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***Immigration as a Condition of Human  
Success: The Contribution of  
Immigrants to the Economic Power.  
The Case of the American Immigration***

A Dissertation presented in partial requirement for the fulfilment of the Master's Degree  
in Literature and Civilization

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## Dedication

*To my dear parents*

*To the memory of my dearest aunt*

*To my dear brothers: Atef, Salah, and Hamza*

*To my dear sisters: Abir, Maïssa, and Djihan.*

*To all my beloved relatives.*

*To my beloved classmates: Merieme, Salima, and Nesrine.*

*To my close friends: Selma, Amal, Samiha, Kadidja, and Hadjer.*

*To every person who loves Samah.*

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I would also like to express my gratitude to my best friends: Merieme, Salima, and Nesrine for their support in hard times.

I am also so grateful to every person who, in a way or another, helped me.

## **Abstract**

We try through this study to find a relationship between immigration to the United States and its success as a nation and economy. The New World witnessed a continuous process of immigration which started from its discovery by Cristopher Columbus till the present time. Immigration was the cornerstone of the making of America, it shaped its history and became one of its fundamental characteristics which led it to be what it is today.

In this investigation, we will try to answer the following question : is immigration an act of success in the American economy? Immigration to the United States represents its whole history, immigrants moved to the New World from all over the world during different periods of time because of religious, political, and economic reasons. Those different newcomers wanted to improve their lives and hoped for better future for their children. They could coexist despite all their differences and they succeeded in creating an exceptional and powerful nation.

The United States becomes a great nation with a powerful economy thanks to immigrants who are a basic ingredient of its economy. In this country, immigrants represent the labor force, they have also a great influence on the labor market, wages, and taxation. Thus, we can say that the United States benefited from the immigration process economically. This benefit pushed the American government to reform the immigration system rather than to prevent it despite all its problems and this proves the validity of this hypothesis.

**Key words:** immigration- immigrants- success- the American economy.

## ملخص

تحاول هذه الدراسة أن تربط بين عملية الهجرة في أمريكا و نجاحها كأمة بصفة عامة و نجاحها الاقتصادي بصفة خاصة. إن عملية الهجرة هي عملية متواصلة شهدتها الولايات المتحدة الأمريكية منذ اكتشافها من قبل كريستوفر كولمبوس إلى غاية يومنا هذا. وكما هو معروف للعلن تعتبر الهجرة مقوما أساسيا في بناء الولايات المتحدة وخاصية مميزة لها و دفعها إلى أن تكون كما هي عليه الآن.

لقد حاولنا في هذا البحث أن نجيب على الإشكالية المطروحة المتمثلة في "هل عملية الهجرة عامل نجاح في الاقتصاد الأمريكي؟" لقد تطرقنا أولا لتاريخ الهجرة في الولايات المتحدة حيث كانت هي حجر الأساس في بنائها. إن المهاجرين اللذين اتجهوا إلى العالم الجديد جاؤوا من جميع أنحاء العالم في أوقات مختلفة و نظرا لأسباب مختلفة تمثلت في أسباب دينية سياسية اقتصادية وغيرها. لقد كان لهؤلاء المهاجرين نفس الهدف و هو تحسين حياتهم و حياة أبنائهم لقد جاؤوا وكلهم آمال و تحديات لتحقيق ما لم يستطيعوا تحقيقه في مواطنهم الأصلية. لقد استطاعوا أن يتعايشوا مع بعضهم البعض رغم كل الفروقات الموجودة بينهم مؤسسين بذلك دولة من عدم و التي أصبحت قوة عظمى حاليا.

إن عظمة الولايات المتحدة الأمريكية تتمثل بشكل كبير في قوة اقتصادها حيث يلعب المهاجرون دورا كبيرا فيه لكونهم جزءا لا يتجزأ منه. فهم يعتبرون اليد العاملة التي تعتبر أساسا لأي اقتصاد في العالم. إضافة إلى ذلك فللمهاجرين تأثير كبير في سوق العمل الأجور و الضرائب. لذلك يمكننا القول إن الولايات المتحدة الأمريكية تستفيد كثيرا من عملية الهجرة بدليل أن الحكومة مؤخرا تسعى إلى إصلاح نظام الهجرة بدلا من إلغائه رغم كل مشاكله و هذا ما يؤكد صحة هذه الفرضية.

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## Acronyms

USA: United States of America

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## **Introduction**

The United States of America did not emerge as a nation until about 175 years after its establishment as a part of the British Empire. At that time, the country witnessed an intense influx of immigrants who entered it, Americans viewed immigrants as a necessary resource for an expanding country. Immigration in the United States shaped its history and became the cornerstone of building the nation. This process started from the early days and did not stop till today.

Immigration made the country an exceptional nation because it is the first human experience of building a nation with newcomers. This process in the United States is an aspect of the American life, it shaped the American identity and mentality. It had a great influence on society, culture, politics, education as well as economy which is the field of our study.

In this dissertation, we aim at linking between four terms: the United States, Immigration, American economy, and success then to show that there is a relationship between immigration and success in the American economy by answering our research question which is as follows: Is immigration an act of success in the American economy? We suggest as hypotheses that immigration is beneficial for the American economy, it does not take away or reduce jobs of domestic workers, and it increases the wages. It increases also the supply of labor in economy. Furthermore, immigrants participate in paying taxes.

In this research, we divide the work into two chapters, the first one is about a brief history of immigration to the United States. We start by the definition of immigration, then we talk about Immigration as an American value, after that we move to examine the people who came to this country. We investigate also the Golden Door in which we

focus on Ellis Island and the Statue of Liberty and their role at that time. Then we talk about the major groups of immigrants. In addition, we deal with illegal immigration as a serious problem that faces the American government, then we conclude by having a look at the American rules and landmarks of immigration .

The second chapter will be devoted to the study of the role of immigrants in the United States economy. We deal with many elements starting by defining the term success, then we talk about success as an American notion. Moreover, we talk about immigrants in the American economy, their impact on labor market, wages, and taxes as well as their economic benefits. Finally, we try to prove our idea by giving and studying two real examples of successful immigrants which are Rockefeller who is the first American oil company owner and the first billionaire in the world and Henry Ford who is the founder of Ford Motor Company which is one of the most famous and important companies in the world nowadays .

## **Part one:**

### **The Research Methodology**

#### **The Research Question:**

-Is immigration an act of success in the American economy ?

This principal question leads us to ask another questions :

-How did the United States benefit from immigration economically?

-What made immigration special in the United States rather than any other country ?

- What does success represent in the United States?

- How can immigration be linked to success ?

#### **Limitation of the Study:**

In this paper we want to link immigration process with the value of success and know how can immigration become an act of success. We choose the case of the American immigration which is the most important case in history. Moreover, we limit our investigation to the economic side because the United States of America is the most powerful nation in the world thanks to its economy and immigration. Thus, we aim at knowing the role of immigrants in the American economy and how can they be beneficial to it?

#### **The Hypotheses:**

-The United States may be energized from immigration economically.

-Immigration may increase the wages and be beneficial in the fiscal side.

-If immigrants change, look and hope for a better life, they may achieve their goals and become successful and help the economy of the country.

- Immigration is interrelated with success in the United States.

### **The Importance of the Topic:**

Immigration is very important in American history , it is the cornerstone in the making of America. The United States succeeded in benefiting from the newcomers in the right way, it became a dream and an obsession for many people. Immigration phenomenon is one of the most colorful chapters in the American history which becomes today a subject of considerable debate.

We want to know if immigration is positive for the United States economy and for one's life improvement.

### **Aims and Objectives:**

In this study, we aimed simply at answering some recurrent questions

-Why is immigration related to success and wealth in the United States rather than any country?

-Why did America receive immigrants? And why are its doors always open?

-How can immigrants coexist in spite of their differences?

-How can immigration be an element of the economic success and power?

We want to show that there is a relationship between immigration and success , in addition to prove that immigration makes America a successful and unique nation.

### **The Method of Study:**

We used the historical and descriptive methods, they seem to be the appropriate for the type of the research.

We divided the work into two chapters. The first chapter deals with a historical background of immigration to the United States. While we study the role of immigration in the American economy in the second chapter.

## **Part two**

### **Chapter one**

#### **A Brief History of Immigration to the United States**

##### **1.1. Introduction:**

The tide of immigration that set toward the shores of North America during the early years of the seventeenth was incredible movement of mankind upon the surface of the earth. The United States history of immigration began in the days not too long after the Columbus discovery of the Americas which paved the way to the newcomers. They were different individuals who came from different countries, during different periods of times and because of different reasons. All of these circumstances made the United States of America a land of differences. Immigration has always been a controversial subject which each generation of immigrants fearing the effects of the next generation of immigrants.

##### **1.2. What is Immigration?**

According to the Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary, *"Immigration is the process of coming to live permanently in a country that it is not your own"*<sup>1</sup>

Furthermore, the Cambridge Advanced Learner's Dictionary defines this term as *"When someone comes to live in a different country"*<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary, p. 648.

<sup>2</sup> Cambridge Advanced Learner's Dictionary, p. 625.

According to the previous definitions, we can say that immigration is the notion of movement, the process of changing the place of residence from one country to another for better conditions of life.

### **1.3. Immigration as an American Notion:**

Any researcher in American history or expert in American civilization knows that immigration and American history are interrelated. Both of them are nearly the same. This idea was mentioned by many authors.

There is no country history all over the world has been more closely bound to immigration than that of the United States. During the first fifteen years of the twentieth century alone, over thirteen million immigrants came to the United States, and most of them entered through New York.<sup>1</sup>

The story of immigration represents the story of the American people. More than 75 percent of all the people in history who have ever left their homelands to live in another country have moved to the United States. In the course of its history it has taken in more people from other lands than any other country in the world.<sup>2</sup>

This idea was confirmed by TIMS when she said " *immigration has always been a key to understanding America*".<sup>3</sup> She mentioned that there is no proof that there were any truly indigenous people in North America including even the Indians.<sup>4</sup>

The novelist Herman Melville stated that : "*you can not spill a drop of American blood without spilling the blood of the whole world*".<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Bureau of International Information Programs, U.S. Department of State, An Outline of American History, 2005, p. 200.

<sup>2</sup> Bryn O'Callaghan, An Illustrated History of the USA, Longman, 1990, p. 77.

<sup>3</sup> Melinda TIMS, Perspectives on the Making of America: an introduction to U.S Civilization, Ellipses, 2002, p. 13.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid*, p. 112.

<sup>5</sup> Herman Melville as quoted in Arthur Mann, Making America: the Society and Culture of the United States, the United States Information Agency, 1987, p. 68.

This means that 100% of Americans are immigrants or descendants of immigrants. Thus, we can say that immigration is a typically an American value because the United States is based on immigration which is a continuous process which lasted through its whole history, from the early days until nowadays. The massive influx of newcomers is in fact one of the fundamental characteristics of the United States that makes it a new and unique nation which differs from all the other countries in the world.

#### **1.4. The American Population:**

At one point of time, the president Bill Clinton had said: "*the United States has always been energized by its immigrants population*".<sup>1</sup>

Immigration has been one of the major driving factors when it comes to population growth in the United States which grew rapidly thanks to the increased numbers of newcomers. Immigration helped the United States to become one of the most populated countries in the world.

The United States has the world's third largest population following China and India. The current statistics show that the American population reached 310,300,000 in 2010. The whole world population is about 6,8 billion, the current population of the United States represents a mere 4,5 of the world's population so about one in every twenty people on the planet is a resident of the United States of America.<sup>2</sup>

The American population witnessed a major change, it increased rapidly from one period to another. This is shown in the following census:

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<sup>1</sup> " Immigration Statistics ", April, 25, 2011 , <http://www.buzzle.com/articles/immigration-statistics.html>

<sup>2</sup> Matt Rosenberg, " Current U.S.A Population ", March,02, 2011, <http://geography.about.com/od/obtainpopulationdata/a/uspopulation.htm>

-In 1790, the year of the first census of the American population, there were 3,929,214 Americans.

- By 1900, United States jumped to 75, 994, 575.

- In 1920, the census counted more than a hundred million people 105, 710, 620.

- In 1970, another 100 million people were added to the United States which reached 203 , 302, 031.

- In 2000, the United States population reached 281, 421, 906. After six years, exactly Tuesday October 17, 2006, the American Census Bureau states that the American population reached officially 300 million.<sup>1</sup>

In addition, the U.S. Census Bureau expects the U.S.A. population to grow to reach these estimates over the next few decades:

- 2010 - 309,162,581
- 2020 - 336,031,546
- 2030 - 363,811,435
- 2040 - 392,172,658
- 2043 - 400,527,776 (the year of 400 million)
- 2050 - 420,080,587<sup>2</sup>

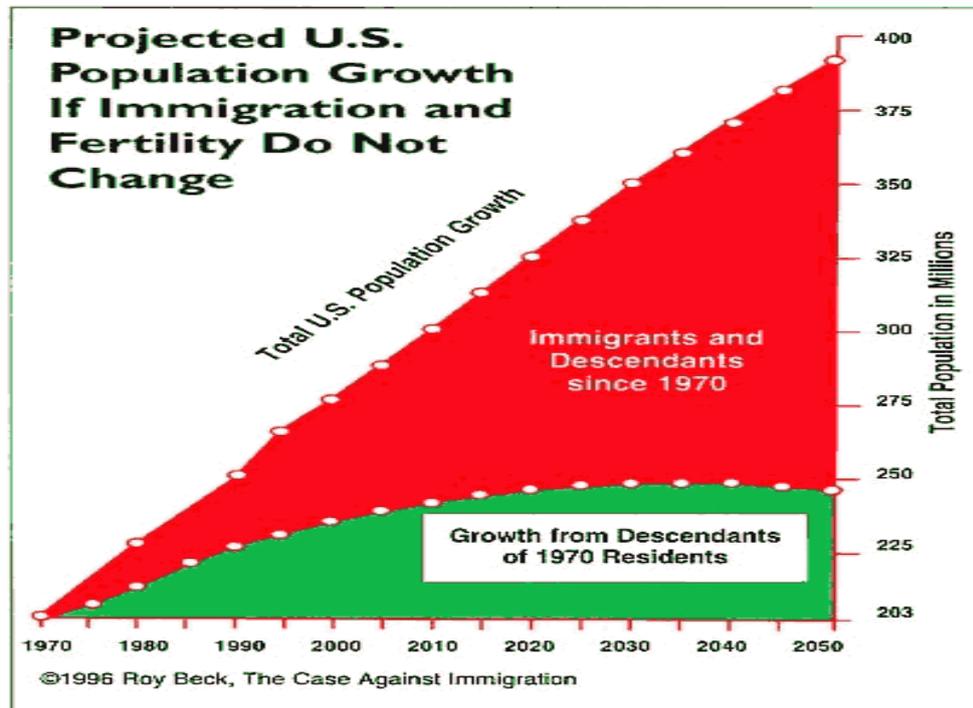
All what we have seen concerning the American population and its statistics is represented in the following figure:

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<sup>1</sup> Ibid.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

**Figure 01: Total U.S. Population Growth<sup>1</sup>**



## **1.5. The First Americans :**

### **1.5.1. The Natives :**

Indians were the first people who reached North America. They almost did so without knowing they had crossed into a new continent.<sup>2</sup>

At that time a bridge of ice joined Asia to American across what is now the Bering Strait. Hunters from Siberia crossed this bridge into Alaska and from there the hunters moved South and East across America, following their primary needs "herbs, buffalo "<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, " Population Numbers, Projections, Graphs and Data ", April, 20, 2011, <http://www.susps.org/overview/numbers.html>

<sup>2</sup> Maldwyn A. Jones, The Limits of Liberty: American History 1607-1980, Oxford University Press, 1983, p. 13.

<sup>3</sup> Bryn O'Callaghan, An Illustrated History of the USA, op, cit, p. 04.

In 1600, there were perhaps one and a half million Indians in the United States. Despite they shared common physical features, they were culturally very varied and different. They took form of tribes and some of these tribes were nomadic while others were sedentary, pacific, some were warlike. They were highly advanced and civilized "Central and South America " . But the tribes of North America were relatively primitive. By 1900 when the whites had occupied the whole continent, there were fewer than 250,000 Indians in the United States. Most of them herded into reservations and their only legacy in the United States is the place names.<sup>1</sup>

### **1. 5.2. The Founders:**

Indeed, the founders are the people who established the thirteen colonies along the Atlantic coast of North America. They were the first who created the customs, laws, and institutions in America to which later arrivals of the first wave of immigrants had to adjust.<sup>2</sup>

The English established their first permanent settlement at Jamestown, Virginia in 1607. Virginia's early residents were so preoccupied with the search for gold and a passage through the continent to Asian markets that the colony floundered until tobacco provided a profitable export. The colony expanded rapidly, although most newcomers wanted to be tobacco plantation owners, not field workers. For that reason, the first black slaves were imported in 1619.<sup>3</sup>

In the 1630s Lord Baltimore established Maryland to the North of Virginia as a haven for Catholics. The colony's economy and population soon resembled Virginia's.

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<sup>1</sup> Ibid.

<sup>2</sup> David Mauk and John Oakland, American Civilization: An Introduction, Routledge: London and New York, 1997, p. 58.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

other colonies such as Georgia and the Carolinas were financed by some English aristocrats. Those colonies also resembled Virginia although their cash crops were rice, tobacco, and indigo. In addition to this , the pilgrims landed in Plymouth, Massachussets and founded the first of the Northern English Colonies in 1620. They escaped religious oppression and the corrupting influence of English society. In the New World, they believed they could create a "city on a hill" to show how English society could be reformed.<sup>1</sup>

The nearest colonies to the South of New England were called the Middle Colonies (New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania). As in New England, most of their people lived by farming as well as the growing numbers of craftsmen and merchants. The people of the Middle Colonies were usually more tolerant than English ones.<sup>2</sup>

In fact , we can not deny the fact that both of the Founders and the Natives are immigrants because they left their original countries and moved to live in the New World. Indeed, the natives were the first who inhabited the New World. After a long time the natives were followed by what we call the founders , they were the first people who established the thirteen colonies which are considered as the cornerstone of the building of America. Thus, they are considered natives and founders rather than immigrants.

## **1.6. The Golden Door :**

The first European immigrants in American history came from England and the Netherlands. They were attracted by reports of great economic opportunities and religious and political freedom, immigrants from many other countries flocked to the

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<sup>1</sup> Ibid, p. 59.

<sup>2</sup> Bryn O'Callaghan, An Illustrated History of the USA, op. cit, p. 21.

United States in increasing numbers, the flow reaching a peak in the years 1892-1924. During the late of the nineteenth century the government operated a special port of entry on Ellis Island; it was operated from 1892 until 1954 and it is now preserved as a part of the Statue of Liberty National Monument. Between 1820 and 1979, the United States admitted more than 49 million.<sup>1</sup>

### **1.6.1. Ellis Island:**

As we have seen, many immigrants left their homes because of their poverty looking for better opportunities in the United States. A huge number of immigrants wanted to enter the United States in the late of 1800s, the government at that time found some difficulties to control and check them.<sup>2</sup>

To solve this problem, the government opened a special portal of entry in New York Harbor. This port was called Ellis Island. It was opened in 1892 and closed in 1954, during this period more than 20 million immigrants entered the United States through it.<sup>3</sup>

Ellis Island played an important role in organizing immigration process, it became a famous receiving station, immigrants were examined by doctors before being allowed to enter the United States.<sup>4</sup>

It was a center of "physical examinations" in which doctors were busy their performing quick "line inspection" to determine if immigrants were physically fit for life in America. They tried to know if the immigrants might suffer from infectious diseases or mental retardation. In addition, interpreters helped new arrivals to answer

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<sup>1</sup>" U.S. Society: A Nation of Immigrants ", April, 20, 2011, <http://usa.usembassy.de/society.html>

<sup>2</sup> Bryn O'Callaghan, *An Illustrated History of the USA*, op. cit.

<sup>3</sup> The United States Information Agency, " Immigration to America", 1991.

<sup>4</sup> *Oxford Guide to British and American Culture*, Oxford University Press, 2005, C31.

the questions concerning their age, family, situation, professional skills, and final destination inside the United States.<sup>1</sup>

Ellis Island reopened on September 10, 1990 after a massive restoration, the main building on Ellis Island is now a museum dedicated to the history of immigration and the important role this island claimed during the mass immigration of humanity in the late of the nineteenth centuries.<sup>2</sup>

### **1.6.2. The Statue of Liberty:**

On a small island in New York Harbor stands a giant statue of robed woman. She looks out to sea, her right arm holding a torch in the air. She is the Statue of Liberty, one of the best known landmarks in the world.

The Statue of Liberty is a gift of international friendship from the people of France to the people of the United States. It is one of the most universal symbols of political freedom and democracy. The Statue of Liberty was dedicated on October 28, 1886 and was designated a National Monument on October 15, 1924.<sup>3</sup>

For million of immigrants the Statue of Liberty has been their sight of America. Carved on its base are words that for more than a hundred years now have offered them hope:

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<sup>1</sup> Melinda TIMS, Perspectives on the Making of America: An Introduction to U.S Civilization, op. cit, p.117.

<sup>2</sup> "Statue of Liberty ", April, 10, 2011, <http://www.pierce-evans.org/liberty.htm>

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

*Give me your tired, your poor  
Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free  
The wretched refuse of your teeming shore  
Send these, the homeless tempest-tossed to me,  
I lift my lamp beside the golden door. <sup>1</sup>*

These verses are a part of The New Colossus poem of Emma Lazarus which was written in 1886. She spoke through the great statue, addressing " the huddled masses " who were then flocking to Americas golden door. When the great empires of the Old World crumbled after the disaster of the First World War, Europe economy declined for many years in addition to the rise of Bolshevism. Immigrants and refugees sought the security, democracy, happiness, and freedom offered by the United States.<sup>2</sup>

### **1.7. The Major Groups of Immigrants:**

Believing in the American dream of creating a better life for themselves and their children, massive numbers of people have come to live in the United States during different periods of time, from different places, and because of different reasons.

Immigration to the United States was influenced by both push and pull factors. The push factors were what drove the immigrants from their country such as religious persecution, political oppression, and poverty. The pull factors were those which attracted immigrants to America such as civil rights, freedom of expression, religion, and speech and economic opportunity. America was promised land by the oppressed and the exploited masses.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Bryn O'Callaghan, An Illustrated History of the USA, op. cit, p. 76.

<sup>2</sup> "America and the Golden Door", April, 12, 2011, <http://www.maltamigration.com/history/exodus/chapter4-1.shtml>

<sup>3</sup> Drew Rodgers, " Waves of Immigration ", April, 25, 2011, <http://ndla.no/node/50210>

Mauk and Oakland in their book "American Civilization" divided the major groups who immigrated to the United States into four major waves.<sup>1</sup>

### **1.7.1. The First Wave: 1680-1776**

Following the Indians and the founders, a massive immigration from Europe had prevailed the New World at that era.

At that time (the colonial era), the largest group of immigrants was the Scotts-Irish. With encouragement from the English, their ancestors left Scotland for Northern Ireland in the 1500s. But a quarter of a million of them left Northern Ireland after 1680 because of discrimination by the English. Most paid their passage across the Atlantic by becoming indentured servants (contracting to labor without wages for four to seven years in the colonies), while their term of service was finished, they got their freedom.<sup>2</sup>

During the same period, 200,000 German immigrants settled in the New York. To preserve their heritage and help each other economically, they concentrated their settlement in the Middle Colonies, mostly in Pennsylvania. Here German families lived so closely together in some areas that others found it hard to settle among them. They were known for their hard work, caution, farming methods and concern for their property. They were too successful, according to their envious neighbors.<sup>3</sup>

The French and Jews, other smaller groups added to the first wave, settled in port towns and engaged in trade.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> David Mauk and John Oakland, American Civilization: An Introduction, Routledge: London and New York, 1997, pp 60-80.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid, p. 61.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid, pp 61-62.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid, p.61.

## **Africans:**

Among the flood of immigrants to North America, one group came unwillingly. They were Africans who came by force. About 500,000 Africans were brought to the colonies as slaves between 1619- 1808.<sup>1</sup>

The majority of them were in southern colonies where plantations were available due to the mild climate and fertile soil. They were exploited in these plantations which produced large crops of cotton, tobacco, sugar, and indigo.<sup>2</sup>

Importing slaves to the United States became a crime in 1808, 21 years after the adoption of the constitution of the United States in 1787, but slavery itself was not eliminated until after the Civil War. By 1810, there were 7,2 million people in the United States, of which 1,2 million were slaves and 186,768 free black. Slavery was completely abolished in 1865, with the passage of the 13<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the constitution.<sup>3</sup> The existence of Slavery " the American Tragedy " as well as Indian treatment form the darkest chapters in American history.

### **1.7.2. The Second Wave: the Old Immigrants, 1820-1890**

It was a period where America went from being mainly a rural and agricultural society to the beginnings of an industrial society.<sup>4</sup>

The considerable changes occurring in Europe and the United States and also made the situation seem different. A range of factors pushed Europeans from their homelands, religious persecution drove many German Jews to immigrate, and political unrest forced out a few thousands European intellectuals and political activists. But economic push factors were decisive for most of the northern and western Europeans who are

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<sup>1</sup> " Immigration to America ", The United States Information Agency, op.cit.

<sup>2</sup> Drew Rodgers, " Waves of Immigration ", op. cit.

<sup>3</sup> The United States Information Agency, " Immigration to America", op. cit.

<sup>4</sup> Drew Rodgers, " Waves of Immigration ", op. cit.

called the "old immigrants". Of the 60 million people who left their homelands between 1820 and 1930, two third settled in the United States during the old immigration, 15,5 million people made America their home. The largest immigrant groups, in order of size were German, Irish, Briton, and Scandinavians but many other people including French Canadians, Chinese, Swiss, and Dutch also came in large numbers. The factor that attracted most of these people to the United States was land in addition to work.<sup>1</sup>

Irish immigration to the United States was the result of several factors, Ireland was very poor and its people had been exploited by the British centuries. Then, in the Middle of the 1840s, there was " the potato famine " because of a special disease destroyed potatoes which were the principal source of food for the Irish.<sup>2</sup>

At that time, about 750,000 Irish starved to death, many of the survivors decided to live Ireland and go to the United States.<sup>3</sup>

Besides, German immigration appeared during the Civil War when the federal government encouraged immigration from Europe, especially from German states by offering grants of land to those immigrants who would serve as soldiers in union armies.<sup>4</sup>

The Irish immigrants actually suffered from both the lack of money and skills that might facilitate their integration into urban America. Irish males became common laborers while most female found employment in domestic sevice.<sup>5</sup> Most of them could find employment more easily than in their own stagnant society. It was the Irish

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<sup>1</sup> David Mauk and John Oakland, American Civilization: An Introduction, op. cit, pp 63-64.

<sup>2</sup> Melinda TIMS, Perspectives on the Making of America: An Introduction to U.S Civilization, op. cit, p.113.

<sup>3</sup> Bryn O'Callaghan, An Illustrated History of the USA, op. cit, p. 76.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> Chedlia ZARGOUNI HAMOUDA, Roots of American Culture and Identity: Connecting the President with the Past, Centre de publication Universitaire, Tunisie, 2007, p. 20.

muscles that helped building the canals and railroads needed for economic development.<sup>1</sup>

Concerning Germans, they were never as destitute as the Irish or hard pressed by a national disaster. As we have seen before, they immigrated in order to serve as a troops during the Civil War in addition to the search for better economic opportunities in the New World.<sup>2</sup>

Irish and German immigrants were followed by Scandinavian immigrants who were arriving in large numbers in the 1880s. They crossed to America for chiefly economic reasons, they never posed any real cultural problems. In comparison with other immigrants groups, Scandinavians had adjusted rapidly into American life.<sup>3</sup>

At about the same time, but on the other side of continent, a massive number of Chinese immigrants reached the United States. By 1880, about 25% of California's total work force was made up of Chinese workers who lived in ethnic ghettos called "Chinatowns" where they were easy targets for racist violence.<sup>4</sup>

In May, the Congress passed the first anti-immigration law which was the Chinese Exclusionary. It prevented the entry of no more Chinese workers to the country.<sup>5</sup>

### **1.7.3. The Third Wave: New Immigrants:1890-1930**

This wave of new immigrants marked a change in the origin of most immigrants. Immigration from northwest Europe was replaced by arrivals from southern and eastern Europe. The largest new groups during this period were: Italians, Jews, Poles, and

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<sup>1</sup> Ibid, p. 21.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid, p. 22.

<sup>4</sup> Melinda TIMS, Perspectives on the Making of America: An Introduction to U.S Civilization, op. cit, p. 114.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid, p. 115

Hungarians. In addition, many Mexicans, Russians, Greeks, Portuguese, Syrians, Japanese, Filipinos also immigrated.<sup>1</sup>

They mostly moved into American cities and worked in industry. The United States grew to a major industrial nation.<sup>2</sup>

From 1890 to 1920, more than 18 million immigrants arrived. An interaction of "push" and "pull" forces provided the reasons for this new immigration of the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. The countries of southern and eastern Europe were experienced demographic booms and economic dislocation that had previously affected many parts of northwestern Europe, while the United States was achieving exceptional growth rates which stimulate movements to the New World.<sup>3</sup>

Italians immigration reached the peak during the period from 1900 to 1914 when three million entered the United States. The majority of them were illiterate and unskilled, they found employment in manual labor, replacing the Irish in railway and other constructing projects.<sup>4</sup>

During the same period, many Jewish people came to the United States. In the 1880, Jews were suffered all over eastern Europe from bloody massacres called "pogroms".<sup>5</sup>

Between 1880 and 1925 two million Jews entered the United States. Although a minority of them were originally literate and skilled workers, discrimination was effective enough to keep them at the lowest rungs of the economic ladder with Italians. They were attracted by the industrial jobs of the northeast exactly in New York city.<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> David Mauk and John Oakland, American Civilization: An Introduction, op. cit, p. 66.

<sup>2</sup> Drew Rodgers, " Waves of Immigration ", op. cit.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

<sup>4</sup> Chedlia ZARGOUNI HAMOUDA, Roots of American Culture and Identity: Connecting the President with the Past, op. cit, p. 23.

<sup>5</sup> Bryn O'Callaghan, An Illustrated History of the USA, op. cit, p. 77.

<sup>6</sup> Chedlia ZARGOUNI HAMOUDA, Roots of American Culture and Identity: Connecting the President with the Past, op. cit, pp 24-25

Japanese immigrants to the New World fell victims to the same kind of discrimination as Chinese. They became a new target of racial exclusion, they were forbidden by the state of California to own or lease farmland.<sup>1</sup>

Actually, Asian immigrants in general had faced many problems, they were victims of official discrimination.

### **Refugees:**

The rise of the Nazi and Fascist regimes on the other lands led to enormous flow of refugees to the United States of America.<sup>2</sup> The United States began accepting refugees as a special groups especially after the Second World War. The first refugees to the United States were Europeans who escaped because of war horrors. Then, refugees started to come from many places in the world. Thousands of Hungarians sought refuge in the United States in 1956 when the Soviet Union crushed the attempt to establish a non- communist government in Hungary. The United States in 1959 accepted also 700,000 Cuban refugees after Fidel Castro took control of Cuba. Again, in 1980 the United States accepted other special group of more than 110,000 Cuban refugees. After the end of the Vietnam war, it accepted other groups of special political refugees that include Southern Asian who were persecuted.<sup>3</sup>

### **1.7.4. The Fourth Wave: after 1965**

In addition to many immigrants who entered the United States, the fourth wave has included hundreds of thousands of immediate relatives and refugees as well as illegal

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<sup>1</sup> Melinda TIMS, Perspectives on the Making of America: An Introduction to U.S Civilization, op. cit, p. 115.

<sup>2</sup> David Mauk and John Oakland, American Civilization: An Introduction, op. cit, p. 71.

<sup>3</sup> " Immigration to America ", The United States Information Agency, op.cit.

aliens, who cross borders without papers or with false papers. Between 1961 and 1990 close to 20 million people settled in America.<sup>1</sup>

This era was influenced by the Immigration and Naturalization Act of 1965 which appeared thanks to the civil rights movement. At that time, immigration was based on the national-origins quota system since the 1920s. The civil rights movement's focus on equal treatment regardless of race and nationality led many to view the quota system as backward and discriminatory. Congress passed the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1965 after Kennedy's assassination.<sup>2</sup>

This act changed the face of America. The law, in fact, changed the focus of immigration to the United States, greatly increasing the share going to Asia and the Western Hemisphere and through its heightened emphasis on family migration, led to a massive increase in the volume of immigration. President Lyndon Johnson minimized the act's importance when he said: "*the bill that we sign today is not a revolutionary bill. It does not affect the lives of millions. It will not reshape the structure of our daily lives, or add importantly to our wealth and power*".<sup>3</sup>

Like the earlier waves of newcomers, the fourth includes a broad range of socio-economic groups; they obtain visas because they are near relatives of recent, more skilled immigrants or take jobs Americans do not want.<sup>4</sup>

The fourth wave of immigration was a mixture of Asians (Koreans, Vietnamese, Cambodians, Chinese and Japanese) as well as Hispanics (people who speak Spanish). The Asians are successful and their success can be explained by two factors: First, many of them, particularly the Chinese and Koreans, arrive with money and invest it

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<sup>1</sup> David Mauk and John Oakland, American Civilization: An Introduction, op. cit, pp 74-75.

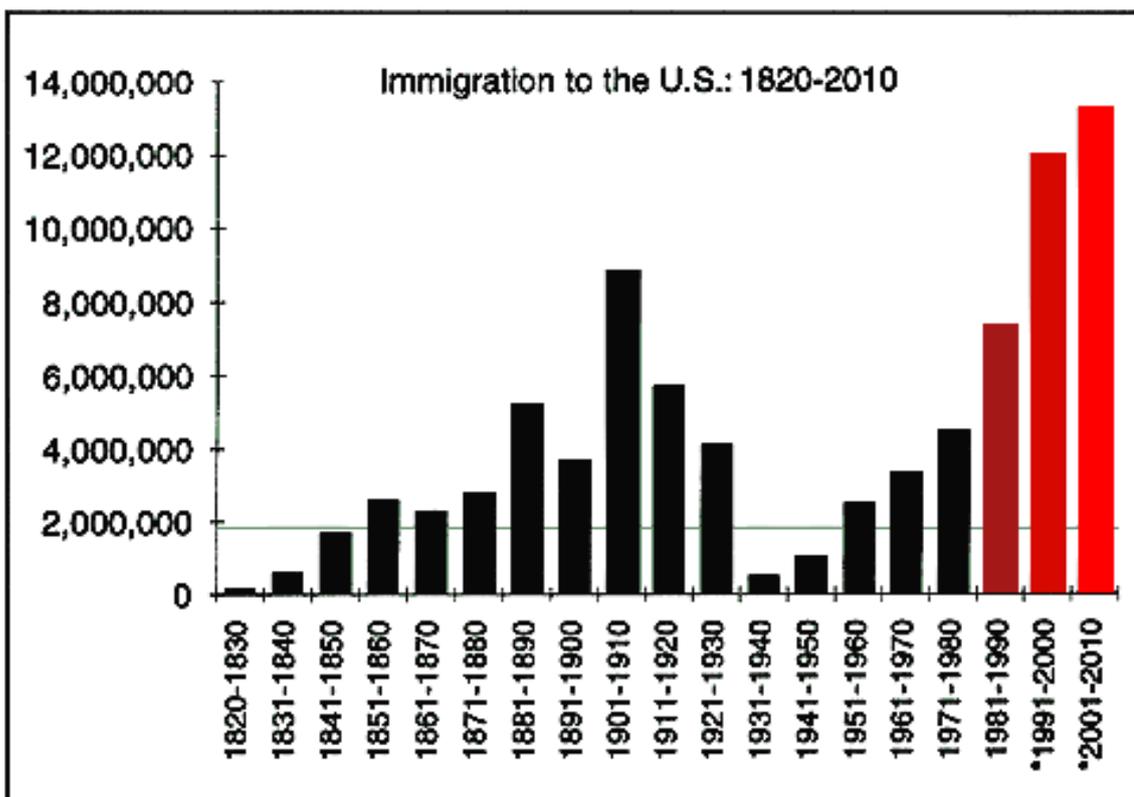
<sup>2</sup> "U.S Immigration since 1965", April, 20, 2011, <http://www.history.com/topics/us-immigration-since-1965>.

<sup>3</sup> Roger Daniels, Encyclopedia of American Foreign Policy, "Immigration", second edition, volume 1, p. 203.

<sup>4</sup> David Mauk and John Oakland, American Civilization: An Introduction, op. cit, p. 76.

wisely in America. They often make business and work hardly. Secondly, they give importance to education, their children usually get into good universities and get good jobs. Unlike the Asians, Hispanics have no been as successful as the Asians. They are often poor, they do not give importance to education. In addition a number of them are illegal and can be exploited. They often work for less wages and are not able to complain about the working conditions for fear of being deported. A Hispanic group which has been successful is the Cubans, most of them live in Southern Florida. They are generally well educated, middle class, and politically conservatives.<sup>1</sup>

**Figure 02:** Immigration to the U.S.:1820-2010<sup>2</sup>



<sup>1</sup> Drew Rodgers, " Waves of Immigration ", op. cit.

<sup>2</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, " Population Numbers, Projections, Graphs and Data ", op. cit.

In the United States, the concept of immigration has always had its ups and downs, it changed from one period to another due to various circumstances.

The previous diagram shows this change of immigrants number from 1820 to 2010.

The period after 1820, immigration was very low because of the War of Independence. It remained low until 1840.

The number of immigrants reached approximately 3,000,000 during the period between 1841 and 1861. This increase started from 1848 when gold was discovered in California, the gold rush spurs immigration from China and Latin America to the West coast.

The period between 1861 and 1870 witnessed a decline in immigrants number, this decline was due to the outbreak of the Civil War. Immediately after the Civil War, from 1880 to 1910, the United States of America entered a new phase. America went from being mainly an agricultural society to an industrial one. Thus, it required the addition of many more workers who arrived as immigrants to the United States whose number reached 9,000,000 in 1910.

During the period between 1911 and 1920, immigration to the United States declined dramatically because of the First World War. It remained low until 1930s through the Depression era. The rate of immigration was reduced during this period. In the early 1930s, more people emigrated from the United States than immigrated to it.

The number of immigrants began to increase again after the Second World War which witnessed slow influx of immigrants. It reached nearly 3,000,000 from 1951 to 1960.

From 1961 to 2010, immigrants number increased gradually, This era was influenced by the Immigration and Naturalization Act of 1965 which led to a massive increase in the volume of immigration, it reached 7,000,000, 12,000,000, and 14,000,000 between 1981 and 1990, 1991 and 2000, 2001 and 2010.

## **1.8. Illegal Immigration:**

Not all immigrants entered the United States legally. Illegal immigration continues to be a controversial and divisive topic, not only in the United States, but throughout the whole world.

An individual who is residing in a country illegally is called "illegal immigrant." Other terms that are commonly used include: undocumented immigrant, illegal immigrant, undocumented alien, unauthorized migrant, illegal alien, or undocumented worker. Illegal immigrants contain a vast category. Some undocumented immigrants entered the country illegally and others entered legally but overstayed the number of days permitted on their visa or violated the terms of their permanent resident card or refugee permit. Regardless of how immigrants reached new home countries, they decided to take a risk and move to a foreign country in search of a better life. Some immigrants leave their home country due to political or economic reasons. Individuals generally choose to immigrate to countries that are more technologically advanced, have greater resources and offer more opportunities. Some immigrants also move to a foreign country to give their children a better life. In countries like the United States, children of illegal immigrants automatically gain citizenship.<sup>1</sup>

As we have stated previously, many illegal immigrants obtain their "illegal" status by entering the country illegally. Immigrants sometimes try numerous times before successfully crossing the American borders.<sup>2</sup>

Illegal immigrants tend to become employed in what is known as "low skilled jobs." In the United States, the landscaping and construction sectors tend to be popular with immigrants as there is generally no requirement to be fluent in the English language.

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<sup>1</sup> " Illegal Immigration ", April, 27, 2011, <http://www.usimmigrationsupport.org/illegal-immigration.html>  
<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

Other employment sectors that attract illegal immigrants include restaurants, hospitality, prostitution, agriculture and domestic service.<sup>1</sup>

Legal immigrants and native born Americans worry about illegal immigration issue which caused much debate. Many believe that illegal immigrants take jobs from the American citizens. Some American employers have exploited illegal workers by paying them less than the legal wages as well as working in sub-standard conditions and they are obliged to accept because of their fear of being deported.<sup>2</sup>

The federal government responded to the problems connected with illegal immigration by passing the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986 (IRCA). Under the new law, many illegal immigrants who were in the United States since 1982 can ask for residency that will allow them to stay permanently and give them full protection of the country's laws. In 1990, about 880,000 people gained legal situation thanks to this act.<sup>3</sup>

### **Illegal Immigration Statistics 2010:**

Illegal immigration is one of the prime issues of concern in the United States. The 2,000 mile United States-Mexico border has been known for illegal immigration since a long time. A look at the illegal immigration statistics reveals that more than 11 million illegal immigrants reside in the United States today. Almost half of the approximately 8 million immigrants who came to the United States between 2000 and 2005 entered illegally. Actually, it is very difficult to check exactly such illegal influx of immigrants, and therefore most of the figures provided in illegal immigration statistics are mere estimates. In fact, the actual number is expected to be much more larger than these estimates. Over the last three decades, the government has introduced as many as seven amnesties for these illegal immigrants. In 2009, it granted legal resident status to around 1.1 million immigrants

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<sup>1</sup> Ibid.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> " Immigration to America ", The United States Information Agency, op.cit.

as its efforts to limit various illegal immigration problems.<sup>1</sup> If the United States Census Bureau estimates are to be believed the population of the United States will reach 397 million by 2050 if the current trend of immigration continues.<sup>2</sup>

### **The Solutions of Illegal Immigration:**

Many Americans believe that the problem is that illegal immigrants are using the American resources without contributing anything. In the United States, there is no problem of immigration because it was completely built on immigrants. The problem comes when people do it illegally. They use the American hospitals and schools without paying taxes or getting health insurance. The problem is that illegal immigrants are taking from society without giving anything in return. They are not paying for these things but they are receiving them. As a solution, Americans have to find a way that forces them to contribute and make them pay for those things they are using.

They are now productive members of the American society. In fact, some Americans think that illegal immigrants are not who are cheating Uncle Sam but they are the employers who hire them for cheap labor. Thus, American responsables have to punish companies that pay illegal immigrants. This means that to find work, the person must be documented. In addition, illegal immigrants should pay taxes like the legal residents, if they did, illegal immigration would no longer be a problem. Thus, they must make them leave, stop them from coming, or to make them contribute the same as everyone else.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> " Immigration Statistics ", April, 25, 2011, <http://www.buzzle.com/articles/immigration-statistics.html>

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup>"Illegal Immigration Solutions ", February,09, 2011, <http://geekpolitics.com/illegal-immigrants-problems-and-solutions/>

## **1.9. laws and landmarks of Immigration History :**

The American history of immigration witnessed many laws and landmarks that affected the influx of the newcomers. Some of these laws are:

1790 *The Naturalization Act of 1790* establishes a uniform rule of naturalization and a two-year residency requirement for aliens who are "free white persons" of "good moral character" (March 26, 1790).

1798 Considered as one of the *Alien and Sedition Acts*, the Naturalization Act of 1798 permits John Adams to deport foreigners seemed to be dangerous and increases the residency requirements to 14 years to prevent immigrants from becoming citizens .

1802 The Jefferson Administration revises the Naturalization Act of 1798 by reducing the residency requirement from 14 to five years.

1808 Importation of slaves into the United States is officially banned, though it continues illegally long after the ban.

1840s Crop failures in *Germany*, and the *Irish Potato Famine (1845–1851)* lead to a new period of mass immigration to the United States.

1848 *Gold* is discovered in the American River, near Sacramento, California.

1849 The California *gold rush* spurs immigration from China and extensive internal migration.

1855 *Castle Garden* is established as *New York's principal point of entry*.

1861 Outbreak of the *American Civil War (April 12, 1861)*.

1862 The "*Anti-Coolie*" Act discourages *Chinese immigration to California* and

institutes special taxes on employers who hire Chinese workers.

- 1863 The Central Pacific hires *Chinese* laborers and the Union Pacific hires *Irish* laborers to construct *the first transcontinental railroad* .
- 1870 *The Naturalization Act of 1870* expands citizenship to both whites and African-Americans, though Asians are still excluded.
- 1870 *The Fifteenth Amendment* is ratified, granting voting rights to citizens, regardless of "race, color, or previous condition of servitude."
- 1882 The *Chinese Exclusion Act* restricts all Chinese immigration to the United States for a period of ten years.
- 1882 *The Immigration Act of 1882* imposes a tax of 50 cents on all immigrants landing at US ports and makes several categories of immigrants ineligible for citizenship, including "lunatics" and people likely to become public charges.
- 1886 *The Statue of Liberty* is dedicated in New York Harbor.
- 1890 immigration to the United States shifted from *Southern and Eastern Europe* to *Northern and Western Europe* .
- 1892 *Ellis Island*, the location at which more than 16 million immigrants would be processed, opens in New York City.
- 1902 The *Chinese Exclusion Act* is again *renewed*, with no ending date.
- 1906 The *Naturalization Act of 1906* standardizes naturalization procedures, makes some knowledge of the English language a requirement for citizenship .

- 1917 The US enters the *First World War*.
- 1917 The *Immigration Act of 1917* restricts immigration from Asia by creating an "Asiatic Barred Zone."
- 1921 The *Emergency Quota Act* restricts immigration from a given country to 3% of the number of people from that country living in the US in 1910.
- 1924 *The Immigration Act of 1924* limits annual European immigration to 2% of the number of people from that country living in the United States in 1890. The Act greatly reduces immigration from Southern and Eastern European nationalities that had only small populations in the US in 1890.
- 1924 The *Oriental Exclusion Act* prohibits most immigration from Asia, including foreign-born wives and the children of American citizens of Chinese ancestry.
- 1924 The *Border Patrol* is created to combat smuggling and illegal immigration.
- 1929 The National Origins Formula institutes a quota that caps national immigration at 150,000 and completely bars Asian immigration, though immigration from the Western Hemisphere is still permitted.
- 1934 The *Tydings-McDuffe Act* grants the Philippines independence from the United States 1946, but strips Filipinos of US citizenship and severely restricts Filipino immigration to the United States.<sup>1</sup>
- 1950 *The International Security Act* rendered the Alien Registration Receipt

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<sup>1</sup> " Key Dates and Landmarks in United States Immigration History", April, 25, 2011, <http://ocp.hul.harvard.edu/immigration/timeline.html>

Card even more valuable. Immigrants with legal status had their cards replaced with what generally became known as the "green card".

1952 Established the modern day of the American immigration system. It created a quota system which imposes limits on a per-country basis. It also established the preference system that gave priority to family members and people with special skills.

1965 *Immigration and Naturalization Act of 1965* eliminated US immigration discrimination based on race, nationality, sex and residence.

1980 established a general policy governing the admission of refugees.

1986 *The 1986 Immigration Act* focused on decreasing illegal immigration. It legalized hundred of thousands of illegal immigrants.

1990 *The 1990 Act* established an annual limit for certain categories of immigrants. It was aimed at helping the American businesses to attract skilled foreign workers.

2001 The Patriot Act of 2001 United and Strengthened America by providing appropriate tools required to intercept and obstruct terrorism

2003 the United States immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) becomes part of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS).<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> "US Immigration History", April, 13, 2011,  
[http://www.rapidimmigration.com/1\\_eng\\_immigration\\_history.html](http://www.rapidimmigration.com/1_eng_immigration_history.html)

This list shows that immigration in the United States was influenced by some historical events as well as a set of laws passed by Congress. Many historical events, which are considered as a landmarks, had participated in the change of the number of newcomers such as: the Gold Rush, the Civil War, the First World War, the Great Depression, the Second World War.

Congress also played an important role in determining the immigration rate according to the country situation and needs. It began to pass laws concerning certain types of immigrants in order to regulate the tide of immigrants. Congress refused to accept immigrants who were criminals, insanes, prostitutes , persons suffering from serious diseases in addition to children without at least one parent. Congress also tried to deny the entry of illiterate immigrants.

Immigration policy in the United States differed from encouragement and discouragement. Congress passed many laws that limited and discouraged immigration such as the Emergency of Quota Act in 1921, the Chinese Exclusion Act in 1882, and the Immigration Act of 1924. In spite, we notice that most of laws encouraged immigration especially at the beginning of the nation building. The most influential law was the Immigration and Nationality Act in 1965, it abolished the restrictions and the discrimination that based on nationality, race, and sex. The United States entered a new phase thanks to that act that led to a great increase in the number of the newcomers.

## **1.10. Conclusion:**

Immigration is a one of the most colorful chapters in the United States which becomes today a subject of considerable debate. This continuous process characterized the whole American history and became typically an American notion. Immigration to America included many kinds of human beings who came from the whole of the world, starting from the Indians, the founders, then the intense influx of the four major waves of immigrants. Consequently, the United States became a land of differences that gathered different nationalities, races, religions, cultures, languages because of different reasons that led them to leave their homelands and move to the New World looking for liberty, happiness, democracy. Immigration to the United States made it an exceptional nation. Actually, immigration had a great influence on many aspects of American life such as: demography, society, culture, politics, education, as well as economy which is the domain of our study in the second chapter.

## Chapter two:

### The Role of Immigrants in the United States Economy

#### 2.1. Introduction:

Historically, immigrants has come to this country because of a variety of reasons, but economic opportunity has always been a major draw. Many immigrants hoped to improve their lives. Most of newcomers, whether they voluntarily left their native countries or were forced to migrate, come to America in search of economic opportunities and the chance to build a better future for their children. While the prospect of higher wages and better educational opportunities has drawn many immigrants to the United States, their ability to realize these aspirations depends on a combination of their own skills, experience, and determination as well as the opportunities and services offered by receiving communities.

#### 2.2. What is Success?

The Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary defines success as "*The fact that you have achieved something that you want and have been trying to do or got; the fact of becoming rich or famous or of getting a high social position*".<sup>1</sup>

Besides, success is defined in the Cambridge Advanced Learner's Dictionary as "*the achieving of desired results*".<sup>2</sup>

Success is wonderful and attractive word which has a wonderful meaning. Personally, we believe that the word "success" has not an exact and limited meaning, it comes in many forms and many definitions. It depends on what we are searching for in

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<sup>1</sup> Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary, op. cit, p. 1299.

<sup>2</sup> Cambridge Advanced Learner's Dictionary, op. cit, p. 1277.

our lives, and searching for in business. It really depends on the perspectives of life we have.

So we can say that success is the achievement or accomplishment. Every one in life has its own dream and goal, when he achieves his goal or when his dream becomes true, this means that he succeeds.

## **2.3. Success as an American Value:**

### **2.3.1. The American Dream:**

Success is the central idea of the American Dream which is in fact the cornerstone of the American society. The American Dream is the dream of the promised land of liberty, equality, democracy, and happiness. This idea has attracted many immigrants to America. It focused on the idea that through courage, hard work and education, any American can go up the social ladder and succeed. Thus, the American Dream is represented in the idea of "self man-made" through immigration process.<sup>1</sup>

The idea of the American Dream is older than the United States of America, dating back to the 1600s when people began to come up with all sorts of hopes and aspirations for the new and unexplored continent. Many of these dreams focused on owning land and establishing prosperous businesses in order to become wealthy, happy, and successful.<sup>2</sup>

Indeed, success is measured in the United States by the accumulation of power, status, wealth, and property. What Americans already have is not important as important as what they continue to accumulate.

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<sup>1</sup> Françoise Grellet, A Cultural Guide, Nathan, p.182.

<sup>2</sup> " What is the American Dream", April, 13, 2011, <http://www.wisegeek.com/what-is-the-american-dream.htm>

### **2.3.2. The Immigrants Traits:**

Immigrants move to the United States because they are looking for a better life. They are a brave persons because their travel takes a lot of courage. They left behind everything that is familiar and come to live in a new country.<sup>1</sup>

Americans have been a people willing to take risks and try new things. This willingness takes an independence and an optimism that also is thought to be a characteristic of the American people today.<sup>2</sup>

Immigrants also came to the United States because they differ from the majority people surrounding them and because Americans also are known to be accepting of people with different ideas.<sup>3</sup>

In addition, studies show that most immigrants are well educated, skilled, and highly motivated people who can contribute to American economic growth. They believe in the American Dream, they believe that by working hard and obeying the laws, they can have a better life full of success and achievements.<sup>4</sup>

As we have mentioned in the first chapter, immigration is a fundamental characteristic of the United States of America. Furthermore, we can add here that success is also one of the most important values of the American character. Immigrants usually aimed to be successful individuals, they wanted to change their lives for the best as well as make a better future for their children. Both of immigration and success are interrelated in the United States, immigration often leads to success in this country thanks to the American Dream and the immigrants traits.

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<sup>1</sup> " Immigration to America ", The United States Information Agency, op.cit.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

<sup>4</sup> Stanislav Kelman, "Influence of Immigration on American Economy", 1993 , April, 13, 2011, <http://www.letitbe.org/Immigration.html>

## **2.4. The Dream of Getting Rich:**

The idea of getting rich or being wealthy prevails the American society and characterizes the American mentality from the early days of settlement until nowadays.

Through time, this idea became a dream and obsession to most immigrants.

This idea was represented in Theodor Roosevelt saying " *Far and away the best prize that life offers is the chance to work hard at work worth doing* ".<sup>1</sup>

Traditionally, Americans searched to realize the American Dream of success, fame, and wealth through hard work. The meaning of the dream changed and replaced with a philosophy of " getting rich quickly " during the industrialization of the nineteenth and the twentieth centuries.<sup>2</sup>

Scholars have recognized widely varied conceptions for the American excellence. One component of the American Dream seems to be fairly consistent, it is the quest for money. The American society is basically focused on the " almighty dollars ". In a society dedicated to capitalism, " the one who dies with the most toys win", the ability to purchase a big house and a nice car distinguishes those who are considered successful from those who are not.<sup>3</sup>

One aspect of the great American Dream is to rise from poverty or modest wealth to great wealth. In the United States, this has usually been accomplished through successful business careers. All of the great private fortunes in the nation were built by people who were successful in business. Careers in business still offer the best opportunity for the ambitious individual to become wealthy.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Datesman, Maryanne Kearny, JoAnn Crandall, and Edward N. Kearny, American Ways: An Introduction to American Culture, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. New York: Pearson Education, 2005, p. 119.

<sup>2</sup> Matthew Warshauer, "Who Wants to Be a Millionaire", April, 13, 2011, "[http://www.americansc.org.uk/Online/American\\_Dream.htm](http://www.americansc.org.uk/Online/American_Dream.htm)

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

## **2.5. Unity is the Key to Prosperity:**

Americans choose one society that gives equal opportunities for all who will take the advantage. Most in their hearts actively promote this principle of one society with diversities that still protect and energize that one society. For Americans, when this types of unity and optimism prevails, hardly anything can stand in the way of their prosperity. The central key to understanding the United States prosperity is the fact that the Americans are a nation. They are united in their desire to have one society that allows and promotes an equal opportunity to each and every person who is a part of the American society.<sup>1</sup>

### **The Melting Pot :**

As we have seen before, immigrants came from all over the world from different countries, they speak different languages, have different religious beliefs. But what is different is not necessarily worse and probably the main thing that distinguishes immigrants is their attitude towards their future. Despite all of these differences, immigrants reached unity.

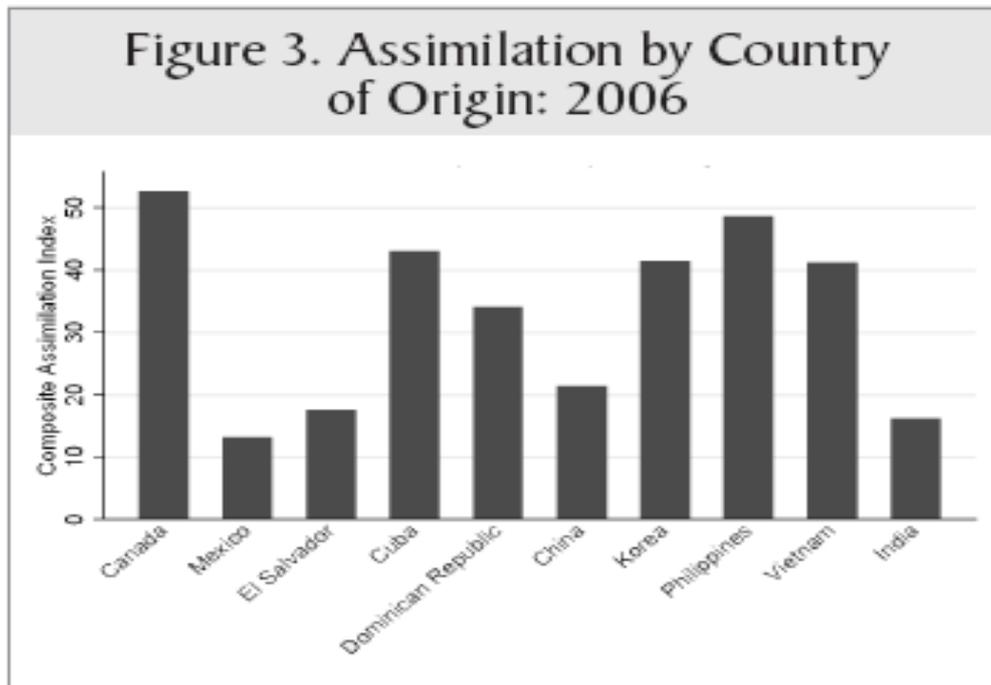
The process by which these many groups have been made a part of a common cultural life with commonly shared values is called assimilation. Some scholars described the United States as a melting pot in which various racial and ethnic groups have been combined into one culture. Others thought that the United States seems as a salad bowl in which the various groups have remains somewhat distinct and different from one to another, creating a diverse country.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Ernest L. Martin, "The Secret of United States Economic Success", 1998, May, 17, 2011, <http://www.askelm.com/prophecy/p980601.htm>

<sup>2</sup> Datesman, Maryanne Kearny, JoAnn Crandall, and Edward N. Kearny, American Ways: An Introduction to American Culture, op. cit, p.166.

**Figure 03:** Assimilation in USA by Country of Origin<sup>1</sup>



The above diagram represents the immigrants assimilation by country of origin in 2006, Indeed, we can say that the rate of assimilation differs according to the country of origins. For instance, the rate of assimilation of immigrants from Canada is higher than the rate of immigrants from India.

## **2.6. Immigrants in the American Economy:**

America has a long heritage of welcoming immigrants, and throughout its history, the country has been reshaped and renewed by the talents, energy, and enterprise of new citizens.

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<sup>1</sup> "Assimilation in USA", May,20, 2011, [http://www.manhattan-institute.org/html/cr\\_53.htm](http://www.manhattan-institute.org/html/cr_53.htm)

Any economy in the world based on two main ingredients which are the natural resources and labor. The United States is very rich country in mineral resources. It is characterized by its fertile and large soils in addition to its varied climate. The United States has also an extensive coastlines on the Atlantic and the Pacific Oceans as well as the Gulf of Mexico.<sup>1</sup>

The other ingredient is labor, it converts natural resources into goods. The number of available workers and their productivity are very important for the health of the economy. Actually, the most of these workers are immigrants who use the natural resources for the United States interest in terms of its economic growth.<sup>2</sup>

Throughout its history, the United States has experienced steady growth in the labor force which led to economic expansion. Immigrants tended to come when jobs were available. Often they intended to work for lower wages. However, they generally prospered and earned more than they would have in their native lands.<sup>3</sup>

*"The great story of America is that it still offers a job to first generation immigrants and better jobs to their children,"* Haskins said.<sup>4</sup> Historically, the American economy has successfully created opportunity and economic mobility for immigrant families, but the scale of recent immigration, and especially of poorly educated immigrants, could be cause for future concern.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> US Department of State, "Basic Ingredients of the US Economy", April, 13, 2011, <http://economics.about.com/od/howtheuseconomyworks/a/ingredients.htm>

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> "Immigrants' Ability to Achieve Economic Success in US", July, 2007, April, 13, 2011, ["http://foundationcenter.org/pnd/news/story.jhtml?id=184300010](http://foundationcenter.org/pnd/news/story.jhtml?id=184300010)

When we take a look at the achievements of immigrants who have come to the United States, we find that some of them start their own businesses. Others work for big companies or many immigrants work for companies, or at large universities.<sup>1</sup>

## **1.7. The Influence of Immigrants on Overall Economy:**

Many Americans believe that immigration has a negative effects on the United States economic development, many people say: "*immigrants are drain on the US economy*"<sup>2</sup>, they still believe that immigration hurts the American workers and economy.

Personally, we think that this statement is completely wrong, inspite of some negative effects that exist. There is nothing in the world that has not flaws, everything has negative and positive effects. In this chapter, we will try to illustrate the positive influence of immigrants on the United States economics. We are going to prove that immigrants are beneficial more than harmful and they are successful individuals rather than failure.

The speed of the American recent economic growth would have been impossible without immigration. Since 1990, immigrants have contributed to job growth in three main ways: They fill an increasing share of jobs overall, they take jobs in labor-scarce regions, and they fill the types of jobs that native workers often avoid . The foreign-born make up only 11.3 percent of the American population and 14 percent of the labor

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<sup>1</sup> Stanislav Kelman, "Influence of Immigration on American Economy", op. cit.

<sup>2</sup> "Immigrants and the US economy", May, 17, 2011 ,<http://www.essay-911.com/blog/essay-samples/2226-immigrants-and-the-us-economy.html>

force. But amazingly, the flow of foreign-born is so large that immigrants currently account for a larger share of labor force growth than natives.<sup>1</sup>

Some studies show the portion of employment growth in each job category attributed to foreign-born workers from 1996 to 2000. Immigrants accounted for as much as half the growth in categories such as administrative support and services. The more than six fold increase in the laborer category means that as immigrants entered these occupations native workers exited.<sup>2</sup>

Immigration gives the United States an economic edge in the world economy. Immigrants bring innovative ideas and entrepreneurial spirit to the U.S. economy. They provide business contacts to other markets, enhancing America's ability to trade and invest profitably in the global economy. They keep the American economy flexible, allowing the American producers to keep prices down and to respond to changing consumer demands. An authoritative 1997 study by the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) concluded that immigration delivered a "significant positive gain" to the American economy. In testimony before Congress last year, Federal Reserve Board Chairman Alan Greenspan said, *"I've always argued that this country has benefited immensely from the fact that we draw people from all over the world."*<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Christopher Sisk, "Immigration and its Influence on the US Economy", May, 17, 2011, [http://www.lsu.edu/faculty/jwither/Essays/Immigration\\_Trade/Sisk\\_Essay.html](http://www.lsu.edu/faculty/jwither/Essays/Immigration_Trade/Sisk_Essay.html)

<sup>2</sup> Greg Anrig and Tova Andrea Wang, "Immigration, Jobs, and the American Economy", September 2004, May, 17, 2011, [http://www.cato.org/pub\\_display.php?pub\\_id=10877](http://www.cato.org/pub_display.php?pub_id=10877)

<sup>3</sup> Daniel Griswold, "Immigrants have enriched American Culture and Enhanced our Influence in the World", May, 05, 2011, [http://www.cato.org/pub\\_display.php?pub\\_id=10877](http://www.cato.org/pub_display.php?pub_id=10877)

### **2.7.1. The Immigrants Impact on Labor Market:**

The economic theory implies that immigration should lower the wage of competing workers and increase the wage of complementary workers as well as the workers whose skills become more valuable because of immigration. However, immigration in fact has a positive influence .

Firstival, Bolin stated that immigration may benefit the American labor, and it may smooth out native employment over the business cycle. He argued that immigration largely complements the American workforce and for the most part does not compete with it.<sup>1</sup>

Immigration also allows the immigrant families to expand and diversify their income sources. In short, the economic gains to immigrants and their families are typically quite large. Their labor force participation rate reflecting their concentration in prime working ages, is somewhat higher than that of natives ( 69% versus 66% in 2006 ).<sup>2</sup>

Bolin added that a growing job producing easily absorbs low-skill immigrants, while high-skill immigrants provide the necessary public services and technological expertise to keep growth going.<sup>3</sup>

Secondly, immigration must be considered in light of the nation's long-term labor needs. Meanwhile, the supply of American workers needed to fill such positions is declining, due to rising education levels and an aging population.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Tim Bolin, The Economic and Fiscal Impact of Immigration, 2004, p. 10.

<sup>2</sup> The White House, "Immigration's Economic Impact", 2007. May, 17, 2011,

<sup>3</sup> Tim Bolin, The Economic and Fiscal Impact of Immigration, op. cit.

Furthermore, Bolin thought that immigrants provide a solution to very serious problem that facing many powerful world economies "the aging population" . With the aging of the population as well as the growth of the retirees percentage, the industrial nations confront increasing shortages of workers. Consequently, the United States has alleviated this age-driven shrinkage of its labor force with a large inflow of young immigrants labors.<sup>2</sup>

Immigrants are the cheap workforce, they often earn less than the minimal wages in the United States earn exactly this minimum. So only few Americans will agree to work with such low wages while performing an unskilled job. They are often occupied with self-employment. Thus they create new work places, although they create these places for their national as a rule, and their self-employment stimulate the development of small and medium business. So in some way immigrants reduce unemployment level in the United States.<sup>3</sup>

### **2.7.2. The Immigrants Impacts on Wages:**

Concerning wages, Immigrants change the relative factors of the size of labors for economy such as: unskilled labor, skilled labor, and capital in the economy. Thus, the American natives try as much as possible to benefit from immigration because both of them are not alike in terms of their productive and natural characteristics. This point of view concerning that immigrants decrease wages is just misconception.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Ibid.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup>"Immigrants and the US economy", op. cit.

<sup>4</sup> "US Immigration Has a Positive Effect on Wages", May, 23, 2011, [http://www.workpermit.com/news/2006\\_10\\_16/us/immigrants\\_make\\_wages\\_better.htm](http://www.workpermit.com/news/2006_10_16/us/immigrants_make_wages_better.htm)

Many people think that immigration increase the supply of labor and therefore decrease wages that will be paid because more people are competing for the same jobs. This immigration's wage and employment rate impacts are only part of the big picture of immigration effects on the American labor market.<sup>1</sup>

Immigrants and American workers do not generally compete for the same jobs. Immigrants usually choose different occupations than the average American workers because that is the work that is available for them. These jobs will not be taken by Americans. These types of works include dishwashing in restaurants, farm work, care giving.<sup>2</sup>

David Campus make a study in which he compared wages paid in the United States between 1990 and 2004. This study finds that 90% of American citizens wage earners experienced substantial wage gains. It proved that it is not true that working immigrants lowered wages.<sup>3</sup>

Besides, when immigrants are added to the labor force, they increase the economy's total output. Natives may also gain from having a wider variety of goods and services to consume and from lower prices for the goods and the services produced by industries with high concentration of foreign-born workers.<sup>4</sup>

In fact, wages will not fall if the immigrants bring sufficient amount of other resources with them, such as capital, or cause the amount of other resources in the

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<sup>1</sup>Tim Bolin, The Economic and Fiscal Impact of Immigration, op. cit.

<sup>2</sup>"US Immigration Has a Positive Effect on Wages", op. cit.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

<sup>4</sup>The White House, "Immigration's Economic Impact", op.cit.

economy to increase sufficiently. Immigration also increase the amounts of other resources in the economy through running their own business.<sup>1</sup>

The differences of skills means that not all native workers will receive a lower wage. Those who compete with immigrants will receive more wages they would without immigration. While those who complement immigrants will receive a higher wages.<sup>2</sup>

The immigration surplus is considered as a total gains of natives from immigration. This surplus accrues to native factors of production that are complemented by immigrant workers. That's factors whose productivity is enhanced by the presence of immigrants.<sup>3</sup>

At the end of the wage question, immigrants especially work at high level jobs have been recruited by companies that are in need of them because they can not find comparable workers for these jobs. They nearly get the same wages as the United States workers. The high- level immigrants workers actually stimulate investment. They help the American economy. We can add also that immigration increase the economy's total output.<sup>4</sup>

Indeed, we can say that immigration has a positive effect on wages and economy in general. The American immigration history shows the United States benefit from immigration thanks to the creativity of immigrants as well as their willingness to work hard.

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<sup>1</sup> Raymond L. Cohn, Illinois State University, "Immigration to the United States", March, 25, 2011, <http://eh.net/encyclopedia/article/cohn.immigration.us>

<sup>2</sup> Adam M. Zaretsky, *A Burden to America? Immigration and Economy*, p. 05.

<sup>3</sup> The White House, "Immigration's Economic Impact", op.cit.

<sup>4</sup> "US Immigration Has a Positive Effect on Wages", op. cit.

### **2.7.3. The Fiscal Impact of Immigrants:**

Immigrants pay more taxes than the benefits they receive, most immigrants that come to the United States already have education, necessary vaccinations, medical examinations and all these services were paid by immigrants native country. The tax rate on income for immigrants is considerable larger in comparison with Americans.<sup>1</sup>

The fiscal impact of immigrants usually depends on their educational level, employment status and inherent wealth. In addition, their age of arrival in the country, it is very important to determine an immigrant family's impact on a government's budget. For instance, the immigrant families have to pay taxes in order to educate their children "educational services". These services are quite costly to the state, so the working parents pay taxes to help offset the costs of these services.<sup>2</sup>

On the other hand, older immigrants who are retired, will usually not be able to receive social security or Medicare. Young adults without dependent who begin working right away present the smallest burden. They will be paying taxes without requiring many services until much further in the future. The children of these immigrants will soon enter the labor force and begin paying taxes, they will not support only their children education but also their parents retirement.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> "Immigrants and the US economy", op. cit.

<sup>2</sup> Adam M. Zaretsky, A Burden to America? Immigration and Economy, 1997, op. cit, p. 08.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

#### **2.7.4. The Economic Benefits of Immigration:**

Immigration increase both the supply of labor in the United States as well as domestic consumer for goods and services. Immigrants create jobs as consumers and fill jobs as producers. Increased demand and labor can lead to production of more goods and services.<sup>1</sup>

Immigration can also increase the productivity of native workers. Depending on labor market demand, low-skill immigrants, by taking low skill jobs necessary to the American economy, can free higher skilled workers to work in higher skilled employment, where they can be more productive.<sup>2</sup>

The influx of immigrants in the labor market changes the " term of trade" between workers and firms and affects the incomes accruing to workers to firms and to the native population.<sup>3</sup> As with foreign trade, the gains accruing to the persons who use or consume immigrants services exceed the losses suffered by native workers, and hence society as a whole is better off. It means that the dollar value of the gains accruing to users of immigrant services exceeds the dollar value of the losses suffered by native workers. This difference between what winners win and what losers lose is called the immigration surplus, and it gives the gain in national income accruing to natives as a result of immigration.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Tim Bolin, The Economic and Fiscal Impact of Immigration, op. cit, p. 11.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> George J. Borjas, The Impact of Immigration on the Labor Market, , Harvard University, January 2006. , pp. 11-12.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid, p. 11.

Immigration produces clear economic gains for all native-born workers. They founded business and create employment opportunities for them and natives alike.<sup>1</sup> Unskilled domestic workers benefit from the added diversity of goods that immigrants enable the economy to produce. They benefit from a higher wages as well as the added diversity of goods.<sup>2</sup> So, Immigrants expand the size of markets which may lead to lower firm's average costs due to an increase in firm size.<sup>3</sup>

Immigrants also may participate in paying taxes when they place a strain on government services such as school system, their contributions are so beneficial for the United States. They could be an important component of the nation's economic growth.<sup>4</sup> Moreover, they benefit natives by arriving without generations of parents and grandparent on Medicare or Social Security but paying into these programs anyway throughout their careers.<sup>5</sup>

The nation as a whole gains from immigration. In another words, immigration increases the size of the economic pie available to natives. Immigration also redistributes income from native workers who compete with immigrants to those who hire and use immigrant services. It changes how the economic pie is split between workers and firms.<sup>6</sup>

Besides all what we have seen concerning immigration benefits, we find also that even illegal immigration which is a serious problem in the United States may be beneficial. For example, if an employer hires illegal immigrants, he pay them less than

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<sup>1</sup>Tim Bolin, The Economic and Fiscal Impact of Immigration, op. cit, p.12.

<sup>2</sup>Adam M. Zaretsky, A Burden to America? Immigration and Economy, op. cit, p. 06.

<sup>3</sup>Raymond L. Cohn, "Immigration to the United States", op. cit.

<sup>4</sup>Ibid.

<sup>5</sup>Tim Bolin, The Economic and Fiscal Impact of Immigration, op. cit, p.

<sup>6</sup>George J. Borjas, The Impact of Immigration on the Labor Market, op. cit, p.

the minimal wages in the United States. Such employer reduces his costs and it results in reducing price for his products. That directly benefits the American customers.<sup>1</sup>

## **2.8. Some Samples of Successful Immigrants:**

### **2.8.1. Rockefeller:**

Rockefeller was an American industrialist and philanthropist, he revolutionized the petroleum industry and defined the structure of modern philanthropy.<sup>2</sup> he is the first American billionaire and the first billionaire in the world.<sup>3</sup>

Rockefeller made a name for himself in America's budding oil industry. He built Standard Oil into the largest company in the world. Some experts suggest that Rockefeller was the richest human being to have lived.<sup>4</sup>

#### **2.8.1.1. His Early Life:**

John Davison Rockefeller was born in July 8, 1839. He was the second child of six children. He was the son of William Avery Rockefeller and Eliza Davison. Genealogists trace his roots back to French Huguenots who later fled to Germany in the 1600s.<sup>5</sup> They were among the Jesuits who were expelled from all the European Catholic

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<sup>1</sup> "Immigrants and the US economy", op. cit.

<sup>2</sup> "John D. Rockefeller Richest Person in History", March, 20, 2011, <http://forum.santabanta.com/showthread.htm?t=129848>

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

<sup>4</sup> "The Richest Man in History: Rockefeller is Born", May, 31, 2011, <http://www.evancarmichael.com/Famous-Entrepreneurs/651/The-Richest-Man-In-History-Rockefeller-is-Born.html>

<sup>5</sup> "John D. Rockefeller Richest Person in History", op. cit.

countries. His original family name was Roggenfelder which was later changed to Rockefeller. His great grandfather Johann immigrated to America in 1722.<sup>1</sup>

In 1853, his family moved to Strogsville, Ohio, where Rockefeller went to central high school. At the age of nineteen, he became a deacon at the Euclid avenue Baptist church and trustee at the age of twenty one. In 1855, Rockefeller dropped out of high school to take a business course at Folson Mercantile College.<sup>2</sup>

### **2.8.1.2. His Career:**

Rockefeller had a long and controversial career in the industry followed by a long career in philanthropy.

When Rockefeller was sixteen, he got his first job as an assistant bookkeeper, working for small produce commission firm called "Hewitt & Truttel" . His full salary for the first three month's work was \$50.<sup>3</sup>

In 1867, he established firm with his two partners Andrews and Flagner. It became the largest oil refiner in the world. Rockefeller, Andrews, and Flagner was the predecessor of Standard Oil Company.<sup>4</sup>

In 1870, he founded the Standard Oil Company in Ohio, which rapidly became the most profitable refiner in Ohio.<sup>5</sup>

Rockefeller set about to create a huge oil monopoly which would completely dominate the industry.<sup>1</sup>Standard Oil was convicted in Federal Court of monopolitic

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<sup>1</sup> "The Monarchy of Money", May, 31, 2011, <http://www.reformation.org/rockefeller.html>

<sup>2</sup>"The Richest Man in History: Rockefeller is Born", op.cit.

<sup>3</sup> "John D. Rockefeller Richest Person in History", op. cit.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> "The Monarchy of Money", op. cit.

practices and broken up in 1911.<sup>2</sup> He spent the last fourteen years of his life in retirement.

### **Philanthropy:**

Rockefeller fortune was mainly used to create the modern systematic approach of targeted philanthropy with foundations that had a major effect on medicine, education, and scientific research.<sup>3</sup> The house of Rockefeller is considered as the invisible government of the United States.<sup>4</sup>

As his wealth grew, his givings included education and public health as well as science and arts. Rockefeller believed in the Efficiency Movement.<sup>5</sup> He provided major funding for a college in Atlanta for African American women. He also gave considerable donations to Denison University and other Baptist colleges. In addition, he gave \$80 million to the University of Chicago in 1900. In 1902, he established his General Education Board which aimed to promote education at all levels everywhere in the country.<sup>6</sup>

The most important impact of Rockefeller came by funding the recommendations of the Flexner Report of 1910 for the advancement of teaching especially the study of medicine in the United States. Rockefeller also provided financial support to many universities such as: Yale, Harvard, Columbia, Brown, Bryn Mawr, Wellesly and

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<sup>1</sup> Ibid.

<sup>2</sup> "John D. Rockefeller Richest Person in History", op. cit.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

<sup>4</sup> "The Monarchy of Money", op. cit.

<sup>5</sup> "John D. Rockefeller Richest Person in History", op. cit.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

Vassar. Moreover, he founded the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research in New York in 1901. This institution name was changed in 1965 to Rockefeller University.<sup>1</sup>

### **2.8.1.3. His Legacy:**

As a youth, Rockefeller said that he has two great ambitions: to make \$100,000 and to live 100 years.<sup>2</sup> Actually, Rockefeller reached his ambitions. He lived 98 years and reached 329,9 billion \$ USD and not only \$100,000. He became a legend, the richest person in history.

## **2.8.2. Ford:**

### **2.8.2.1. Henry Ford:**

Henry Ford is the founder of the Ford Foundation. He was an inventor, philanthropist and successful American businessman. In fact,<sup>3</sup> he is not the inventor of the automobile but he is one of the pioneers.<sup>4</sup>

#### **2.8.2.1.1. His Early Life:**

Henry Ford was born on July 30, 1863 in Dearborn, Michigan. Ford's parents were Irish immigrants. Henry Ford was the eldest of six children. He grew up on prosperous and comfortable family farm when he enjoyed his childhood typical of the rural nineteenth century.<sup>5</sup> At an early age, Ford believed there was too much work and not

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<sup>1</sup> Ibid.

<sup>2</sup>"The Richest Man in History: Rockefeller is Born", op.cit.

<sup>3</sup> " Henry Ford : Ford Motor Company", May, 31, 2011, <http://www.woopidoo.com/biography/henry-ford/index.htm>

<sup>4</sup> "Henry Ford", May, 31, 2011, <http://www.hfmgv.org/exhibits/hf>

<sup>5</sup> Henry Ford : Ford Motor Company", op. cit.

enough income living from the land.<sup>1</sup> He showed a dislike for farm work and interest in mechanical things.<sup>2</sup>

#### **2.8.2.1.2. His Career:**

Ford began his career as an apprentice machinist in 1879.<sup>3</sup> He had the talent of engineering, in 1891, Ford became with the Edison Illuminating Company in Detroit. He dedicated all his life to industrial pursuits. His promotion to Chief Engineer in 1893 helped him to devote attention to his personal experiments which led to the completion of his own self-propelled vehicle "the Quadricycle".<sup>4</sup> Henry Ford created the Ford Foundation in 1963.<sup>5</sup> In 1947, at the age of eighty three, he died of a cerebral hemorrhage and was buried in the Ford cemetery in Detroit.<sup>6</sup>

#### **2.8.2.2. Ford Motor Company:**

Today Ford Motor Company is one of the world's leading consumer companies of automotive products including a family of widely-recognized brands: Ford, Lincoln, Mercury, Jaguar, Land Rover, Aston Martin, and Volvo.<sup>7</sup> It is considered as one of the greatest automobile manufacturers of all time. It started under Henry Ford in Detroit in

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<sup>1</sup> Ibid.

<sup>2</sup> "Henry Ford", op. cit.

<sup>3</sup> "Henry Ford : Ford Motor Company", op. cit.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> "Henry Ford", op. cit.

<sup>6</sup> "Henry Ford : Ford Motor Company", op. cit.

<sup>7</sup> "Ford Motor Company", February, 02, 2011,

<http://www.fundinguniverse.com/company-histories/Ford-Motor-Company-Company-History.html>

1903.<sup>1</sup> This company developed with the development of the vehicle models through history.

Ford first production was the Model A in 1903. Then he moved to building a racing machine called the 999 in 1904. He also produced the Model C and Model B during the same year. All these models were improved in the Model K in 1905. In 1906, he introduced the Model N which led to the introduction of the famous Model T in 1909. Model T became extremely popular for the eighteen years. As Ford continued to produce, they expanded into Great Britain, France and Germany. Ford became a strong automobile company.<sup>2</sup>

During the 1960s competition increased and Ford had to become innovative in order to remain one of the top manufacturers. They created the Ford Mustang in 1964 which was a great success.<sup>3</sup> During the coming years, they have created some great cars including the Thunder Bird, Model T, Fairlaine, Galaxie, Falcon, and Mustang. They have also increased their production during 1980s.<sup>4</sup> With increasing production, innovative styles, low prices, and consumers satisfaction, Ford Motor Company has become a worldwide leader in the manufacturing of automobiles.

According to the results that we have reached concerning the influence of immigrants on labor markets, wages, and fiscal side as well these two samples of successful immigrants, we can say that immigration is really an act of success in the American economy. Both Rockefeller and Henry Ford sum up this story of success,

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<sup>1</sup> "History of Ford Motor Company ", May, 31, 2011,  
[http://web.bryant.edu/~ehu/h364proj/fall\\_97/lushing/Ford.html//](http://web.bryant.edu/~ehu/h364proj/fall_97/lushing/Ford.html//)

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

actually both of them are sons of immigrants who were obliged to immigrate because of one reason or another. This first generation of immigrants aimed at improving their lives and looking for better future for their children.

In the land of opportunities in which the nature of the American political and economic system encourages immigration toward success, Rockefeller and Henry Ford succeeded in moving from poverty to wealth, they elevated their economic scale and became among the richest persons in history. Rockefeller was the first oil company owner and the first billionaire in history when Henry Ford was the founder of Ford Motor Company. According to immigrants, immigration to the United States is equivalent to success. Believing in the American Dream, they became rich and successful individuals through hard work.

This does not mean that all immigrants succeeded, there are some exceptions. Some of them immigrated poor and died poor especially during the Great Depression Era 1920s and 1930s. During that period, the United States witnessed an economic crisis in which more people emigrated from the United States than immigrated to it. But all in all, the majority of immigrants succeeded and the United States benefited from them. As a result, the United States still encourage immigration till today . It considers immigration as a source of renewal of power through new blood. This is shown in the Immigration System Reform adopted by Obama. So the American government thinks to reform the immigration system instead of stop it despite all its problems because immigration is indispensable in the land of immigration. It is the spirit of the United States of America.

## **2.9. Conclusion:**

The huddled masses have been arriving on American shores for more than two centuries, they came with great challenges. The economic reason was a major reason of immigration. They believed that through hard work they may achieve success and the dream of getting rich. Today immigrants contribute in the American overall economy , they have great effects on the labor market, wages, and fiscal side. In the long run the American economy has benefited from immigration, that's why the United States still accepts immigrants until nowadays and at the same time it thinks to reform the immigration system rather than to stop it.

## Conclusion

Immigration is one of the most colorful chapters in the United States history, it is considered today one of the most controversial issues. This phenomenon marked the whole American history and became typically an American fundamental characteristic. The newcomers have been arriving on the American shores for more than two centuries, they included many kinds of human beings who came from different places in the world. Immigration to the United States started by the Indians who were the first inhabitants, they were followed by the Founding Fathers who established the Thirteen Colonies which became the United States of America. At that time, the United States witnessed an intense influx of immigrants waves. The variety of the nature of newcomers made it a land of differences, they had various nationalities, languages, cultures, religions, races. They moved to the New World which represented a land of opportunity looking for happiness, liberty, democracy because they were persecuted and oppressed in their homelands. They aimed at improving their lives and achieving what they could not reach in their original countries.

In this investigation, we tried to find a relationship between immigration and success and we wanted to prove that immigration is an act of success in the United States. In the first chapter, we found that immigrants succeeded in creating a nation through natural and gradual process. Moreover, the continuous process of ingathering of diversity races and bloods made this new country very powerful. Immigrants were different in everything but they shared in common "*the becoming or belonging*", they succeeded in living together peacefully because all of them have the same goal. Thus, we consider that immigration to America is a unique human experience that made it an exceptional and unique nation.

In the second chapter, our study focused on the study of the role of immigrants in the American economy. As we know, immigrants came with great challenges, the economic reason was a major reason of immigration. They believed that through hard work they may achieve success and their dream of getting rich. We found that immigrants are a basic ingredient of the American economy because they represent the labor force which is very important for the health of the economy. They participate in paying taxes and they are also the cheap workforce because immigrants often earn less than the minimal wages, they also create new work places. Immigration brings innovative and entrepreneurial spirit to the American economy, it allows to the expansion and diversity of goods which leads to the economy's total output. This phenomenon is considered as a solution to a serious problem "the aging population".

According to the results of our study, we make sure that in the long run the American economy benefits from immigration. As a result, the United States still accepts immigrants till nowadays. Despite it faces some serious problems concerning immigration such as illegall immigration and the fear of threatening the American identity and culture, the United States thinks to reform the immigration system rather than to stop it. This shows how immigration is important for America.

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