Name

Tutor

Course

Date

<div align="center">Should Government Grant Illegal Immigrants Amnesty?</div>

Immigration is a contentious issue in America. It is a hotly debated topic by the citizens and they hold different views about immigrants. Amnesty refers to granting forgiveness to persons convicted of committing political offenses. Statistics show that America has more than 10 million immigrants who are in the country illegally. This has led to overpopulation in major cities because these people move to urban centers in search of a better living. Native Americans have divided opinions about the issue of immigrants. Some do not support amnesty, whereas others support it. However, the Obama government has made recommendable steps in solving the controversial issue about immigrants, which has led to both backlash, and lauding by the citizens. In this regard, the focus is on whether the government should grant illegal immigrants amnesty or not.

Proponents of amnesty argue that it contributes to the economy. Illegal immigrants make huge contributions towards the economy. They contribute to GDP of the country. For instance, Mexican immigrants contribute 4% towards the GDP. Therefore, granting amnesty to them would lead to economic development. In addition, they pay taxes that help government to fiancé its operations. Taxes are crucial because they help in financing government projects leading to increased standards of living (Miller 5). Therefore, it would do no harm to grant amnesty illegal

immigrants to have the permission to stay in America. They make positive contribution to the economy, and government should put this into consideration when devising policies concerning them. Moreover, they provide cheap labor leading to industrial growth. This affects the economy positively because it leads to increased investment, which reduces unemployment level.

Amnesty could result to a stronger nation. Stereotypes about immigrants make them feel out of place. They do not have a sense of belonging to the American soil. They face numerous discriminations, which make them feel that they are in a foreign land. Many people have the misconceptions that immigrants are thieves, killers, and rapists. Harboring such gave stereotypes against them cultivates a feeling of exclusion (Miller 7). However, granting them amnesty would change the situation because they would become part and parcel of America. They would start to own the values that the forefathers of the nation built it on, which would make the country great. Therefore, changing their status would bridge differences that exist and built a strong nation.

In addition, amnesty is tantamount to giving them a second chance. People should not forget that immigrants sneak into America in order to uplift their standards of living. They want to look for happiness by securing jobs that would cater even for their families back in their struggling nations. Amnesty would make them feel wanted, and appreciated. Therefore, they would do anything within their means to ensure that they do not let the golden opportunity at their disposal to go to waste. It is evident that individuals who receive a second chance in their lives do not waste it (Miller 11). This is because life experience have shaped their attitude and mentality implying that given a chance they make best of it. Therefore, granting amnesty to illegal immigrants would make them industrious citizens.

It contributes to diversity because it encourages immigration. People from different cultural backgrounds come to America. Human interaction shape individual experience, which change their perception about others. It makes people appreciate others for who they are. It cultivates cultural relativism because they learn that no culture is superior to the other. Therefore, they would judge the actions of others not based on their own culture, but the culture of that particular group. This would cultivate respect and promote peaceful coexistence. America is a nation that has people from different walks and life, and embracing diversity would reduce violence (Miller 13). Mass shooting and police violence result from failure to embrace cultural diversity. Therefore, government should accord amnesty because it promotes diversity.

Furthermore, most illegal immigrants are law-abiding. They do not want to break any law because they are aware of the consequences that would befall them. To them, the most important thing is to stay on the right side of the law and work hard to change their fortunes. They do not have time for crime because what matters to them is the chance to lead a better life. Statistics show that most immigrants are law abiding and governments should not depot them. Instead, they should give them amnesty to reward their goodness (Miller 14). America has strict legal laws that govern the actions of immigrants, which makes them to behave and abide by the law. They know a slight abuse of the opportunity given to them would lead to deportation.

On the other hand, those against amnesty argue that it increases influx of illegal immigrants in the country. In order to curb illegal immigration, government should enact strict measures against them (Rivera-Batiz 3). They should understand that when found they would face deportation, which would inflict fear on them, thus stop immigrants from flowing into the country. However, granting amnesty encourages illegal immigration. This is because individuals understand that even if illegal immigration amounts to breaking laws, they would receive

forgiveness and nothing would happen to them. This would make the country a hotbed of immigrants. Therefore, government should not allow amnesty on lawbreakers. Having many immigrants is a threat to the wellbeing of the nation.

Moreover, immigration is costly to the nation. It increases government spending because it has to provide for their social welfare. It is true that not all immigrants secure jobs, and most of them do not end up rich. For instance, between the years 2011 to 2013, the government used over 40% in Medicaid in order to cater for immigrants (Rivera-Batiz 5). They have negative implications on the economy and according them amnesty would weaken economic growth. Therefore, instead of according them amnesty, government should deport them back to their countries. Additionally, they siphon wealth from America to their countries. Data collected by World Bank shows that America has the highest rate of remittance. For example, Indian immigrants sent about $61.8 billion back to their country. This means that they siphon American wealth to their countries leading to economic decline.

Amnesty defies the logic that society should punish illegal action, but not reward it. Illegal immigration is a crime that culprits should face the wrath of law for committing it. Logically, lawbreakers receive punishment in order to make them not repeat similar action. However, according illegal immigrants amnesty would defy this logic (Rivera-Batiz 9). Moreover, it would lead to deterioration of values of law and order. Individuals maintain law and order because they know that breaking law is a punishable offence. This implies that governments should never forgive a person acquitted of crime. Amnesty would also encourage individuals to commit illegal activities because they perceive law as lenient. Lastly, it translates to contempt of American values.

It is a threat to national security. Terrorism has become rampant in the world. America has many enemies who wait for the opportune moment to strike them. This means that allowing immigrants into the country would expose the country to terrorism. Moreover, it would make it difficult for homeland security to operate. It would be difficult for individuals to monitor their neighbors with high rate of immigrants (Rivera-Batiz 7). National security is very crucial to America and government should not compromise it by giving amnesty to illegal immigrants. It should put interests of its citizens and American land in front of those aliens. Therefore, it should never give amnesty, but instead it should deport those illegally cross American borders.

To sum it all, government should grant illegal immigrants amnesty. This is because points in support outweigh those against it. They contribute to the economy because they work and pay taxes. In addition, amnesty would lead to a stronger nation as immigrants would feel that America is their country. It boosts diversity and gives them a second chance to change their lives. Proponents also hold that immigrants are not law-breakers and government should grant them amnesty. On the other hand, they cause a threat to national security and increase costs. However, these arguments against amnesty do not provide sufficient ground for government to fail to grant amnesty. Therefore, amnesty is the solution to the controversial issue about immigrants.

Works Cited

Miller. D. (2010). *Immigration*. Detroit: Greenhaven Press/Gale Cengage Learning. Print.

Rivera-Batiz. F (2005). "Illegal immigrants in the US economy."*International Migration:*

Trends, Policy and Economic Impact: 183.