Premier. January 11, 1994.

In many countries it is difficult for foreigners to obtain a work permit. It is often even more difficult for Americans to do so because of reciprocity rules in many countries. The U.S. is one of the most difficult places in the world to obtain a work permit, so foreign countries retaliate against American executives. Adam Starchild. *How to Legally Obtain a Second Citizenship*. 1995.

The problem in the past was that there was no place to deport them to. Gypsies were often refused re-entry to their own countries... One of the reasons Gypsies wind up with no place to go is that they destroy their passports or identity cards... They declare themselves homeless, and hope that the German authorities ... won't be able to return them to a place that doesn't exist. Or they hope, at least, that before they are sorted out and put back on that eastbound bus they will have some months in the "West." Isabel Fonseca. *Bury Me Standing: The Gypsies and Their Journey*. 1996.

Issues before the United Nations ... are issues that carry no passports. ... Yet the public is still thinking in local terms; it is still constrained by boundaries. Secretary General Kofi Annan. 1997.

Certainly the twenty-first century will be the era of the international worker. ... Americans have the idea that they can get off the plane with a tourist visa in Frankfurt, Tokyo, or London and find work in the classified ads as easily as they would in Chicago or New York. Arthur H. Bell. *Great Jobs Abroad*. 1997.

## Chapter 9

### BUREACRATS AND IMMIGRANTS

National governments can have great power over the people they call citizens and even greater power over the people they call noncitizens. While national governments divide people into these two groups, other governments treat everyone as equals. The mayor of a city or the governor of a state must treat lifetime residents and newcomers as having equal rights. Local governments may not block people from entering their cities or working in their states.

Many national governments now believe that no other person may enter their part of earth without permission. These laws and attitudes of sovereign governments deserve to be changed by the people they control on both sides of the border. One example of recent progress is the right to migrate within Europe. Sovereign nations must be reminded that they too are local governments on a planet where the people like to move.

The U.S. government encouraged me to write this book. All federal employees were encouraged to promote the idea of Equal Opportunity. But the process was much more formal than that. At the end of each year, supervisors rated employees on how well they promoted Equal Opportunity. A good rating could result in higher pay, and bad ratings could result in less pay or even being fired.

## GOALS

Bureaucrats such as myself selected specific goals to work toward at the beginning of each year. These were typed into a formal document and signed by the bureaucrat, the supervisor, and the supervisor's supervisor. I selected the following goals and the government officially okayed them in January of 1994.

- 1) Write poetry expressing the need for Equal Employment Opportunity for all people.
- 2) Explain to anyone listening that governments should not control where individuals may live or work. Treat potential Americans with as much dignity and respect as current Americans (even if that is against the law.)
- 3) Promote an international view of Equal Employment Opportunity and work to convince decision makers that nationalist EEO policies are unjustly narrow and discriminatory.

For several years, my official goals as a bureaucrat included writing the material in this book. Often I called it my Equal Opportunity book. The actual writing and research for this book was always done outside of government business hours on my own time. That way I could copyright the book and sell it. Books from the federal government are given away and not copyrighted. As each chapter was completed, I listed it in my performance documentation. Finally in 1995 my supervisor told me that *The Right To Migrate* was not related to Civil Rights or Equal Opportunity.

Bureaucrats work on Equal Opportunity, but not all day long. Other job duties in my own performance standards were 1) plan and conduct research, 2) report research, 3) technology transfer, 4) communication, and 5) safety and employee health. My end-of-year ratings for the first three of these usually were high, but often I was told to do more about Equal Opportunity and communication. I'm still working on these.

## STANDARDS

All bureaucrats don't have to write poetry, respect noncitizens, or fight nationalism while on the job, but each bureaucrat has to follow some common standards. The performance standards for Equal Opportunity / Civil Rights that applied to most employees of the Agriculture Research Service follow. Supervisors of three or more employees had stricter standards than these. The wording in these standards changed a little from year to year. For 1994, here's how bureaucrats at my level were supposed to act.

- 1) Performs all duties in a manner which consistently demonstrates fairness, cooperation, and respect toward coworkers, office visitors, and all others in the performance of official

business. Demonstrates an awareness of Equal Opportunity / Civil Rights policies and responsibilities.

- 2) Through personal action, demonstrates support of Equal Employment Opportunity principles in all decisions affecting subordinate employees which may include activities in one or more of the following functional areas: recruitment, interviewing, selection, training, performance evaluation, promotion, travel, awards, adverse action, and work assignments.
- 3) Advises subordinates and establishes through personal example that when addressing employees, delivering speeches, making public appearances, or representing the Agency in any capacity, inappropriate comments regarding race, age, color, sex, religion, national origin, individuals with disabilities, or marital status will not be tolerated.
- 4) Is conversant on the Agency's Affirmative Employment Plan and actively participates in the accomplishment of goals and objectives.
- 5) Distributes to all employees with supportive comments Agency and Departmental Equal Employment Opportunity issuances.
- 6) Maintains an atmosphere of equal treatment in the work unit by discouraging discrimination of all forms. This includes assuring the prompt and fair resolution of all formal and informal complaints of discrimination.

These government standards may sound good and may help bureaucrats to be more open-minded, but they made me sick. A private company or a university or a state government may hire the best person for the job, whether a citizen or noncitizen (Equal Opportunity). The federal government may not hire citizens of other countries for permanent jobs here (No Opportunity). The Justice Department tries hard to keep most noncitizens outside of U.S. borders so that they can't become U.S. citizens (Limited Opportunity).

As a bureaucrat I followed these government standards and treated everyone fairly. But I discriminated against foreigners as required by U.S. law. Sometimes I met noncitizens at work, or at meetings, or at school. I even became friends with some. If they wanted a job at USDA, the answer I gave them was "The federal government does not discriminate, but you can't work here." Uncle Sam hires only his nieces and nephews to fill the bureaucracy. In Washington, DC, that's what the politicians mean when they say Equal Opportunity.

## SECRETARIES

A big bureaucracy such as USDA is not easy to change, especially if you're on the bottom of it, which I was. The Secretary of Agriculture was my boss's boss's boss's boss's boss's boss. Nearly all decisions and instructions from the President or the Secretary or the Congress were passed from the top level to the bottom level thru the chain of command. One topic was too important to be passed from boss to boss thru the chain. That topic was Equal Opportunity.

Soon after a new Secretary of Agriculture was appointed, every employee would receive a policy statement on Equal Opportunity straight from the top. The Secretaries told us to promote Equal Opportunity, and I did so. Some examples of their instructions follow.

“Avoidance of discrimination must be our constant, daily practice. It must be so deeply ingrained in our policies and practices that it becomes automatic. We must be so completely dedicated to an antidiscrimination policy that when the slightest hint of discrimination shows up it is quickly spotted and eliminated as a glaring inconsistency. I will not tolerate discrimination in any form...” Secretary of Agriculture Richard Lyng June 12, 1986

“For me, equal opportunity, work force diversity, and basic human rights are a given. They should not be subject to debate...” Secretary of Agriculture Clayton Yeutter May 3, 1990

“We will continue to support the goal of ensuring equal opportunity for all in employment and program delivery.” Secretary of Agriculture Mike Espy October 13, 1994

“World trade is booming and agriculture is America’s No. One exporter - having hit \$60 billion last year. But while markets are open, they’re still not open enough. And we have to keep fighting the phony barriers some countries hide behind.” Secretary of Agriculture Dan Glickman January 31, 1997

“By our words and our actions, each of us must demonstrate a commitment to equal opportunity for all individuals.” Secretary of Agriculture Dan Glickman June 7, 1995

These Secretaries seemed to believe in the right to migrate. Certainly, they never told us to be unfair to immigrants and noncitizens. Ed Madigan, Secretary from 1991 to 1992, went further than the rest and commented directly on the right to migrate. Robert Franco, an Associate Director in the Office of the Secretary, sent this reply to me after I sent the chapter “*The Right To Migrate*” from this book to the Secretary:

“Dear Mr. VanRaden,

Thank you for your recent letter to Secretary Madigan concerning the right to migrate freely throughout the world. Mr Madigan has asked that I convey his appreciation for your comments and assure you that they will be thoughtfully considered in addressing this problem through our representation in international organizations and agencies. I know you will be interested to learn that the United States supports the international recognition of the right of free immigration. This is one of several issues that is being negotiated as part of the general trade talks with our European and South American neighbors.” Associate Director Robert Franco Office of the Secretary March 18, 1992

After receiving this letter, I began to watch the trade talks more closely. Free migration could come quickly if the other nations stop dragging their feet. We in the United States already officially support the right to migrate. At least that's what I was told.

## **JOBS**

The Secretaries' instructions all seemed clear and helpful, but I wished that more people in the bureaucracy would follow them. The personnel division of USDA decides which people are qualified for which jobs and what their pay will be if hired. They also announce job openings. In 1992, the personnel division wrote an announcement for a job that I supervised. All of the nice phrases were in place, but the words didn't make sense. In the following letter, dated January 7, 1992, I asked Ms. Jane Giles, Director of Personnel, to explain why discrimination on citizenship is not called discrimination.

Dear Ms. Giles:

You are probably familiar with Secretary Lyng's memorandum of June 12, 1986, which states, "We must be so completely dedicated to an anti-discrimination policy that when the slightest hint of discrimination shows up it is quickly spotted and eliminated as a glaring inconsistency." Recently, I spotted a glaring inconsistency in vacancy announcements distributed by the Personnel Division in Greenbelt, Maryland. On page 2 of ARS-D-2- B0016, the announcement said, "Qualified applicants will be considered for appointment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, marital status, physical handicap, age, national origin, or any other nonmerit factor." About three paragraphs later on the same page, the announcement said, "U.S. citizenship is required."

Citizenship is a nonmerit factor. If we reject all noncitizens because of Executive Order 11935, 5 CFR Part 7.4, and 31 U.S.C. 699(b), how can we claim to hire only on merit? Such wording in vacancy announcements discourages applications from qualified noncitizens (for example, Chinese students eligible by Public Law 102-141) and defeats the intent of Equal Employment Opportunity.

Hopefully, you can help me reduce inconsistent wording in our vacancy announcements in the short run and eliminate our discrimination against noncitizens in the long run. The response came a few weeks later, on January 29, 1992. The statements about Equal Opportunity on government job announcements are required by law. Therefore, the words make sense even if they say opposite things. Ms. Giles did not see even the slightest hint of discrimination. That's what she told me.

TO: Paul M. VanRaden

This is in response to your letter of January 7, 1992, expressing your concerns about the requirements for citizenship for Federal employment.

It is unlikely that Secretary Lyng's 1986 anti-discrimination policy was meant to cover citizenship issues, since these are mandated by law, Executive Order, and/or appropriations acts, and are applicable Government-wide. Thus, the statement "U.S. citizenship required" which you see on vacancy announcement is in keeping with these mandates. The references in your letter (except for Public Law 102-141, which will be addressed in my next paragraph) pertain only to Competitive Service positions which must be filled by U.S. citizens, as mandated by one or more of the issuances mentioned above, unless excepted as stated in one of the references in your correspondence, 5 CFR Part 7.4(c).

As you probably know, Public Law 102- 141, your last reference, is the "Treasury, Postal Service and General Government Appropriations Act, 1992." The incorporation in the Act, of the reference to EO 12711 concerning Nationalists of the People's Republic of China (PRC), does not make the Nationalists eligible for positions in the Competitive Service. As a result of the Law, however, certain Chinese Nationalists may occupy positions in the Excepted Service until expiration of EO 12711 on January 1, 1994. Several ARS selecting officials are currently considering such Nationalists for Research Associate positions. When we announce Excepted Service positions, we never include the statement, "U.S. citizenship required." To do so would be in violation of the anti-discrimination provisions of the immigration laws.

I hope I have successfully explained that ARS is in compliance with the current laws, Executive Orders, and appropriations acts as they relate to employment in the Federal Government.

Job announcements might be shorter and clearer if we list only the groups that we do discriminate against, instead of all the nonmerit factors that we try so hard to disregard. If a person's race, color, religion, or national origin should not influence hiring decisions, neither should their citizenship. As the Secretaries all said, discrimination of any form is wrong.

## TRAINING

Bureaucrats were trained not to discriminate, but by law they had to discriminate. Civil rights experts taught that people of any race, color, sex, age, national origin, religion, marital status, sexual orientation, or disability could be hired. The experts often said nothing about the foreigners, immigrants, and other noncitizens that could not be hired. The experts taught that more women, blacks, and Hispanics should be hired to make up for past discrimination. Bureaucrats learned to ignore the rights of everyone else. That's why I didn't like civil rights training, as shown in the next two letters.

September 21, 1998

Subject: Civil Rights Training

From: Darrell Cole

To: Dr. VanRaden

I understand that you have not attended one on the sessions regarding the Mandatory Civil Rights Training required by the USDA. We have a session scheduled at 9:00 am to 12:00 noon, Wed. Sept. 23, in room 020, Building 003, BARC-W that you are required to attend. If you do not attend this session, you will be subject to disciplinary action.

September 22, 1998

Dr. Cole,

Thank you for informing me of this training. I haven't attended so far because I wonder why noncitizens have no right to apply for permanent government jobs. The government tries to teach me that only citizens have civil rights. Does the course scheduled for 9:00 am to 12:00 noon, Wed. Sept. 23, in room 020, Building 003, BARC-W teach that all people, including noncitizens, deserve civil rights and equal opportunity? If so, please tell me, and I will be the first one in the door. Everyone should have civil rights.

Paul

The mandatory training seemed useless but also harmless, so I attended in order to keep my job, along with three other employees facing disciplinary action. My bosses didn't care what I learned, they only demanded that I sit in the training. The class taught us that USDA treats everyone equally and then it showed us people that USDA can't hire.

Page 3 of the training booklet demanded that we "demonstrate a commitment to equal opportunity for all individuals." Then we watched a civil rights video made by Canadians at the Royal Bank in Canada. U.S. law excluded Canadians from the term "all individuals," but the course included them. When the instructor asked for my reaction, I gave about a two-minute speech protesting the fact that Canadians have no rights at USDA. Instead of being the first one in the door, I was the first one out. My boss's boss was not amused:

October 29, 1998

SUBJECT: Letter of Caution

TO: P. Van Raden

FROM: T.J. Sexton

This memorandum is a notice of caution regarding your disruptive behavior during the Introduction to Civil Rights training held Wednesday, September 23, 1998. At our meeting on October 8, 1998, you did not dispute the account.

According to the instructor of this training, during the discussion period you loudly explained that you could not understand how the group could discuss diversity and sensitivity when ARS discriminates against non-citizens. You continued to say that you repeatedly discard applications from possible employees simply because they are not citizens of the U.S. When the instructor indicated she did not think your comments pertained to the issue of the training course, you strongly disagreed and said that you could not sit there and watch the video when ARS continues to discriminate against non-citizens. You then gathered your belongings, scratched your name off the sign-in sheet, added the statement "Noncitizens should have civil rights" to the sign-in sheet, and left the room.

Your disruptive behavior involving this incident reflects a serious inability on your part to comply with the rules and regulations to guide employees in their conduct. This memorandum is to clearly notify you that this conduct is not acceptable and will not be tolerated in the future.

This notice of caution is being sent for remedial and not punitive reasons. Your failure to heed the message that this notice of caution is meant to convey may subject you to formal disciplinary action in the future.

The next day, October 30, 1998, I received a rating of unsuccessful for my performance in fiscal year 1997-98. I had to retake the mandatory civil rights class within one month or else be demoted or fired. My bosses didn't accuse me of discriminating against or denying civil rights to anyone. I was punished for questioning during civil rights class the law that requires us to discriminate against others.

My boss's boss, after cautioning and punishing me, then suggested that I give a formal statement of ideas on how to improve civil rights. I tried to send this memo thru the chain of command up to the Secretary of Agriculture, but my boss's boss's boss refused to let me send it.

November 12, 1998

SUBJECT: Greater Employment Opportunity

TO: Dan Glickman

FROM: Paul VanRaden

Thousands of USDA employees recently completed Module I of the Civil Rights training. I did not complete the training because I am very firmly committed to equal employment opportunity for ALL individuals. I take the phrase "all individuals" in the USDA Civil Rights Policy Statement seriously, broadly, and literally. The training video for Module I showed Canadian individuals. These individuals have no right to work for USDA, and so I walked out of the training to protest the obvious fact that "all individuals" aren't given equal opportunity. If USDA chooses Canadians to train us, why shouldn't Canadians work for us?

Recently, employees of USDA were challenged to make USDA the Civil Rights leader. I proposed during the Civil Rights training that USDA hire noncitizens for permanent jobs in USDA. The Civil Rights Policy Statement demands Equal Employment Opportunity for all individuals, but the law excludes noncitizens from the term "all individuals." Employers would have more choices and individuals would have more job opportunities if noncitizens were included in Equal Employment Opportunity. Employers and citizens could both have greater employment opportunity. I would like to disregard national origin when hiring and be fair to all individuals: citizens and noncitizens.

American businesses and universities can and do hire the talented noncitizens that USDA refuses to hire. Foreign businesses, universities, and governments also compete to hire some of the American citizens that might work here. In the race to create opportunity in agriculture, the private sector is the leader and USDA is getting farther behind. Because the government tends to promote from within, most hiring is at the entry level. Noncitizens have had to enter the



workforce outside the government. By the time they become citizens, entry level jobs no longer attract them because many of them already have good jobs and seniority in the private sector.

The Olympic phrase “Go for the gold,” which you have borrowed, will apply to Civil Rights only when our playing field contains citizens of other nations. The work of USDA and of the Agriculture Research Service is rapidly becoming international. I interact with citizens of many other nations on a regular basis, and I gain much by working with them. Foreign citizens might do my work as well as I can and vice versa. The private sector is becoming global and more diverse, but government employers reject all foreign citizens and limit diversity. This hiring ban is a form of discrimination that we can’t afford. Noncitizens should be welcome at USDA.

While the U.S. government rejects noncitizens, some employees actually embrace them. Two of my nineteen American coworkers recently married Canadian citizens, another married a Swedish citizen, and another’s daughter-in-law is a Japanese citizen. When I was hired, my significant other was a German citizen and thus not welcome to work for USDA, so we ended the relationship. My previous job was taken by a Polish citizen, and I interviewed for a university position but it was taken by a German citizen. One coworker recently adopted a 5-year-old Latvian citizen, and one went to work at Agriculture Canada in Ottawa after his USDA position expired in 1994. Other governments don’t always discriminate against Americans.

The USDA Policy Statement on Civil Rights requires that “every employee must be treated fairly and equitably, with dignity and respect. There are no exceptions.” The temporary employees of USDA are an exception. For example, I hired a noncitizen as a postdoctoral research associate in 1996. When this temporary position was converted to an almost identical permanent scientist position in 1997, the temporary employee was forced by law to leave so that an American citizen could take over his research project. By 1997, he had lived in the United States as a student, then a temporary resident, then a permanent resident for a total of 14 years and had paid income taxes for the past 10 years. He was rated more qualified than the American scientist that replaced him by all five USDA scientists on the hiring panel. The government did not treat him fairly or equitably, but fortunately he quickly found Equal Employment Opportunity, Civil Rights, and a higher paying job at a university.

USDA would be stronger if we did as you have stated: “By our words and actions, each of us should demonstrate a commitment to equal opportunity for all individuals.” We need equal opportunity, but we also need the greater opportunity that the private sector already enjoys. We can be the Civil Rights leader if the laws that limit employment are changed.

November 18, 1998

SUBJECT: Your Memo to Secretary Glickman on Greater Employment Opportunity

TO: Paul VanRaden

FROM: Phyllis E. Johnson

I am returning the subject memo to you; I will not forward it to Dr. Horn.

As you point out, non-citizens in the United States have different rights than citizens. The fact that they are not free to compete for Federal jobs is because of statutory requirements set down by the U.S. Congress. It has nothing to do with the USDA Civil Rights program, and Secretary Glickman has no ability to change this. The laws which apply to businesses in the private sector and to university, that allow them to hire noncitizens, are different. If you are dissatisfied with this situation, I suggest that you communicate with your Congressional delegation.

Yes, I was dissatisfied. Why shouldn't a bureaucrat be able to suggest a change to the law as part of official duties? Just a week before the above letter arrived, Secretary of Agriculture Glickman bragged that he could change civil rights law. The following letter was sent to all USDA employees including Phyllis and me.

November 10, 1998

Dear USDA employee:

... We began civil rights training for all USDA employees. And, we made legal history by getting Congress to waive the statute of limitations so we could settle older civil rights cases. ...

Sincerely, Dan Glickman

The U.S. Congress had the power to change the law and give equal opportunity to all individuals, as Secretary Glickman had already demanded of me, but Congress was busy impeaching the President. The President also could ask for a change in the law, but he didn't really want equal opportunity. Politicians don't care about noncitizens because noncitizens don't vote. Noncitizens don't vote because politicians don't let them. Instead of waiting for local politicians to act, I wrote to the bureaucrat in charge of promoting equal opportunity for all individuals.

**CLINTON**

January 20, 1999

Dear Secretary-General Kofi Annan,

The trial of U.S. President Clinton by the Senate and Chief Justice shows that everyone must obey the law. "The foundation of the United Nations is the law", as you said July 4 1997 in Geneva. Both national and international laws must be obeyed by all of the world's residents. If crimes against national laws are carefully examined, crimes against international law deserve the

same careful attention. The United Nations and World Court should examine crimes committed on international waters. The law and the evidence are clear: President Clinton should be tried for piracy.

Tens of thousands of travelers on the open ocean were deported from the open ocean back to Haiti, Cuba, and other places by U.S. forces since 1993. On June 22 1993, the U.N. Commissioner on Refugees strongly condemned Clinton's actions. On May 8 1994, the United States formally declared sovereignty over the high seas. Now, U.S. immigration officials on Navy and Coast Guard ships apply U.S. law to everyone that they catch on the high seas. The 1948 U.N. Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Article 13, Part 2, gives everyone in Haiti, Cuba, etc. the right to emigrate, but U.S. policies make emigration nearly impossible.

President Clinton led the U.S. effort to nationalize international waters. In major speeches such as his 1995 State of the Union address, Clinton asked for new laws to control immigration and bragged of deporting large numbers of illegal aliens. On the high seas, no one is an alien. Those who travel the seas aren't illegal. However, the use of force by Clinton's sailors and immigration officials to intercept and deport people from the high seas is illegal. When Fidel Castro obeyed international law and let thousands of Cubans leave, Bill Clinton on August 19 1994 described Castro's new policy as "coldblooded." On September 9 1994, Clinton and Castro agreed to end the Cubans' right to emigrate.

The U.N. Convention on the Law of the Seas, Part VII, Article 89, demands that "No state may subject any part of the high seas to its sovereignty." President Clinton rejects this law and claims sovereignty over the sea. National leaders are expected to enforce national policies within the borders of their nations and within their national waters. They may also use force beyond national borders in support of international treaties or U.N. resolutions, but the use of force against friendly ships on the high seas is a high crime.

No person or nation should be above the law. To gain respect for international law, you should do what the Americans have done. You should put Bill Clinton on trial.

Sincerely, Paul VanRaden

All of us should obey the law. Everyone. I began to hope that some day American presidents and Communist dictators would all have to respect international law and respect human rights. So I wrote to the Cuban head of state asking him to get started:

[letter never sent]

Dear Fidel Castro

Please help me to obtain human rights in the United States. My people do not have religious freedom. The U.S. government forces us to carry coins and paper money that say "In God We Trust" even if we firmly believe that there is no God. But that is a small problem compared to the abuses of human rights of the Cuban people and others like you. The only right

guaranteed to Cubans is the right to remain forever on the island of Cuba. Most Cubans are not allowed to leave the island unless they can play baseball extremely well.

Enclosed is a copy of my unpublished book *The Right To Migrate*. I'm trying to find foreign publishers because almost no one in the United States wants this book. Please translate *The Right To Migrate* into Spanish and give or sell a copy to each person in Cuba. You can even provide English copies to the people living on Guantanamo Bay. I'm sorry that you can't pay me for this book because it is against U.S. law for a U.S. citizen to sell a human rights book to Cubans. If you agree to work for instead of against human rights, we might end the trade embargo and then I could sell your Spanish translation into other Spanish-speaking countries and we could make some money. Think about it.

After you retire, maybe you could visit the United States again and help U.S. citizens obtain the right to trust or not to trust in God. We have free speech here, which means that people can't be put in jail just for saying things that other people don't want to hear. Life could be a lot easier and sweeter than it is now. But only if we can change the laws of Cuba and the United States to let the Cuban people and the Cuban sugar flow freely to anywhere in the world. Please help me.

Sincerely, Paul VanRaden

## ALIENS

Twice during my career in USDA, I used taxpayer dollars to hire an illegal alien, Eric. First, Eric was illegal, then legal, then illegal, then legal again. Then, he went back to The Netherlands where the law says he belongs. He was paid by the University of Maryland as a part-time student and part-time researcher although he didn't work there or study there. He worked directly for the government (me) in a government office building. Funds from the government were sent to him thru the university because obtaining a student visa was much easier than obtaining a job directly with the government. That was the legal part.

Eric's visa papers were delayed and didn't reach him before the day he was scheduled to leave Holland for Washington. He arrived at my office on schedule the next day as a tourist and I put him right to work. But he couldn't be paid until he changed visa status. And his visa status couldn't be changed while he was in the United States because U.S. immigration laws are sometimes very stupid. Even if you are in the United States and have permission to work here, you must leave the United States so that you can reenter.

The INS rules were too difficult for me to understand, but Eric did his best to get thru them. We both tried to get thru the answering machine at INS many times before giving up. Eric wrote this short note to me on November 26, 1991, while I was away from the office. As a foreign student, he learned a lot about the U.S. immigration service:

Hello Paul,

Today I went to the INS in Washington. But they told me I should send those forms to the INS in Baltimore. So now I can start again. There are several ways to go now. One fact is that, when I leave in Dec., I need that I-94/departure record in my passport and they don't allow a copy, neither in Baltimore-INS, nor at the airport.

One possibility is to complete that IAP-66 form in Amsterdam in those 2 weeks. Regardless of if this succeeds I sure can reenter the States because a stay of 3 months without visa is allowed.

Greetings.. Eric.

Eric decided to work without pay for 3 months, and his father agreed to send some more money to help him survive here. He went home for Christmas in Holland and returned from The Netherlands with a student visa. During the first 3 months of 1992 he was paid at twice the normal salary to make up for the previous 3 months of working for free. That was the possibly illegal part.

The next year he asked to come back for 6 more months of research. We agreed and filled out the forms, and he arrived as a tourist again. This time the university rather than INS was responsible for the visa papers being late. Again he worked for free for 3 months and at twice the agreed pay for the next 3. I learned that illegal aliens can do very good work, even for the federal government.

Life in America as an illegal alien at least gave Eric the freedom that he could not get in The Netherlands. He was drafted into the national army as soon as he returned to The Netherlands in July 1993.

The U.S. government could hire a few aliens for some of its temporary jobs, but the laws made no sense. Employers had to check the national origins of every noncitizen that applied for work even tho national origin is a factor for which discrimination was against the law. Congress kept a complete list of national origins that job applicants must not have if they wanted a federal job. The list of national origins that were okay as of 1996 are given next.

Citizens of Argentina, Australia, Bahamas, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, South Korea, Latvia, Lithuania , Luxembourg, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Samoa, countries of the former Soviet Union, Spain, Thailand, Tobago, Trinidad, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States, Uruguay, and Venezuela could apply for some jobs. Refugees from Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laotia who entered the United States after January 1, 1975 and students from China who were in the United States before April 11, 1990 were two other categories considered okay by Congress.

Africans could not be hired. Immigrants from southern Asia were out of luck. Citizens of Russia and Cuba could apply but those from Hungary and Sweden could not. Citizens of many neutral nations could not apply, but those from nations whose armies fought for or against the

United States could. The only real pattern to the list of nations was that the best friends and worst enemies of the United States could apply for jobs.

In 1996, three U.S. citizens and four citizens of other nations applied for a postdoctoral research position that I supervised. This job was temporary with funding for only two years and only those from the national origin groups above were welcome. In fact, the law said that many of those from other nations should be preferred over the U.S. citizens of equal merit. Members of minority racial or ethnic groups were supposed to get affirmative action. The applicants from Mexico and Uruguay probably were Hispanic. Three other applicants from China probably were Oriental. The laws of the U.S. gave such foreigners either extra credit or exclusion; never equality.

Because this job was located in Maryland, state laws regarding equal opportunity and affirmative action also were enforced. The Maryland state government said that foreigners must be paid salaries similar to those that citizens received. When highly skilled noncitizens received job offers, the state often forced the federal government to pay them \$5,000 to \$10,000 per year more than the salary advertised. When both citizens and noncitizens applied, the bureaucrat might be tempted to hire a citizen just to save money and avoid trouble.

Being fair wasn't easy for me as a bureaucrat and a supervisor. One of the Chinese applicants had worked in Canada and by law had to be rejected. The remaining six applications were ranked on merit alone (without affirmative action) by five scientists and the highest ranked applicant, a Chinese citizen, was hired.

The next year, this temporary position was made permanent due to an increase in funding. But my temporary employee, Yang, was not given a chance to continue his own research project. Instead, an American citizen was hired permanently even tho all five scientists agreed that Yang was more skilled. Yang appealed to our Congressman but she agreed that he couldn't keep his own job. At this time, Yang had lived in the United States for 14 years and paid federal taxes for 10 years.

## VISITORS

The goal of the U.S. Department of Justice and the INS was to separate people into several classes: those who could work in the United States, those who could visit, and a lower form of people who couldn't get near America. I met one of those lower forms at a meeting in Canada in 1997. Victor worked at the University of Edinburgh in the United Kingdom and did genetic research very similar to my own. Often my boss and I asked him to check our research for accuracy before we published it. In 1996, he wanted to visit my office to discuss his Ph.D. research and sent me the following letter.

September 25, 1996

Dear Dr. VanRaden

I am sure of the dates that I can be with you now. I plan to arrive in Washington on the 3rd of December and proceed straight on to your institute. I can stay the rest of the week after which I hope to go on to Canada.

I have been to the American embassy but they will not give me a visa unless I get a letter of invitation from you stating my mission to the US and possible financial support. I will be grateful if you could formally invite me and send the letter by post.

With regards, Victor

By this time, Victor had gone from Edinburgh to London once to fill out the U.S. forms and pay the U.S. application fee. He had to go again and repeat this process after I sent a formal letter asking him to visit. I sent the letter, but not very quickly, because I hate doing paperwork for the INS. The news that came back from Victor surprised me.

November 4, 1996

Dear Dr. VanRaden

I eventually got your letter and re-applied for a US visa.

I am sorry to inform you that despite your letter and the support from Prof. Hill and my department here, I was refused a visitor visa to the USA. This means that I will not be able to visit in December as planned unless there is anything you or any one at your end can do to make the visa officers change their mind. Thank you very much for your assistance. I will remain in touch by e-mail as much as possible.

Yours sincerely, Victor

Victor was from Nigeria, and that was his only “problem.” He was friendly, skilled, and highly educated. The INS, by comparison, seemed rude, stupid, and backward. I was happy that Victor got past the British border guards to attend his university and past the Canadian border guards to attend a meeting. Visiting shouldn’t be illegal whether people are rude or friendly, stupid or skilled, backward or highly educated. For hundreds of years, people have moved from Europe to the United States. Now, Nigerians should have a right to migrate.

Another scientist from Nigeria, Sanya, also asked to visit my office in 1997 for a sabbatical of up to one year. I explained the rules and the trouble that Victor had and warned that the United States could be less civilized than Nigeria. This was the response:

October 10, 1997

Hi Paul, I read your mail after my arrival from a trip to the northern part of the country. It was very stimulating reading your comments on the attitude of official Washington. Yes, might is always right with respect to human beings. That is why the weak were forced to come to

America against their wish at one time and at this modern era forced to stay away from America... This is really a cruel world!

With very warm regards.

Yours sincerely, Sanya

## CITIZENS

The march toward free migration took a long step backward in 1986. The government of the land of the free began to punish its citizens for hiring citizens of other nations. A memorandum from the University of Wisconsin, where I began work in 1987, explained the rules of this new law to me. Even in a memo announcing that opportunity would be taken away from many people, the university still claimed to be an equal opportunity employer.

U.S. citizens cannot just go to work anymore. First, they must fill out permission forms from the federal government. If you don't believe in permission to work, you should mark "Filed under protest" and "Ashamed that we discriminate against other people" when signing the citizenship form. I filed under protest twice when beginning work: for the University of Wisconsin in 1987 and for USDA in 1988. Individual protests for the rights of noncitizens are easy. You'll feel good, and your boss will still give you the job.

## Chapter 10

### NEWS ABOUT MIGRATION

Each day, many people try to migrate, and many other people try to stop them. We don't hear about most of these contests, but when the most important events happen we may see them on the evening news. These events can give us a picture of current migration and the hurdles that migrants must jump over. The number of stories shown on T.V. may reflect how important immigration is in American society. The faces in these stories can show us who is creating immigration problems, who is solving them, and who is affected by the laws that result. We can learn from current events whether limits on immigration are just a theoretical or an actual problem in our world.

News stories about immigration may reach you through major newspapers, magazines, radio, or T.V. In this book chapter, the news stories as seen on television are summarized. The national and world news programs on T.V. broadcast the same stories to millions of people across the United States. Newspapers, magazines, and radio may have more detailed stories, but those sources are not as uniform.



People may miss much of this news because they are too busy or too lazy or have more interesting things to do. People who watch or hear or read the news every day still may forget most of it very quickly. While writing this book, I began to make quick notes about the immigration stories in the news. In May of 1993, the process became more formal. Since then, each story was summarized in one sentence with the date and network recorded. Now anyone can read and remember the war against immigrants as seen on the evening news.

Immigration makes the news when new laws are passed, old laws fail, a well-known person moves, or many ordinary people migrate. Large, rapid migrations may be caused by world wars or just a civil war. Some of these migrants really hope to leave their nations, but most hope to return home when the fighting stops. Many lives may be saved if people have a right to migrate during wars, famines, or other sudden trouble, but temporary refugees are not the main focus of this book. Most of the news stories selected for this chapter deal with the right to migrate during peace.

Some of the news was not recorded because I couldn't watch all of the network news shows every night. Depending on what time I got home from work, I usually watched one of the three half-hour shows (ABC, CBS, or NBC) and often also the News Hour on PBS. Only about 1 day per week did I miss all these, and then I tried to fill the gaps with later news programs (CNN or FOX). Beginning in 1996, more and better stories from the rest of the world became available when the world news from London (ITN or BBC) was shown on Washington T.V.

The rest of this chapter contains the [quick summaries of the news reports](#) that I saw from May 1993 to December 1999. Complete accuracy of this material is hoped for but not guaranteed.

## Chapter 11

### EDITORIALS FOR MIGRATION

Newspapers bring news from around the world to the doorsteps of each community. By their editorials, newspapers can also help to uplift the community and shape the world. One newspaper, the *Wall Street Journal*, for many years supported the immigrant and raised the issue of the right to migrate.

In 1984, the year when Orwell predicted that governments might completely control people's lives, the *Wall Street Journal* proposed that the United States take the opposite approach and pass a Constitutional amendment: "There shall be open borders."

Every year for a decade or more, editors of the *Wall Street Journal* asked their readers to support the right to migrate. This goal is still worthy, and more editors should support this cause. The *Journal* did not yet give me permission to include the text of its editorials in this book. Microfilm copies of the *Journal* are available at many major libraries and so the editorials are easily available if you are interested.

The best ones, if you are interested, are "In Praise of Huddled Masses," July 3, 1984, and "Free Markets Except When It Comes To People," June 1, 1983. Twenty-one editorials from

the *Wall Street Journal* are listed in this chapter to demonstrate how the right to migrate has been promoted to millions of readers in the past. The editorial text is available [here](#).

**Table 8. *Wall Street Journal* Editorials** (Eastern Edition)

<b>EDITORIAL TITLE</b>	<b>YEAR</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>PAGE: COLUMN</b>
Re John and Yoko	1973	March 28	18:1
The Illegal Alien Non-Problem	1976	June 18	8:1
Reflections on Independence	1978	July 6	12:1
Refugees and Reason	1981	August 24	12:1
Free Markets Except When It Comes to People	1983	June 1	31:4
Invite the Palestinians to America	1983	August 31	20:4
In Praise of Huddled Masses	1984	July 3	24:1
Wetbacks as People	1985	December 30	12:1
The Rekindled Flame (1)	1986	July 3	16:1
The Next Hundred	1986	July 8	28:1
Bus People	1987	February 26	22:1
Let Them In	1988	June 2	22:1
The Rekindled Flame (2)	1989	July 3	A6:1
Reagan: Tear Down This Wall	1989	November 10	A8:4
A National Identity Card	1990	April 3	A20:1
The Rekindled Flame (3)	1990	July 3	A10:1
Vietnam's Vanishing Refugees	1991	October 9	A14:1
Fleeing to America	1991	November 27	A8:1
U.S. Open to All	1992	September 11	A18:1
All Politics is Global	1992	November 25	A12:1
Closing Europe's Doors Will Have a Cost	1993	June 7	A15:3

## Chapter 12

### HOW TO MIGRATE

Paths can help us to find our way. For birds, or wildebeasts, or whales, migration is easy because parents show offspring which way to go. Our parents may not know which way is best for us because for generations migration was limited or illegal for them. Today, we can end these old laws, start new paths of migration, and teach the next generation that they have a right to move even if others try to stop them. We can move forward one step at a time until our toes get stepped on. We can try to make migration easier in the future.

#### PEOPLE

Some people already know where to go, but they can't get there. Their plans to migrate may have to wait until they 1) save more money, 2) learn another language, and 3) get permission. After solving these problems, life in their new home might still be lonely if family or friends don't want to go or can't go along. At times, too many people try to migrate to the same place at the same time and step on each other's toes. If nobody went anywhere, then no toes would get sore and no laws would get broken. People could just sit where they are and watch the wildebeasts run, the whales swim, and the birds fly over.

Many people don't want to go anywhere and might not know what they're missing. Such people may want to improve their own place instead of discovering a better place to live. Until 1492, few people dreamed of leaving their homes and going to America. Five hundred years later, the rest of the world has discovered much about America from television, or music, or textbooks, or American exports, or American tourists, or American soldiers, or family and friends who visited America and took pictures, or relatives who live in America and send back letters. Billions of people may have learned by now that life is hard where they are and easy where I am.

A few people don't want to migrate because they have carefully studied the map of the whole earth and they know that they sit on the best spot. Such people may not like the right to migrate because they fear that other people will study the map of earth and want to move to the best place, too. Then, the best places might become only average. The average person would choose not to stay in the worst place. Each person on earth could have "a fair chance in the race of life," as Lincoln called for. The babies born far from the finish line would not always lose if the rules were made a little more fair.

#### VOTES

To change the laws about migration, we should vote. The numbers that follow show how many people would vote for or against the right to migrate if everyone understood the issue and voted. These numbers are not based on sample-resample theory or latitudinal and longitudinal surveys

but instead are based on the “how I would vote if I were in your shoes” principle. The vote totals show that the right to migrate would pass.

The voters around the globe differ widely in their support for free migration. Voting districts such as North America and Australia with low population and high income will vote to stop migration to preserve what they have. The poorer districts such as Africa and China will vote “yes” for a chance to emigrate and won’t worry that a few rich people might immigrate. When each person’s vote is counted, the poor and crowded win. Free migration already may be favored by 75% of earth’s citizens.

The people living in America, Australia, Europe, etc., believe in democracy and thus they will respect the voters of the world. Then, we will have the right to travel and to move and to work in peace in the places we choose. The old rules that made us stop will be replaced by new rules that let us go. Any place can be yours if you don't step on too many toes on your way or when you get there. Save some money, buy a ticket, find a place to stay, and make yourself at home. That's how to migrate.

### WHERE TO MIGRATE

The last question is where to migrate. Migration is much easier to places where people already live. Migration to large cities is easier than to rural areas, or deserts, or rainforests, or the earth's poles, or to nearby planets. Ask a travel agent for details.

**Table 9. Worldwide Votes for the Right To Migrate.**

Voting District	Yes	No	Yes
	(millions)		%
South and Central America	240	80	75
North America	10	270	3
Western Europe	5	295	2
Eastern Europe, etc.	340	40	90
Africa	475	25	95
China	1,100	100	90
Other Asia	1,500	300	85
Australia	0	17	1
<b>WORLD</b>	<b>3,670</b>	<b>1,127</b>	<b>75</b>

## Chapter 13

### IMMIGRATION TEST

1 How many Chinese immigrants would it take to fill the United States?

China is full, but not quite as full as Japan or Egypt. If all of the people of China, Japan, Egypt, Bangladesh, and Viet Nam immigrated to the United States, this nation still would not be as full as those nations are now.

2 The ship Mayflower brought the first Pilgrims to America in 1620. Did the ship carry any illegal aliens?

The ship carried 102 illegal aliens and no other passengers. A baby was born on the ship after reaching American water and she was the only Pilgrim not deportable under native law.

3 Did Ferdinand Magellan carry a Spanish passport with him on his trip around the earth?

On the first half of his world tour, Magellan was a Portuguese citizen. On the second half of his world tour, Magellan was a Spanish citizen. He carried no passport or visa to protect himself from immigration officials. Instead, he carried a gun.

4 Who owned the land that Napoleon sold to Jefferson in 1801?

The natives owned North America and never sold it. Before Lewis and Clark explored western North America, no French citizen or U.S. citizen had seen the Louisiana Purchase. The native Americans living there couldn't remember giving or selling their land to France. Instead, maybe the natives should have done business directly with Jefferson. Maybe they could have sold him the moon in exchange for ownership of Venus and Mars.

5 Is it against the law to inhabit an uninhabited island?

Most islands are claimed by someone. If you discover an island where no one lives, you too can claim to own it and to govern it. See Gilligan's Island for more information.

6 Did the astronauts carry U.S. passports with them on trips to the moon?

A passport weighs several grams. NASA scientists calculated that the value of passports was not as great as the cost of carrying them, so the astronauts went to the moon without passports.

7 If a woman gives birth while traveling from country A to B, will her child be deported from country B or allowed to stay there illegally?

The woman can be fined \$1000 or jailed for bringing an illegal alien into country B. While the mother is in jail, the baby can be adopted by a good family anywhere in the world.

8 If a husband from country A and wife from country B stay too long in country C, to which country will they be deported?

The husband will be allowed to stay in a men's prison and the wife in a women's prison in country C for as many years as it takes to become a legal resident of country C.

9 How many letters must Haitian and American penpals write to each other before they can visit each other?

An American can visit Haiti without writing any letters first. A Haitian can write many letters to America but may never get permission to visit.

10 If you were born in hell, would it be a sin to try to escape and move to heaven?

Once every 1000 years, even Satan himself is supposed to get a chance to get out of hell. [Revelations 20:7 Holy Bible]

11 If the German people are happy that the Berlin Wall is gone, and the Chinese people now use their Great Wall to bring tourists in instead of keep them out, should the Mexican people keep parts of the wall on their border or tear it down?

They should do what Reagan did. They should ask Gorbachev to tear down the wall. Unfortunately, Gorbachev didn't tear down any walls. The East Germans had to do that for themselves.

## Chapter 14

### SUMMARY

Most of us already believe that we have a right to migrate, and free migration is a popular idea. Movies, songs, poems, articles, editorials, and speeches that call for free migration are listed as examples. A few immigrants tell their stories of moving to America and a few bureaucrats explain why the idea of equal opportunity does not cross national borders. A review of television news stories shows that the fight between immigrants and governments at national borders has become violent.

Immigration brings peace, not war. When immigrants come to a nation in peace, the government that stops them and steals their freedom becomes our enemy. The citizens of a nation may decide to sit still, but their national government must let the rest of us move. Free speech lets us talk about a better life, but free migration lets us walk, or run, or drive, or fly, or cruise to a place where life is better.

Humans may migrate if they want to. Wild animals migrate because they have to. Every year, mammals run, fish swim, and birds fly from one nation to another to escape from bad weather and predators. Animals look for new food and new nests as the seasons change. For them, migration is not a march toward death. Migration is a sign of life.

People need to migrate because good sources of food, shelter, clothing, and jobs may be far away. Some nations have many nice places to live while other nations have little to offer. The land area needed to support one average American citizen must be shared by nine citizens in China. Farmland is hard to move whereas people can move easily. Each nation could support an equal share of people only if two billion of us move. In the past, most migrants were from Europe. Today, 200 million Chinese immigrants and 470 million total immigrants should move to America to fill the empty land.

The race, religion, language, and skills of an immigrant may differ from the average citizen's. Immigrants and citizens may hate each other and both should be put in jail or fined if they hurt others. Citizens hurt immigrants by kicking them out of one nation and forcing them to stay in another. Immigrants do not hurt citizens just by traveling, working, and living in more than one nation.

If you want to move from your nation to mine, I won't stop you. If I want to leave my nation and come to yours, let me visit. Let me stay. Let me be where I choose to be. I have a right to migrate. You have a right to migrate.

## **The Right To Migrate** by Paul VanRaden

### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Paul VanRaden lived in the United States while writing the *The Right To Migrate*. He was born and raised in Illinois, an Indian word meaning "no whites allowed." His ancestors were white and decided to immigrate anyway. They came from Europe by ship during the 1800's and moved into Illinois as illegal aliens. Paul's ancestors were poor, but the government of the aliens (located in Washington, DC) was kind and gave them welfare payments of prime Illinois farmland. The government got this land by being unkind to the Indians and charging them a property tax of nearly 100%.

The VanRaden family failed to learn the native language and spoke only in foreign languages such as German, Dutch, and English. Instead of blending in with the American natives, his family kept their European looks and customs for 150 years. The author's ancestors treated the natives as second-class citizens, or worse. The author hopes the illegal aliens of today will treat him as a friend and an equal.

Paul promotes immigration not just because of high moral principles or to be good to other humans. His own relatives and friends might profit from immigration. The value of his family's farms and the crops they produce will increase if consumers move from Phnom Penh to Peoria or from Shanghai to Chicago. His friends' and neighbors' houses and his own house might increase in value. Americans may profit more than anyone from related investment opportunities such as building more houses, schools, grocery stores, and other businesses to exploit the new immigrants. Some of Paul's closest relatives work in health care, engineering, banking, and churches, and demand for all these services will rise when individuals again can move freely from the Shannon valley of Ireland to Shannon, IL, or from Germany to German Valley, IL, like his ancestors did.

The author's own income may increase if millions of new taxpayers immigrate. Then, the federal government will have more money to spend on Paul's research. In 1995, the author was named the best young scientist in USDA's Agricultural Research Service.

With more people in the United States, agricultural research might be seen to be as important here as it is in other cultures. The author's college degrees in agriculture might be looked up to instead of down on. For the record, Paul has Doctor of Philosophy (1986) and Master of Science (1984) degrees from Iowa State University and a Bachelor of Science (1981) degree from the University of Illinois.

The author looks forward to a very positive reaction to this book. People in North America, Europe, and Australia might not like it, but many people in Asia, Africa, and South America might be moved by *The Right To Migrate*.

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## THANK YOU

Learning about migration was easy for me; I didn't have to move or memorize any other language. The foreign students in Illinois, Iowa, and Wisconsin told me in plain English how unfair the immigration laws really are.

Rita Simon encouraged me to write on this topic. Suzanne Hubbard helped me to improve the style of writing. The musicians that recorded immigration songs inspired me over and over again while I wrote. The writers for the Rockford Area Literacy Council deserve thanks for learning English and sharing their experiences.

Two of the pictures that follow are sold as postcards: "Ms. Liberty at High Tide" from Argonaut Press, 109 E. Lakeside Street, Madison, WI 53715, and "Black Hawk Statue" from Photo Views, 112 North Main, Galena, IL 61036.

My family, friends, and a few trained specialists did their best to keep me sane. A few others were sane enough to recognize the right to migrate long before I did. I thank you, the readers, if you can bring this idea to life.

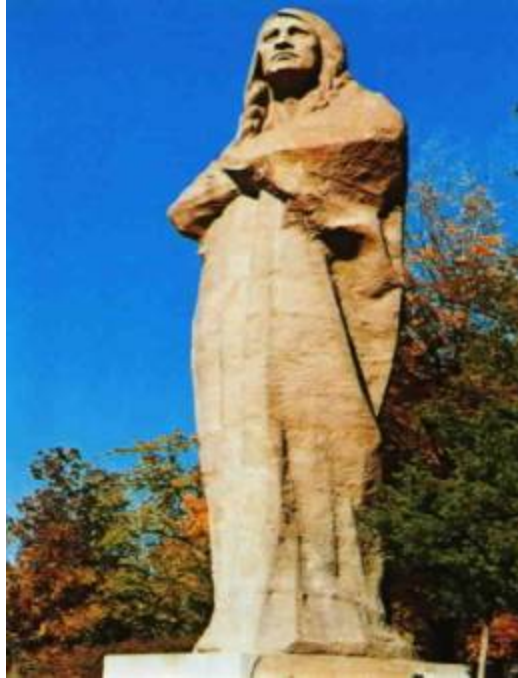
### Picture the right to migrate:



This statue in Madison, Wisconsin is under-employed because a French statue took her job.



Paul is happy that this French statue in New York was not deported.



Chief Blackhawk donated his land in northern Illinois to Paul's ancestors.



Paul hitched a ride on this boat from Haiti to America in 2002.



Paul waits at the airport for more arrivals of immigrants to America.

## Comments from Reviewers on The Right To Migrate, by Paul VanRaden

Advance copies of The Right To Migrate were sent to about 30 scholars all over the world. Here are some of the comments received from them:

**“I was very glad to hear of your book being out at last.”**

**Dr. Jeong Koo Lee, Kangwon National University,  
South Korea**

**“I have finished ... The Right To Migrate. Very good thinking, Paul”**

**Dr. Luiz Fries, GenSys Consultores Associados,  
Brazil**

**“I read through your book ... then I understand your mind deeply.”**

**Dr. Sompop Kassumma, Ministry of Agriculture,  
Thailand**

**“I have been reading and reading your book further and further ... and now I am completely amazed at your inner thought and feelings.”**

**Dr. Fazlul Bhuiyan, Bangladesh Agricultural University,  
Bangladesh**

**“Many thanks for the book, I read several parts and found it well written and quite unique.”**

**Dr. Georgios Banos, Aristotle University,  
Greece**

**“Thank you for your mail and comforting news about your book. The world will be great without so much fuss about visas.”**

**Dr. Victor Olori, University of Edinburgh,  
United Kingdom**

**“GREAT Poetry!!!!”**

**Miriam McKenna, University of Southern California,  
United States**

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