Resource Guide to Immigration

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This study explores the current immigration debate in the United States, particularly in the state of Utah, and the effects of the rapid influx of immigration during the last two decades. The project is designed to function as a comprehensive resource guide on the issue of immigration for educators, legislative politics, and the community at large. Drawing from various primary and secondary sources, discussion with community leaders, interviews, and field research in Michoacán, Mexico, the resource guide is constructed to be a concise, accessible composite of information in current and past immigration practice and theory. Issues addressed in the resource guide are the history of immigration in the United States; the history of U.S. immigration legislation on both the national and state levels, including legislation proposed; the portrayal of immigration in the media from both national and local outlets; the economic impact of immigration in the United States; challenges immigrants face in establishing residency, including information on various types of visas granted by the United States; and terminology used in the current debates on immigration. The resource guide additionally offers a catalogue of local resources for immigrants in Utah as well as facts and scenarios for the facilitation of discussion on the topic. The project ultimately provides a convenient resource for local authorities and citizens seeking to understand more clearly the complexities of immigration in the 21st-Century United States.