

# QUESTIONNAIRE

## Coming to America Who Should We Welcome, What Should We Do?

You may also fill out  
this questionnaire  
online: [www.nifi.org/  
questionnaires](http://www.nifi.org/questionnaires)

**NOW THAT YOU'VE HAD** a chance to participate in a forum on this issue, we'd like to know what you're thinking. Your opinions, along with those of thousands of others who participated in these forums, will be reflected in a summary report that will be available to all citizens, including those who took part in the forums, as well as officeholders, members of the news media, and others in your community.

Do you favor or oppose each of these actions?	Strongly Favor	Somewhat Favor	Somewhat Oppose	Strongly Oppose	Not Sure
1. Give young people brought here as children when their parents entered the United States illegally the chance to become legal residents and citizens, <b>EVEN IF</b> this means they are benefiting from the unlawful actions of their parents.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
2. Reduce the number of legal immigrants admitted to the United States each year, <b>EVEN IF</b> this leads to worker shortages in agriculture, construction, and nursing, as well as higher prices for basics like food and housing.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
3. End bilingual education programs in public schools and make learning English the top priority for foreign-born students, <b>EVEN IF</b> this means these students fall behind in their other subjects and struggle while trying to learn English.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
4. Identify the approximately 11 million people who are in the United States illegally, deport them, and make them reapply for entry, <b>EVEN IF</b> this means tearing families and communities apart all across the country.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
5. Prosecute employers who hire workers without legal papers, <b>EVEN IF</b> they can't find American workers who can do these jobs and this ends up making American products more expensive and less competitive in the world market.	<input type="checkbox"/>				

**For questions 6-9, let us know which statement comes closer to your view. If you're not sure, please let us know.**

6. To show we are a nation of laws and prevent people who break the law from getting an unfair advantage, we should deport the millions of immigrants who came here illegally and make them reapply for entry to the United States.

**VERSUS:**

Deporting millions of people who are living and working here peacefully because they entered the country illegally years ago is cruel. In this case, the punishment far outweighs the crime.

**OR:**

Not sure

7. Welcoming newcomers from around the world makes our country and our economy vibrant and strong—we should keep immigration at current levels.

**VERSUS:**

Current levels of immigration are too high, and the country is now becoming so diverse that we are endangering our ability to assimilate newcomers and maintain our national unity.

**OR:**

Not sure

# QUESTIONNAIRE

8. Our priority should be to help immigrants assimilate into our distinctively American culture and way of life, including learning English language and US history. Being a melting pot is a cornerstone of America's strength.

**VERSUS:**

Our priority should be to respect and include a mosaic of different peoples, cultures, and languages. Our diversity is a cornerstone of America's strength.

**OR:**

Not sure

9. The United States should accept more refugees fleeing war and deprivation in countries like Syria and Somalia. Historically, we've always taken in refugees because our country has seen it as a moral obligation to help.

**VERSUS:**

In these dangerous times, it's much too difficult to check the backgrounds of people coming from such war-torn areas. We shouldn't take the risk.

**OR:**

Not sure

10. Did you talk about aspects of the issue you hadn't considered before?  Yes  No  
If so, please explain. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

11. Were there ideas or proposals that you tended to favor coming into the forum that you now have second thoughts about?  
 Yes  No  
If so, please explain. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

12. What could citizens, working together, do in their own communities to address this problem? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

13. Not including this forum, how many National Issues Forums have you attended?  
 0  1-3  4-6  7 or more  Not sure

14. Are you male or female?  Male  Female  Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

15. How old are you?  
 17 or younger  18-30  31-45  46-64  65 or older

16. Are you:  African American  Asian American  Hispanic or Latino  
 Native American  White/Caucasian  Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

17. Where do you live?  Rural  Small Town  Large City  Suburb

18. What is your ZIP code? \_\_\_\_\_ What state do you live in? \_\_\_\_\_

19. Were you born in the United States?  Yes  No

19. What issue would you like to see covered in a future forum? \_\_\_\_\_

Please give this form to the moderator, e-mail to [forumreports@nifi.org](mailto:forumreports@nifi.org), or mail to:  
National Issues Forums Institute, 100 Commons Road, Dayton, Ohio 45459.

You may also fill out this questionnaire online at [www.nifi.org/questionnaires](http://www.nifi.org/questionnaires).