

# Immigration Essay

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“We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness.”

People everywhere, not just in America, yearn for those Rights, and that is why people from everywhere on Earth seek to come to our country.

## The Statue of Liberty

“Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free.”

When in about 1850 all my German ancestors left a country in political turmoil and probably sailed into New York Harbor, the great statue had not yet been built. They probably were processed at nearby Ellis Island (which I once visited), climbed the steps, were inspected for health, and were processed at a row of windows. Then they all made their way to West Bend, Wisconsin, near where most of their descendants live to this day.

In World War 2 my father and uncles fought the Germans and Japanese. I never, ever heard any of my relatives praise Hitler; they are all now Americans!

I married a Chinese woman. Her parents came from China in 1940 to study at Columbia University in New York City. There five children, including my wife, were born; two more children later came over from China. They have had children, and now grandchildren—four generations.

One Thanksgiving I celebrated with my Chinese inlaws, eating a big turkey. I was the only Caucasian in the house, but I had a great time.

I never, ever heard any of my Chinese relatives praise Communist China; they are now all Americans!

Today millions of people are trying to come to America. Guatemalan coffee farmers are coming to escape low coffee prices and a coffee disease. People facing drought and famine in Africa want a new life in America.

Nicaraguans and El Salvadorians are coming to escape dictatorships and gang violence; these are true asylum seekers. More asylum seekers are coming to escape civil war in Syria, Sudan, and elsewhere.

These people simply seek  
Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness.

The American immigration system must give these legitimate immigrants prompt and fair due process of their applications, no matter who they are or how they got here.

Now about illegal immigrants: Almost all of these people desperately entered the USA because they needed jobs and freedom. Those are good things; why does a desire to work make you a criminal?

INCARCERATING CHILDREN IN CAGES  
DEFILES EVERY DECENT AMERICAN IDEAL!

Yes, a few illegal immigrants are terrorists, drug dealers, and murderers, but most such vile scum in America are *homegrown American citizens!*

Criminals should be vetted by the immigration authorities.

President Trump, please work to develop a humane immigration policy consistent with our high American ideals.