Let’s Talk Immigration

Community Foundation of Tompkins County

Stephen Yale-Loehr and Khandikile Sokoni

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Cornell Law School
Asylum & Immigration Law Professor

Miller Mayer, LLP
Immigration Law

Stephen Yale-Loehr
Green Card Stories

Introduction by Laura Danielson and Stephen Yale-Loehr
Stories by Saundra Amrhein
Photographs by Ariana Lindquist

umbrage
U.S. Immigration System

- Largest immigration system in the world
- 10 million non-immigrants every year
- About 1 million immigrants every year
Overview of U.S. Immigration: People in the U.S.

- **Non-immigrants**
  - Employment limited.
  - Duration of stay limited.
  - Starting place for most graduates and visitors.

- **DACA**
  - “Green Card Holder”
  - Can work or live anywhere.
  - Cannot vote in U.S. elections.
  - Can be deported.

- **TPS**

- **Undocumented**

- **Permanent Residents**
  - Can work or live anywhere.
  - Can vote in U.S. elections.
  - No fear of deportation.

- **Citizens**
Nonimmigrant Visas (NIVs)

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<th>Work Permitted</th>
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<td>L-1 (Transfer)</td>
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<td>N, O, P, Q, R, S</td>
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Immigrant Visas (Green Cards)

- **Family-Sponsored**
  - Immediate relatives of US citizens
  - FS-1, 3, 4 (Family of US citizens)
  - FS-2 (Family of green card holders)
  - 750-800,000 per year

- **Employment Based**
  - EB-1 (Priority workers)
  - EB-2 (Advanced degrees)
  - EB-3 (Professionals/others)
  - EB-4 (Religious workers)
  - EB-5 (Immigrant investors)
  - 140,000 per year

- **Humanitarian**
  - Asylum/Refugee
  - 80-120,000 per year

- **Diversity**
  - 50,000 per year

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Immigrant Visas (Green Cards)
Green Card
• Asylum
• Colombia
• Magician
• Spoke out against right-wing paramilitary forces and left-wing guerillas

Cesar Domico
• Employment-based green card
• Iceland’s first female neurosurgeon
• Fell in love with US during her childhood

Hulda Magnadottir
Naturalization
Thupten Lama

- Tibetan
- Political asylee in Minnesota
- Teaches Buddhism classes
- Wants to come back in next life as US citizen
US Immigration Agencies
Broken System
Broken System

The Sacramento Bee, 2006 Rex Babin
The Debate
Immigration Reform in Congress
Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals
Asylum

1951 UN Refugee Convention
• Librarian from Liberia
• Asylum
• Took 2 years to bring family here

Saah Quigee
• Expanded visas
• Earned legalization
• Enforcement
Legislation and Sausage
What you can do personally

• Write your members of Congress
• Support comprehensive immigration reform
• Contribute to immigrants’ rights organizations

• Follow national immigration organizations like:
  • National Immigration Forum
  • American Immigration Lawyers Association
  • American Immigration Council