### **IMMIGRATION REVIEW**

Immigration can be broken down into four periods: Colonial period Mid-19<sup>th</sup> century Turn of the 20<sup>TH</sup> century Post-1965

Courant

## **COLONIAL PERIOD**

- Immigration in the colonial period was predominantly English.
- In the 200 years before the Revolution, just under 1 million people migrated to America.
  - Motivations were economic, religious, or involuntary
  - About half were indentured servants (especially to the Chesapeake) in the 1600s.
  - After indentured servitude stopped, slavery replaced it with about 300K slave brought to the colonies.
- Scots-Irish moved to the South and ended up across the Appalachians.
- Germans came in large numbers to Pennsylvania.
- Most of the western settlement of territories will come from migration, not immigration.

#### **COLONIAL PERIOD- REACTION**

- Naturalization Act of 1790
- The first rules about citizenship.
  - Limited naturalization to immigrants who were "free white persons" of "good moral character"
  - No indentured servants, slaves, free blacks, and later Asians
- Alien Act of 1798 (Alien and Sedition Acts)
  - Extended residency requirement five years to fourteen years.

# MID-19<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY

- Between 1800-1880, 10 million immigrants came to America
- Northern and Western European
  - Germany
    - Came because of political unrest in Germany
    - Moved to the farms of the Midwest and the Old Northwest
  - Ireland
    - Came because of the potato famine
    - Moved to the cities of the East
  - China
    - Small numbers of immigrants came to CA for the gold rush and stayed for mining and the railroad.
  - Immigrants tended to cluster by group in particular neighborhoods, cities, and regions.

## MID-19<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY

- In 1848, the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo extended U.S. citizenship to approximately 60,000 Mexican residents of the New Mexico and 4,000 living in California.
  - Mexican Americans will face extensive prejudice and will only attain second-class citizen status.
- In 1849, the California Gold Rush brought significant numbers of people from Mexico, South America, China, Australia, and Europe.

# **MID-19<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY- REACTION**

- Nativism in the East
  - Antipathy to immigrants in general
  - A fear of Catholicism
  - Prejudices against the Irish
  - Political movement, the Know Nothings
    - Anti-immigration and anti-Catholic
- Nativism in the West
  - Racism against the Chinese in mining towns in the West
  - Rocks Springs, WY Massacre
  - Workingman's Party a CA labor organization led by Denis Kearney in the 1870s.
  - "The Chinese must go!"
  - Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882

# **TURN OF THE 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY**

- Between 1891-1910, 12 million immigrants came to America.
- Southern and Eastern Europe
- Italy, Russia, Greece, Balkan Nations
- Many of these new immigrants were Catholic, Greek Orthodox, or Jewish

#### **TURN OF THE 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY REACTION**

- In 1921 Congress passed the Emergency Quota Act
- The National Origins Act of 1924
  - Limited the annual number of immigrants who could be admitted from any country to 2% of the number of people from that country who were already living in the United States in 1890

## POST-1965

- Latin America and Asia
- Economic Reasons
- Mexican immigration
  - Bracero Program- welcomed immigrants during WW2
  - Operation Wetback- tried to force immigrants back to Mexico in the 50s.
- Political asylum seekers
  - Jews after WW2
  - Cuba
  - Hungary
  - Southeast Asia

### **POST-1965 REACTION**

- The Hart-Cellar Act of 1965 abolished the system of national-origin quotas.
- Ongoing debate is about illegal vs. legal immigration.
- In 1986, the Immigration Reform and Control Act created new penalties for employers who hired illegal immigrants.
- Arizona SB 1070 of 2010 is the broadest and strictest anti-illegal immigration law in recent history.
- U.S. federal law requires certain aliens to register with the U.S. government, and to have registration documents in their possession at all times- the AZ law makes it a misdemeanor not to have their papers on them at all times.