



The Pros & Cons of Immigration

By Brianna Corona



What is Immigration?

- According to *Britannica* it is the “process through which individuals become permanent residents or citizens of another country”.
- Immigration is a new beginning, a chance at life, a last resort, and much more to immigrants.

Separation of Families

- Every year, millions of immigrant families are separated from each other.
- Young children are the people who suffer the most from the separation of families because many times they are left alone.
- The act of leaving children alone, without any family, causes life-long mental problems due to the trauma.



To start off,
let's talk about
the negative
aspects of
immigration...





Immigration makes America look bad

- It is difficult for other countries to take America seriously when the immigration problem is not being fixed.
- For example, “Whereas if this menace is not checked it will eventually undermine and destroy respect for the law, orderly government, every patriotic impulse, and the loyal character of American citizenship, as well as disorganize our industrial and economic structure...” ("Should U. S. Adopt More Liberal Immigration Policy? Con").
- Immigration makes America look vulnerable because it seems as though no one takes the government serious.
- This can negatively impact how other nations view America.

Immigration causes Overpopulation

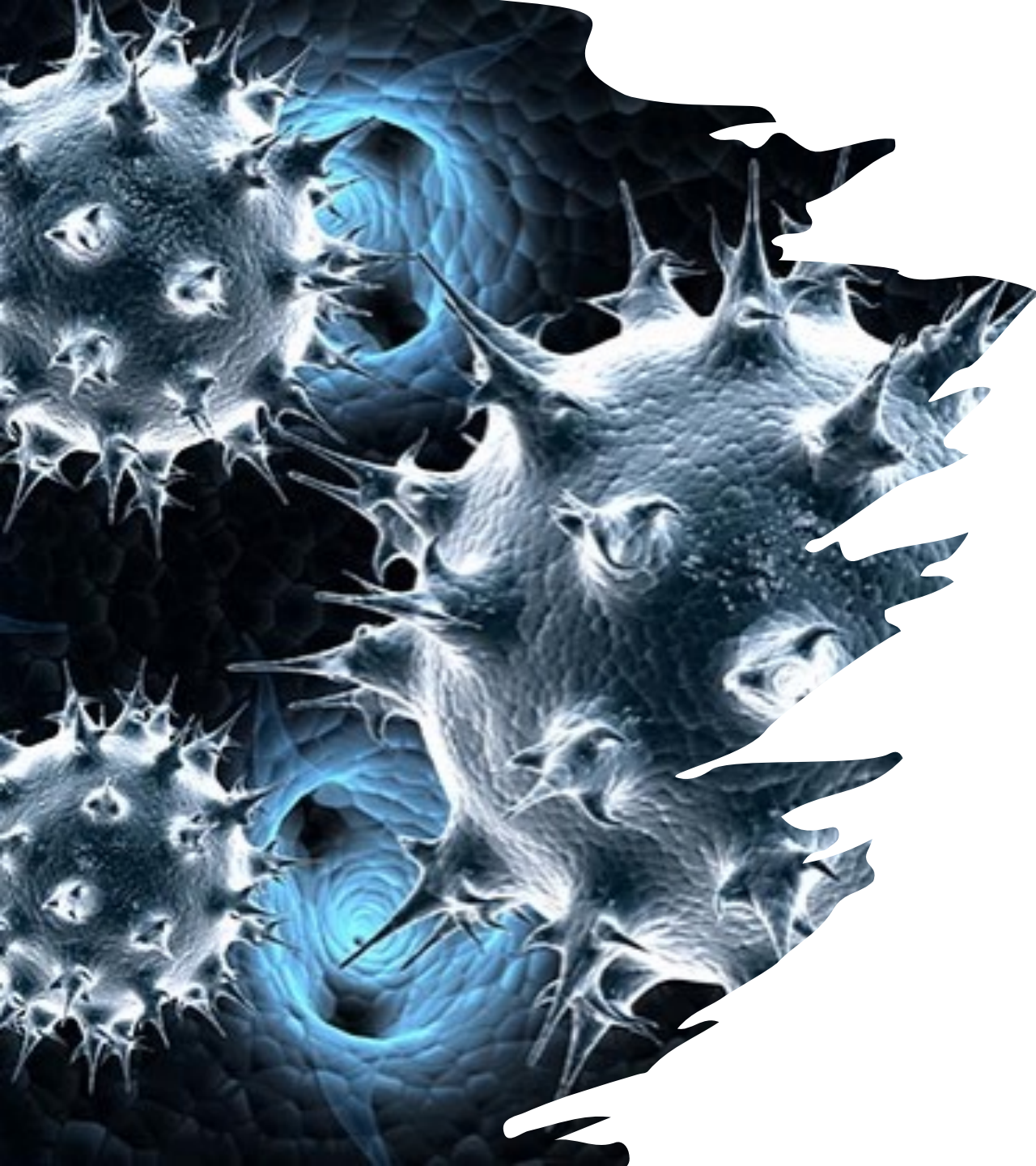
- Overpopulation causes many serious problems like lack of supplies, climate change, poverty, and crime.
- According to Abby Budiman, “The U.S. foreign-born population reached a record 44.8 million in 2018.”
- Immigrants take resources from citizens. This can be dangerous for American families.



Immigration causes an uneven balance



- Immigration creates a huge gap between the rich and the poor. This creates an uneven balance.
- According to Roy Beck, “Studies by Harvard's Jeffrey G. Williamson have found that during those same periods of high immigration, the United States became less of a middle-class society and experienced its highest degree of economic disparity--just as is happening during the current period of high immigration.”
- The ideal society is a middle-class one, but immigration makes it difficult to maintain that society.



Immigrants bring diseases

- When immigrants cross the border, they bring in diseases from their countries. These diseases can be dangerous to American families.
- Louise Gaille stated, “Disease-causing agents transfer across borders with immigrants, which can have a negative impact on the local population that may not be regularly exposed to certain conditions.”
- These diseases would never be a problem if it was not for immigrants. This issue could easily be avoided.

Immigration is not cheap

- Taxpayers and the government must pay for immigrant needs.
- In fact, “For the Department of Homeland Security, which administers U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, to ensure that no immigrant represents a threat to the country requires expenditures at several stages, including background checks, personal interviews and processing citizenship and naturalization testing for new immigrants” (Dennis Hartman).
- It is unfair that U.S. citizens have no choice but to support immigrants.
- Immigrants should pay for themselves.



Now, let's talk
about the Pros of
immigration...

Immigrants start businesses

- Immigrants are not afraid to start new, small businesses in America.
- Authors Furman and Gray state, “According to the Small Business Administration, immigrants are 30 percent more likely to start a business in the United States than non-immigrants, and 18 percent of all small business owners in the United States are immigrants.”
- New businesses boost the U.S. economy!
- New businesses also create more job opportunities.



Immigrants pay their taxes

- Despite the common belief that immigrants live in America for free, immigrants pay their taxes.
- Suketu Mehta states “According to the Social Security Administration, undocumented immigrants paid \$13 billion in payroll taxes in 2010 and received only \$1 billion in benefits.”
- Immigrants give more than they receive.

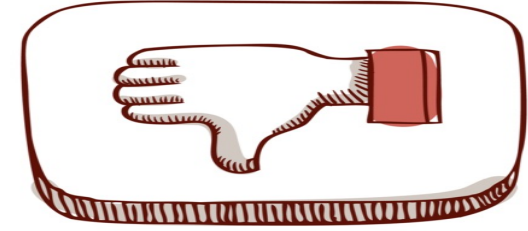
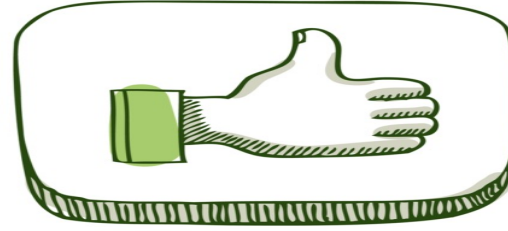




Immigrants are in essential careers

- Immigrants are not afraid to get into difficult fields that require vigorous schooling and education.
- According to Pia Orrenius, “Forty-four percent of medical scientists are foreign born, for example, as are 42 percent of computer software developers. Immigrant workers are also overrepresented among college professors, engineers, mathematicians, nurses, doctors and dentists, to name a few.”
- These careers choices benefit Americans, and it proves that immigrants are willing to put in the work in order to be successful.
- This shows what immigrants are capable of.

Summary



Pros

- Immigrants start businesses.
- Immigrants pay their taxes.
- Immigrants study in essential fields like medicine and teaching.

Cons

- Immigration makes America seem vulnerable.
- Immigration causes overpopulation.
- Immigration creates a huge gap between the rich and poor.
- Immigrants bring in diseases.
- Immigration is expensive.

Author's opinion

- I personally, think that the benefits of immigration outweigh the negatives of immigration. Although I was born in the United states, many of my loved ones are immigrants. I believe that it is unfair that immigrants are treated as anything other than real people. Despite that immigrants go through so much, most of them do not give up and move ahead. Immigrants are generally a benefit to America.



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