



A Brief Candle: Illegal Immigration's Threat to America's Existence

In 1883 France gave the United States a 150-foot statue that stands on a pedestal on Bedloe Island in New York Harbor. The sculptor, Frederic-Auguste Bartholdi called it *Liberty Enlightening the World*. The Statue of Liberty was a gift from the people of France to honor Liberty and to commemorate "the alliance of the two nations in achieving the independence of the United States of America."

The Statue of Liberty has nothing to do with immigration or the words of the Emma Lazarus poem written on a plaque that was added in 1903. Today the explosion of illegal immigrants may turn *Lady Liberty's* torch of liberty into a brief candle that will soon lose its illumination for all Americans.

According to legendary historians Edward Gibbon, Oswald Spengler and Arnold Toynbee, the symptoms of a dying civilization include the loss of religious faith, a decline in morals, contempt for traditional values, and paralysis of the will. American culture shows many of these signs of internal collapse, making itself ripe for an *alien invasion*. Patrick Buchanan's new book, *State of Emergency: The Third World Invasion of America*, states that this invasion is *accompanied by drug smuggling, human trafficking and...gang-related violence*.

While historical references to Rome and Nazi Germany may be over stated, Buchanan sees America's current large-scale immigration parallel to that of ancient Rome. Much of Rome's downfall can be attributed to its acceptance of a polyglot invasion of its subject peoples. Unlike its more indigenous predecessors, most of Rome's imperial immigrants demonstrated little reverence for Roman gods, traditions, or culture. In his *Fall of the Roman Empire: A New History of Rome and the Barbarians*, Oxford historian Peter Heather attributes the fall of the Roman empire to Rome's refusal to block a great horde of Gothic refugees at its Danube frontier in 376. They were welcomed with open arms, but two years later they killed the emperor Valens and slaughtered his army. Heather's book serves as Roman warning for the American people.

THE MELTING POT

Many contend that the United States has always been a nation of immigrants. Waves of immigrants founded, settled, and built America. During President Theodore Roosevelt's presidency, millions of refugees flocked to America's shore in search of religious, economic, and political freedom from oppressive governments in Europe. When they arrived they were eager to be assimilated as full-fledged Americans.

Playwright Israel Zangwell coined the term *melting pot* in his eponymous adaptation of Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*, first performed in Washington D.C. in 1908. He believed that only in America could the races of Europe *be smelted into a product uniquely American*. Assimilation was relatively easy since few of these refugees were from Africa, Asia, or Latin America.

America's European preference remained our national policy until 1965 when President Lyndon B. Johnson dramatically altered the focus. With the Immigration Act of 1965, the country embarked on a policy of direct discrimination against the people who had built this nation and made it strong and secure. For political reasons, the legislation was Johnson's direct attempt to alter the demographic landscape in favor of people from non-European countries, whose cultures were often at odds with American middle-class values.

Encouraged by their liberal advocates, many of these *New Americans* disdained any interest in becoming loyal citizens. Their determination to retain their own language and culture became a divisive force in American society. Under the banner of multiculturalism and racial diversity, both Marxist ideas, they hoped to make America more like the countries they had left behind. The nation's elected officials often yielded to their persistent demands.

AN INTANGIBLE CLUB

The business community sees unrestricted immigration in a positive light. To the government policy apparatiks from the

Harvard Business School, the country is nothing more than an economic entity that produces and earns enormous wealth. To them America is a huge *job mart* for companies that are concerned more about the bottom line than what America is fast becoming. Scholar John Attarian calls this attitude *economism*. This neo-Marxist ideology is rooted in the materialistic idea that economic activity is mankind's most important activity and the most conducive to human happiness.

An economic union is not a nation. Economics is not what binds people together in that intangible club of what it means to be an American. The deep-seated belief that it is America's manifest destiny to control the world economy is the lifeblood that runs through American globalists' veins. Buchanan blames the Enlightenment, which *made atheism, denial of the soul and free will, and impiety intellectually respectable*.

Buchanan also scolds both the politicians for dereliction of duty in not securing the nation's borders from invasion and American business for encouraging this disastrous national policy because of cheap labor. America's illegal immigrants are akin to the Germanic barbarians at the Roman gates, ready to undermine the established culture.

Buchanan suggests that the reason Americans have not been more vigilant in stopping the illegal flow is that millions of baby boomers *have been marinated in guilt, indoctrinated to believe America to be fatally flawed*. It is guilt, midwived in American colleges and universities and nurtured on pretense that American history and culture are dominated by intolerance, genocide, sexism, persecution, racism, and homophobia. This artificially generated guilt about the alleged generated sins of the American past has Americans reaching for their lyres while their country blazes before their eyes.

GATEWAY FOR TERRORISTS

Buchanan identifies the obvious dangers of government's faulty immigration policies. On August 12, 2005, New Mexico Democratic Governor Bill Richardson declared a *state of emergency* on his Mexican border, claiming that the region had been *devastated by the ravages and terror of human smuggling, drug smuggling, kidnapping, murder, destruction of property and the death of livestock*. The Mexican government looks the other way while its surplus population moves north. Their poverty, lack of education and basic hygiene have infected American communities with an *assembly line of diseases*. Eagle Forum's Phyllis Schlafly concurs when she points out the way aliens have reintroduced diseases we virtually eradicated decades ago, such as tuberculosis and malaria, and brought in new diseases unknown in the United States such as

chagas, west Nile virus, and intestinal parasites.

Buchanan believes America's unrestricted borders serve as a *Gateway for Terrorists*. Author Michelle Malkin reminds Americans that while ordinary border aliens have no connection to terrorism, they give terrorists an easy cover for penetrating the country's southern border.

Illegal immigration causes a more pervasive kind of terrorism. Many of their youth join gangs; the notorious *Mara Salvatrucha* (MS-13) is an extremely violent Salvadorian group with about 100,000 members in 33 states. Gangs like this, have turned Los Angeles into a warring city. Liberal church and civic leaders who have lobbied for *sanctuary zones*, areas free from government enforcement, acerbate the problem. Violent gangs have turned many neighborhoods into crime zones.

A CREEDAL NATION

America's southern borders are only an external danger. The more serious threat is our nation's loss of its identity. It is not Teddy Roosevelt's America any more. Academics and others weaned on the anti-Americanism of the sixties are redefining what it means to be an American. They reject cultural assimilation as a form of ethnic genocide. The country's self-image has been tarnished by a Marxist mania for group rights, identity politics, and ethnic entitlements. The *melting pot* has given way to a multiculturalist's *salad bowl* or *mosaic*.

National unrest and social conflict flow from the river of cultural Marxism through the tributaries of multiculturalism and racial diversity. Love of country has no place in their Marxist equation. Patriotism is a passionate attachment to the land, the people, its history, heroes, legends and lore, as well as its language, literature, culture and customs. It is the soul of a nation. When it dies, the country loses its lifeline to the future.

To liberals, America is a *creedal nation*, united by a *common commitment of all her citizens to a set of ideas*. Many contend that Americans have little or nothing in common except the Constitution and the institutions it created. Their mantra is that abstract ideas built America, not heroic individuals. Open-border advocates say that it doesn't matter where immigrants come from. They can be easily taught to accept the American idea of freedom, women's rights, human dignity, and democracy. They believe that *the American creed* will shape many disparate groups into a mellifluous orchestra that will play in social harmony.

Conservative professor Claes G. Ryn calls the idea of a creedal nation the *civics approach to social order*. Human beings are not blank slates that can be held together by belief in a *Living Constitution*. They can only be united by a common attachment

to their tribe, race, nation, historical memory, or culture. The idea that equality and democracy will cause the social order to evolve in a positive direction is a fancy detached from reality.

BABIES AND BALLOTS

California is the state most severely impacted by the flood of illegal immigrants. Many Mexicans hope to reclaim from the United States the area that they contend was *stolen* from them in the wake of the 1846 Mexican War. Their leaders believe in *La Reconquista*, a re-conquest, not by military invasion, but by cultural transformation of the American Southwest. In a merger of *babies and ballots*, their fecundity will join with the voting booth to re-conquer the Southwest without firing a shot.

On the West Coast, Americans are already voting with their feet as 250,000 mostly white Californians leave each year in what demographer William Frey calls the *flight from diversity*. Birth control, abortion, and sterilization – the same *suicide potion of modernity* at work in Europe, is making its deadly rounds in the Southwest. Native Californians are not reproducing fast enough to replace those citizens who leave or die.

GOOD SAMARITAN CATHOLICS

In an article for the National Catholic Register, Father Andrew McNair, a Theology Professor at Mater Ecclesiae College in Rhode Island, distinguished the two Catholic sides in this debate. Those who sympathize with the plight of the immigrants are called *Good Samaritans* and those who want the law enforced are called *Enforcement Catholics*. Good Samaritan Catholics emphasize the dignity and rights of the illegals over current immigration law. They believe that criminal prosecution and deportation do not offer a reasonable or humane solution to the problem of the illegal immigrant. Good Samaritans cite man's natural right to immigrate and the fact that God provides the world with all that humans need as moral justification for breaking American laws.

Enforcement Catholics see the so-called Good Samaritans as neither reasonable nor truly compassionate. To endorse lawlessness or disrespect for law is against the common good and the social order. To offer amnesty for the reported 12 million illegals would encourage more immigration and a rupture in society's infrastructure. True immigration reform begins by enforcing current immigration laws, which will guarantee the rights of everyone, not just the immigrant. In deference to the common good, the Church allows nations to regulate their immigration, including denying entry to some people. Illegal immigration threatens the common good on several levels. Many disturb the local peace by committing crimes. They often work

off the books, which undermines just labor laws and deprives society of tax revenues. Hiring illegal immigrants is unfair to those immigrants who have come here through the proper legal means. Contrary to popular belief, Father McNair states, the Catholic Church does not sanction an open border policy. As a matter of public policy, the Church encourages all citizens to obey the law.

TOUGH LOVE

The 1965 Immigration Act was the *greatest bait and switch* legislation in American history. Americans were promised that their cities would not be flooded with a million immigrants annually. Since 1965 there has been a tsunami of immigration unlike anything the nation had experienced in its first 300 years of existence. From the founding of Jamestown in 1607, to Eisenhower's second administration, 42 million foreigners, mostly from Europe, had migrated to the American shores. By 1958 the country had assimilated all of them. There are 36 million immigrants in the country now, nearly equal to all those who emigrated prior to 1958.

The 1965 legislation was stealth law, designed to remake the face of America. It removed national origin quotas from Europeans and gave them to non-European countries, throwing open the nation's doors and its ports to a mass influx of people from Asia, Africa, the Middle East and Latin America.

To stem the tide, Buchanan, Schlafly and others suggest a moratorium on immigration until the country has had a chance to assimilate the millions who have come in the last decade. They reject amnesty and guest worker programs, and believe that a *tough love* campaign, of employee verification will, by attrition over several years, encourage the illegals to go back home. Local governments should eliminate their illegal-alien sanctuaries. Buchanan wants a border fence on the 2000 miles that separate Mexico from the Southwest. The government should remove all economic incentives for people to illegally migrate to this country. He urges us to terminate giving birthright citizenship to *anchor babies*. Congress should end dual citizenship, deport illegal criminals, and prosecute employers who hire illegals.

Whether one agrees with these solutions or not, if the country does not effectively control its borders, the light of liberty that flickers so brightly in New York Harbor will be extinguished like MacBeth's brief candle.



William A. Borst, Ph.D., is the author of *Liberalism: Fatal Consequences* and *The Scorpion and the Frog: A Natural Conspiracy* which are available from the author at P.O. Box 16271, St. Louis, MO 63105.

Mindszenty Report Reprints

MYTHS, LIES, FALSEHOODS ABOUT EMBRYONIC STEM CELL RESEARCH—Missouri faces a deceptive Amendment to the State Constitution which would allow human cloning. Ask for 10/06

LET'S HIT THE BOOKS—This is a list of 22 excellent new books which we recommend to you under the headings of Faith, Culture, History, and Government. Ask for 9/06

A STYGIAN LIFEBOAT: On The River of Moral Relativism—There is a “new ethics” being used for today's serious moral questions. It is really the old immoral Machiavelli “the end justifies the means”. It becomes a dictatorship of relativism threatening the foundations of moral truth. Ask for 8/06

1 copy	\$.50	100 copies	\$20.00
20 copies	\$5.00	500 copies	\$85.00
50 copies	\$11.00	1000 copies	\$160.00

ST. PAUL, 1 THESS. 5:18

“In all things give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus regarding you all.”

NOVEMBER—MONTH OF THE POOR SOULS.

May the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.

Thanksgiving To God

Washington advised Americans to set aside a day of public Thanksgiving to God for the great favors He has bestowed on our nation. On October 3, 1789, Washington proclaimed the first Thanksgiving Day—the first of a long series of presidential orders that have remained part of American life down to the present:

“Whereas it is the duty of all nations to acknowledge the Providence of Almighty God, to obey His will, to be grateful for His benefits, and humbly to implore His protection and favor, and whereas both Houses of Congress have by their joint committee requested me ‘to commend to the people of the United States a day of public thanksgiving and prayer to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many signal favors of Almighty God, especially by affording them an opportunity peaceably to establish a form of government for their safety and happiness,’ now therefore I do recommend and assign Thursday the 26th day of November next, to be devoted to the service of that great and glorious Being, Who is the beneficent Author of all the good that was, that is, or will be.

George Washington



The Mindszenty Report is published monthly by the
Cardinal Mindszenty Foundation,
7800 Bonhomme Ave.
P. O. Box 11321
St. Louis, MO 63105
314-727-6279
Fax 314-727-5897

Subscription rate: \$20.00/year, \$36.00/two years.
Outside the U.S.A. \$28.00

The Mindszenty Report is not copyrighted, and subscribers are invited to have it printed in their local newspapers.

Contributions to the Cardinal Mindszenty Foundation are tax deductible as allowed by law.

Eleanor Schlafly, *Publisher*
William A. Borst, Ph.D., *Feature Editor*
e-mail: info@mindszenty.org
web site: www.mindszenty.org