



# **Immigration Timeline**

# Guiding Questions

What were the **hopes and desires** or **fears** that characterized this period in U.S. history?

How did those **hopes and desires** or **fears** inform political opinions on the topic of immigration?

For what reasons have our immigration policies aimed to **welcome** immigrants or **deny entry** to immigrants?

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For what reasons have our immigration policies aimed to welcome immigrants or deny entry to immigrants?

Welcome	Deny



**1584-1700s** Colonization of the United States, marking the first wave of European immigration to the continent. A majority of Natives in North America were killed or displaced by European settlers.







**1619-1865** Africans were trafficked to the United States and enslaved. Slave-grown cotton became half of U.S. export earnings.



*July 23, 1892*

# CHINESE?

## NO! NO! NO!

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Come to 10th and A Streets at 7:30  
Monday evening and express your  
opinion on the Chinese question.

**1882** After a 30-year influx of Chinese immigration for work in gold mines and on the transcontinental railroad, Congress passed the **Chinese Exclusion Act**, prohibiting all Chinese immigration and denying citizenship for those already in the U.S. Promised to be temporary, it wasn't repealed until 1943. This was the first law passed by Congress to regulate immigration. Chinese made up 0.002% of the U.S. population at the time.



December 14, 1916, veto.<sup>[2]</sup> This act added to and consolidated the list of undesirables banned from entering the country, including: "alcoholics", "anarchists", "contract laborers", "criminals and convicts", "epileptics", "feeble minded persons", "idiots", "illiterates", "imbeciles", "insane persons", "paupers", "persons afflicted with contagious disease", "persons being mentally or physically defective", "persons with constitutional psychopathic inferiority", "political radicals", "polygamists", "prostitutes" and "vagrants".<sup>[16]</sup>



**1917** Congress pushed through the controversial Asiatic Barred Zone Act, barring immigrants from more Asian countries. The bill also imposed a literacy test and tax on all incoming immigrants, and restricted the entry of those with mental and physical handicaps. This remained U.S. immigration policy until 1952.





**1914-1918** During World War I, Germans and other recent immigrants from Eastern Europe became the targets of anti-immigrant suspicion. This fear spilled over to others: socialists, anarchists, African-Americans, labor unions, and other immigrants. Dutch Reformed communities even experienced discrimination for being mistaken for Germans.





**1921** The Emergency Quota Act introduced a quota system which favored immigrants from northern European countries, specifically intending to limit immigration from southern and eastern European countries. Professionals were permitted to enter regardless of country of origin.



**1919-1923** Growing isolationist sentiments led to rapid growth in the Ku Klux Klan, a white supremacist organization that emphasized white supremacy and nativism, under the slogan “Keep America American.”





# Day



There's nothing more in the little Day A-B-C Classified Ads than in a whole pageful of other matter.

CIRCULATION BOOKS OPEN TO ALL

Times the Paid Circulation of Any Other New London Paper.

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SUNDAY AFTERNOON, MAY 26, 1924

## IMMIGRATION BILL IS SIGNED BY PRESIDENT; JAPANESE BAN BECOMES EFFECTIVE ON JULY 1

### READY FOR BONUS PAYMENT



President, However, Issues  
Statement in Which He  
Expresses Disapproval  
of Action of Congress

### GIVES REASONS FOR SIGNING THE BILL

If Exclusion Provision

Stood Alone, Says the

Have Disapproved It

### 40 OSTRICHES WILL RACE WITH HORSES

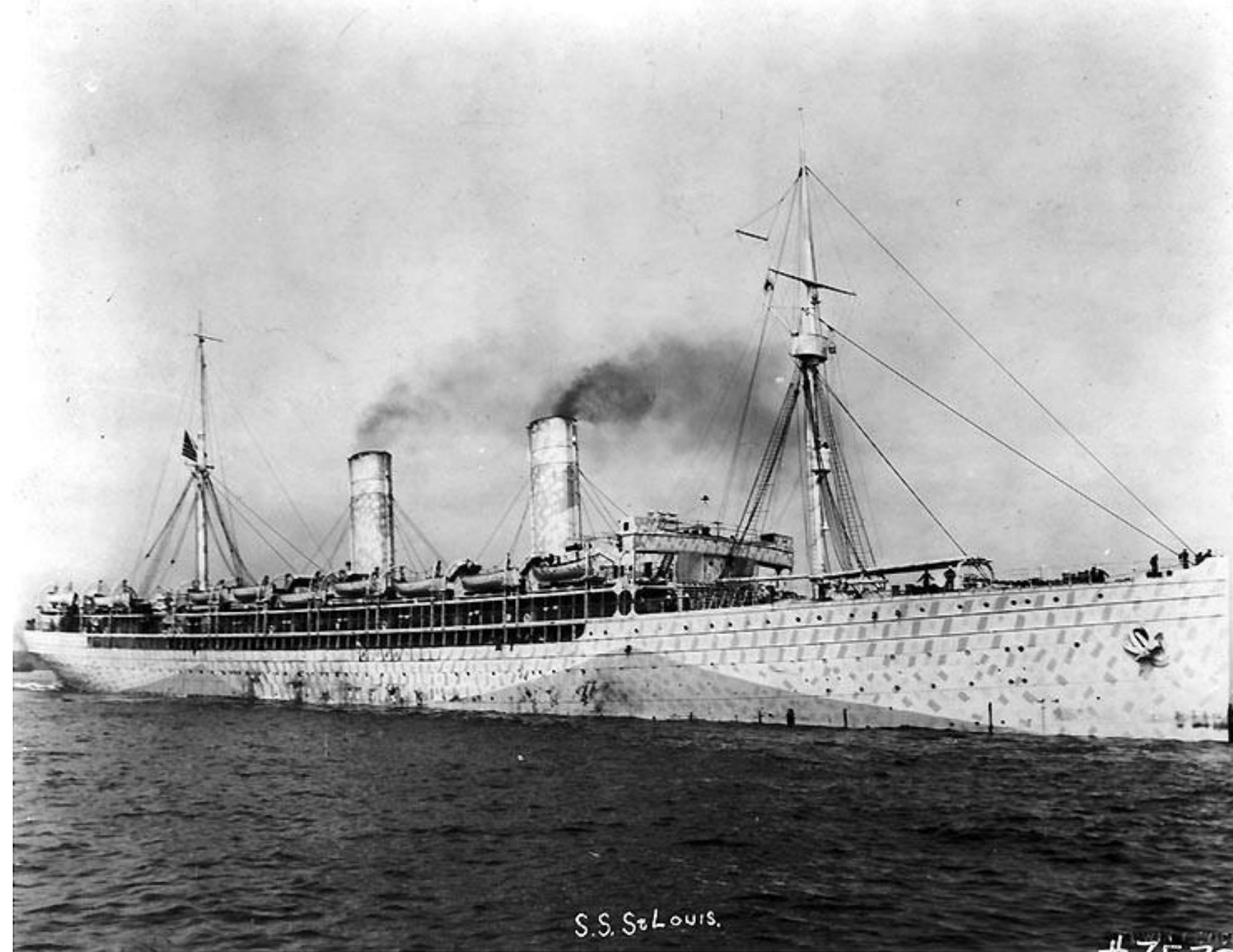
NEWARK, May 25.—Horses was  
apparently not fast enough for  
Halla sporting clubs. There-  
fore, as an extra thrill, an im-  
agined manager has an-  
nounced that all matches with  
their jockeys, mostly Italians, are  
to be run in the near future

**1924** The Immigration Act of 1924 aimed to further restrict immigration by lowering the 1921 quotas and banning all Asian and Arab immigrants. The law intended to curtail immigration of Jewish individuals from eastern Europe. It did not restrict western European immigrants; 87% of visas went to immigrants from Britain, Ireland, Germany, the Netherlands, and Scandinavia.

Waterbury Woman Raises

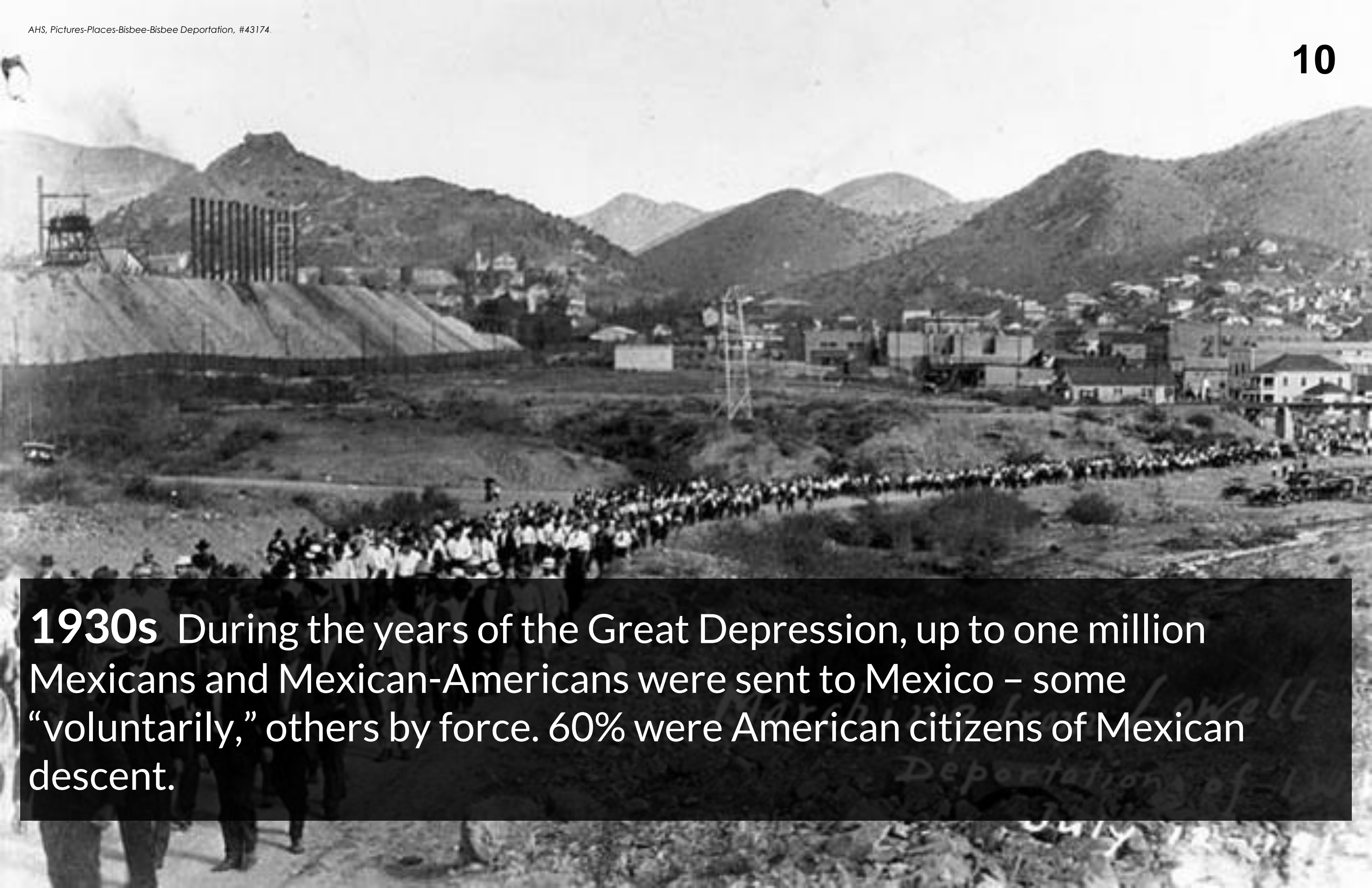
\$1,000 to Give Second





**1939** 900 German refugees aboard the St. Louis ship, fleeing the Nazis, were sent back to Europe after being denied asylum because of the ethnic quotas imposed by the Immigration Act of 1924. They were also rejected by Cuba and Canada. A quarter died during the Holocaust.





**1930s** During the years of the Great Depression, up to one million Mexicans and Mexican-Americans were sent to Mexico – some “voluntarily,” others by force. 60% were American citizens of Mexican descent.





**1942-1964** The Mexican and U.S. governments developed the *Bracero* Program, offering temporary agricultural contracts to Mexican workers due to the lack of American workers during WWII and desire to mitigate unlawful immigration. The program called for workers to be guaranteed wages, housing, food, and exemption from military service, however these terms were often ignored by employers.



New Times Telephone Numbers  
• WAdams 8-2345 for all calls except  
those concerning classified advertising.  
• WAdams 3-8411 for all classified  
advertising calls.

# Los Angeles Times

LIBERTY UNDER THE LAW

9 <sup>12</sup>A.M.  
FINAL

VOL. LXXIII

IN FOUR PARTS

FRIDAY MORNING, JUNE 18, 1954

68 PAGES

DAILY, 10c



## 500 NABBED BY L.A. WETBACK RAIDERS

**1954** President Eisenhower's Operation Wetback aimed to deport undocumented immigrants. Methods included police raids of Mexican-American neighborhoods, interrogations of "Mexican-looking" citizens in the street, and forced deportations of Mexicans and several hundred U.S. citizens. In only a few months, over 1 million individuals were deported.



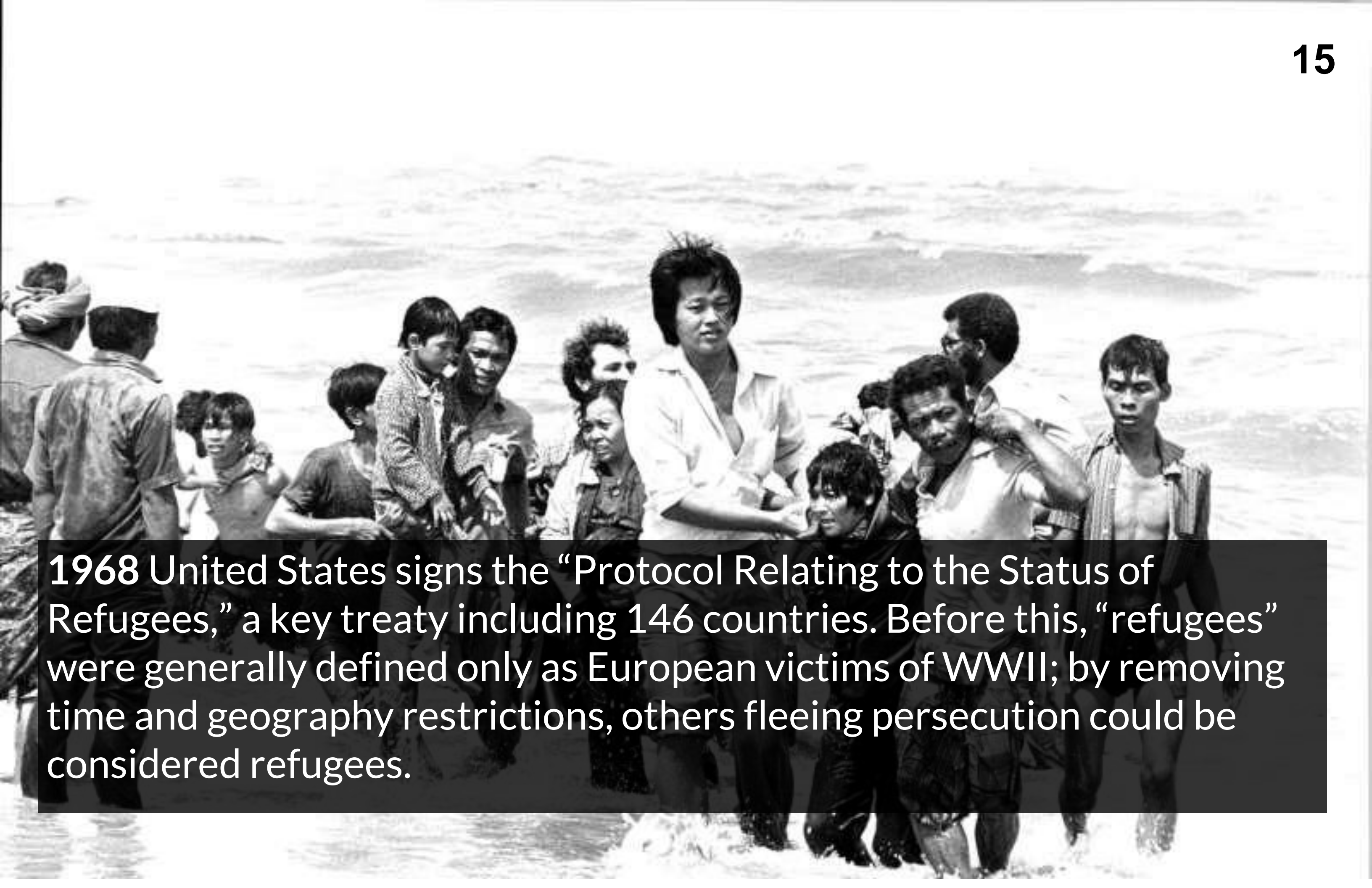
**1965** The Immigration and Nationality Act of 1965 disbanded the quota system, eliminating nationality as basis for admittance to the U.S., allowing more non-western European immigrants to arrive. Immigrants today enter primarily based on family relationships and employment skills.





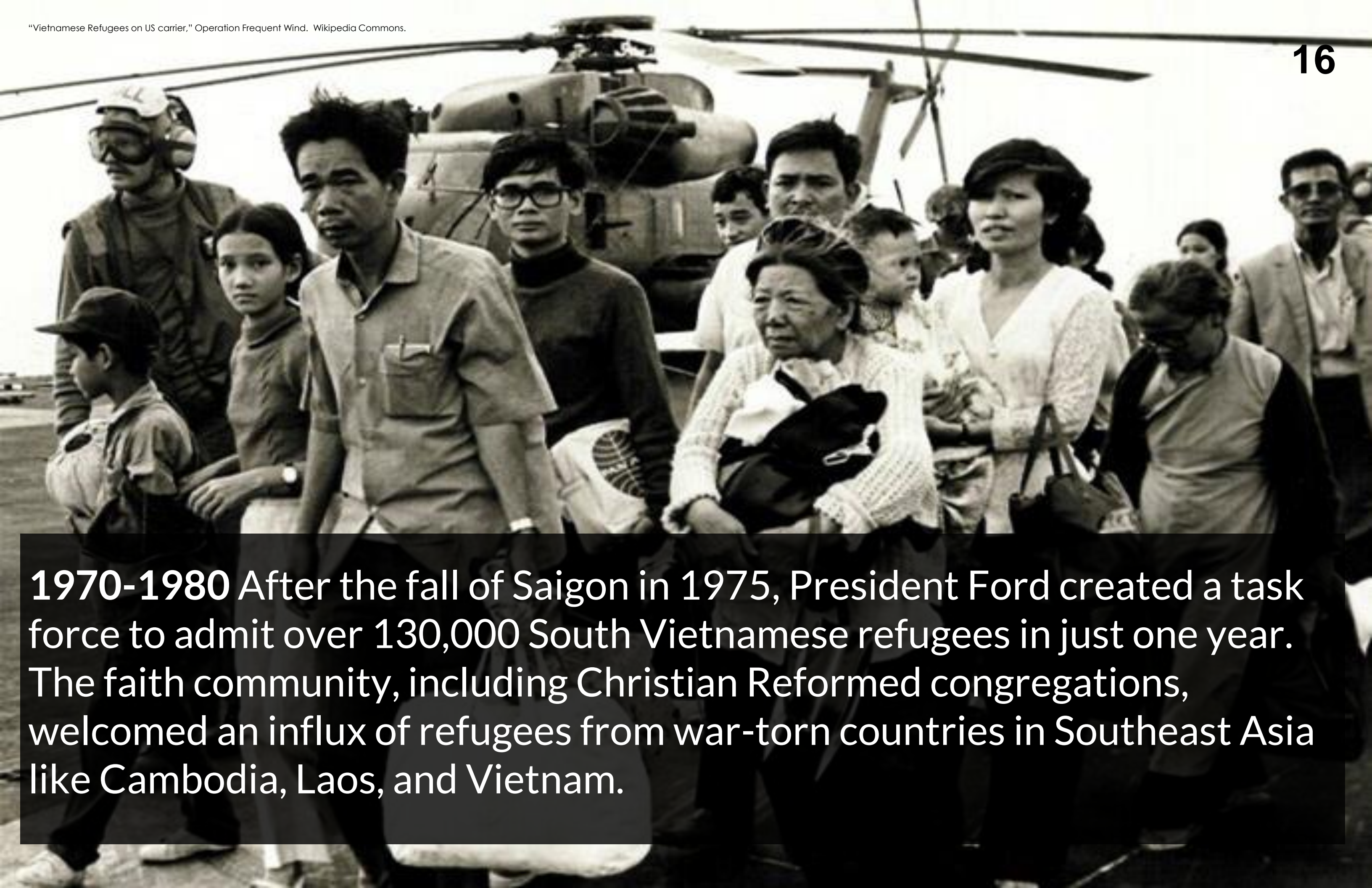
**1965** Cuban refugees, admitted with special visas because of the country's communist revolution, were sponsored and supported by the Christian Reformed Church. Over the next ten years, World Renew's Good Samaritan Center in Miami would help more than 2,500 people.





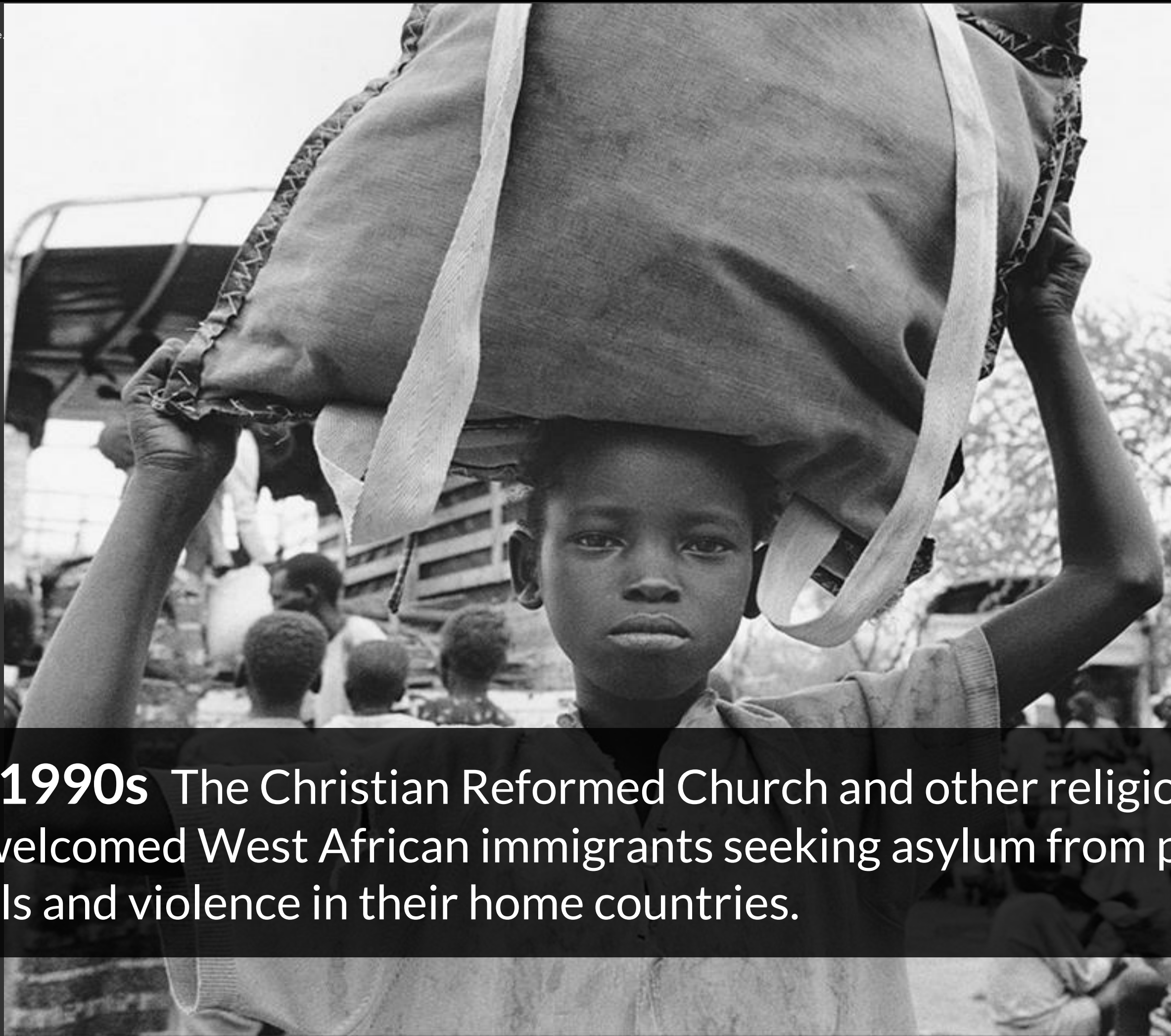
1968 United States signs the “Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees,” a key treaty including 146 countries. Before this, “refugees” were generally defined only as European victims of WWII; by removing time and geography restrictions, others fleeing persecution could be considered refugees.





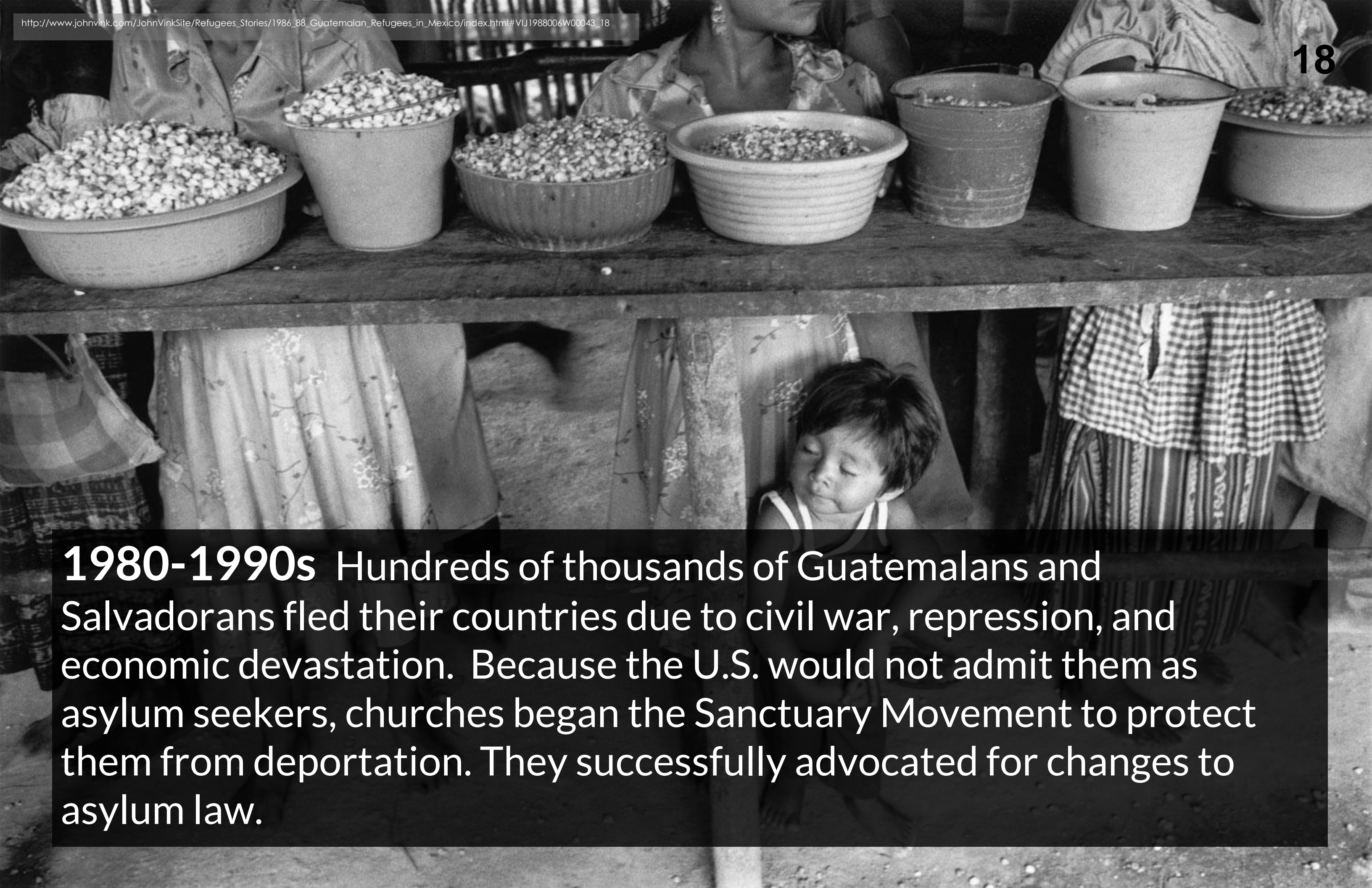
**1970-1980** After the fall of Saigon in 1975, President Ford created a task force to admit over 130,000 South Vietnamese refugees in just one year. The faith community, including Christian Reformed congregations, welcomed an influx of refugees from war-torn countries in Southeast Asia like Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam.






**1980s-1990s** The Christian Reformed Church and other religious groups welcomed West African immigrants seeking asylum from political upheavals and violence in their home countries.





**1980-1990s** Hundreds of thousands of Guatemalans and Salvadorans fled their countries due to civil war, repression, and economic devastation. Because the U.S. would not admit them as asylum seekers, churches began the Sanctuary Movement to protect them from deportation. They successfully advocated for changes to asylum law.



A photograph showing three farm workers in a field, each carrying a large metal bucket filled with red tomatoes on their heads. They are walking towards the right, where a wooden structure, possibly a conveyor belt or sorting station, is visible. The background shows a vast green field under a clear blue sky.

**1986** President Reagan signed the **Immigration Reform and Control Act (IRCA)**, a bipartisan compromise which offered amnesty to almost 3 million undocumented immigrants, imposed penalties on employers who hire undocumented workers, and increased enforcement at U.S. borders. No changes were made to the legal immigration entry process.





**1990** The Immigration Act of 1990 created a new visa category called the Diversity Visa intended to increase immigration from countries of low admittances, mainly within Africa and Asia. It also created a new type of relief from deportation, Temporary Protected Status (TPS), for individuals from designated countries where it is unsafe to return.






U.S. Customs and  
Border Protection

Border Patrol Station  
Wellton, Arizona

**1996** The Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act, a “tough on crime” measure, attempted to address illegal immigration through mass detention and deportation. It made past or minor crimes deportable offenses, enacted 3- and 10-year bars for legal re-entry for those who had been in the country unlawfully, expanded border enforcement, and added more penalties for employing undocumented immigrants.



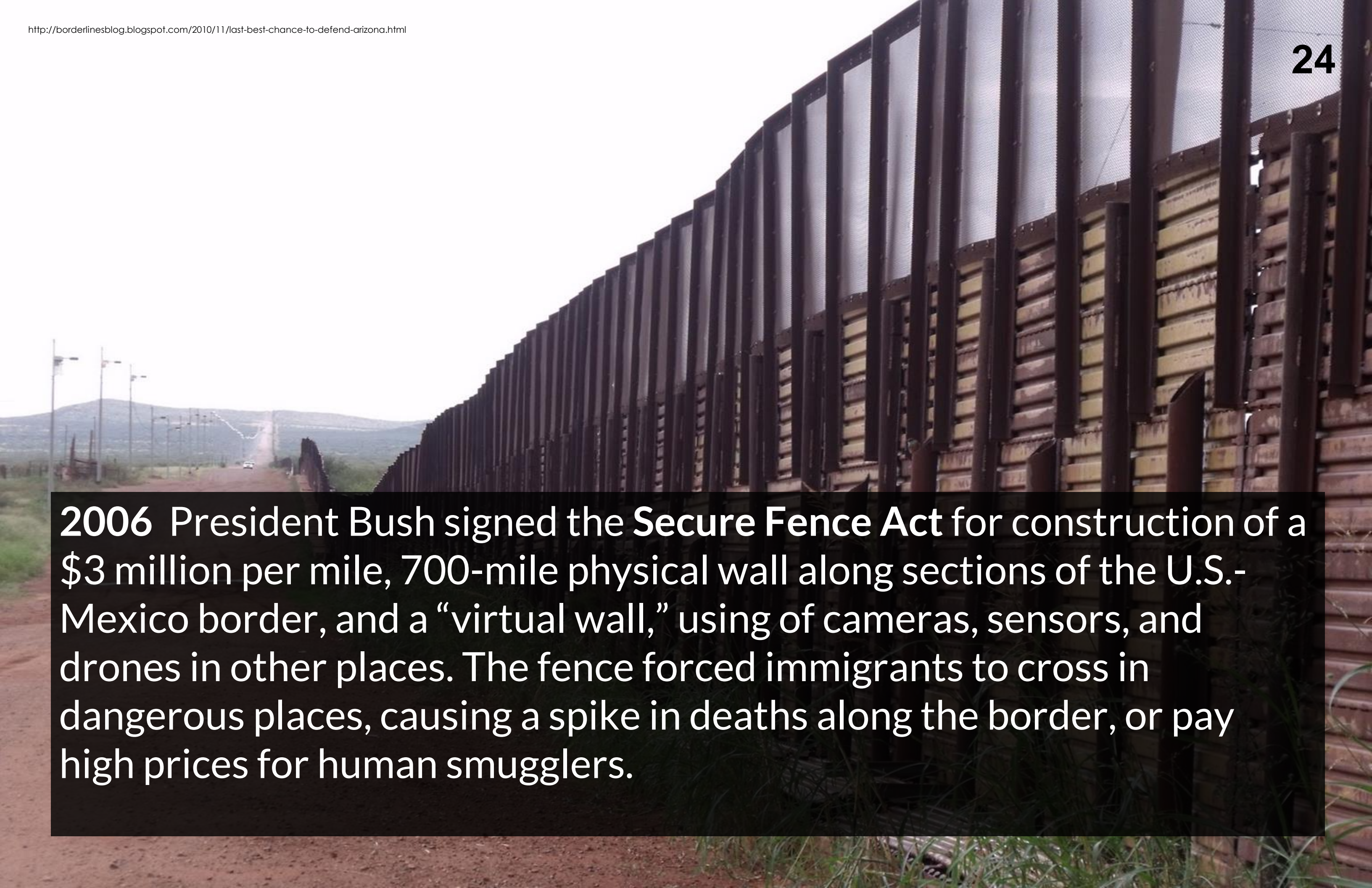


**2001** The World Trade Center in New York was attacked by terrorists who entered the United States on non-immigrant (temporary) tourist visas. The shock of this event increased an anti-Arab and anti-Muslim sentiment, engendered patriotism, and led to legislative changes to immigration laws.



**2001-2002** The Patriot Act is signed, restricting immigration based on a broad definition of terrorism. The Department of Homeland Security is created, placing immigration services under its authority; previously it had been administered under the Department of Labor (until 1940) and then the Justice Department.





**2006** President Bush signed the **Secure Fence Act** for construction of a \$3 million per mile, 700-mile physical wall along sections of the U.S.-Mexico border, and a “virtual wall,” using of cameras, sensors, and drones in other places. The fence forced immigrants to cross in dangerous places, causing a spike in deaths along the border, or pay high prices for human smugglers.



# DACA

*Renewing deferred action  
for childhood arrivals*

25

For more information: <http://www.ilgrp.com/renewing-daca>

## WHO?

**You might qualify  
for DACA if you:**

Arrived in the US  
before age **16**

Born on  
or after **JUNE 15  
1981**

Have lived in  
the US since **JUNE 15  
2007**



Are currently  
in school

**OR** have a high school  
diploma or GED

**OR** served in the  
US Military

**check with an attorney if you've:**

- departed the US
- had juvenile problems
- had police or ICE contact
- had problems in school
- or are worried you might not be eligible



Apply at least



**120 DAYS**

before your DACA  
status expires.

The expiration date is on the front of  
your work permit.

A COMPLETE APPLICATION  
INCLUDES:

*New!*

Form I-821 D

+

Form I-765

+

I-765 worksheet

## HOW?

Application

**\$465**

fee

File completed applications at

**USCIS lockbox**

Find the address online at:

<http://www.uscis.gov/i-821d-addresses>


**2012** President Obama announced Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), a executive order allowing Dreamers who meet certain criteria to receive 2-year periods of protection from deportation and work authorization.





**2013** After failing in both 2006 and 2009, a bipartisan compromise to reform immigration passes the Senate. It increased border security while also providing a path to citizenship for some undocumented immigrants. But controversy over thousands of asylum-seeking children from Central America influenced political will in the House, and the bill expired.





NO BAN  
No WALL

**2017** After running on a boldly anti-immigrant platform, President Trump's initial actions in office are executive orders dramatically increasing enforcement and deportation, blocking refugee resettlement, and attempting to ban travel from some Muslim-majority countries. Legal permanent residents are trapped at airports, with unclear rules regarding their ability to return to the U.S. Protests are sparked around the country. DACA is rescinded. Months of court battles ensue.





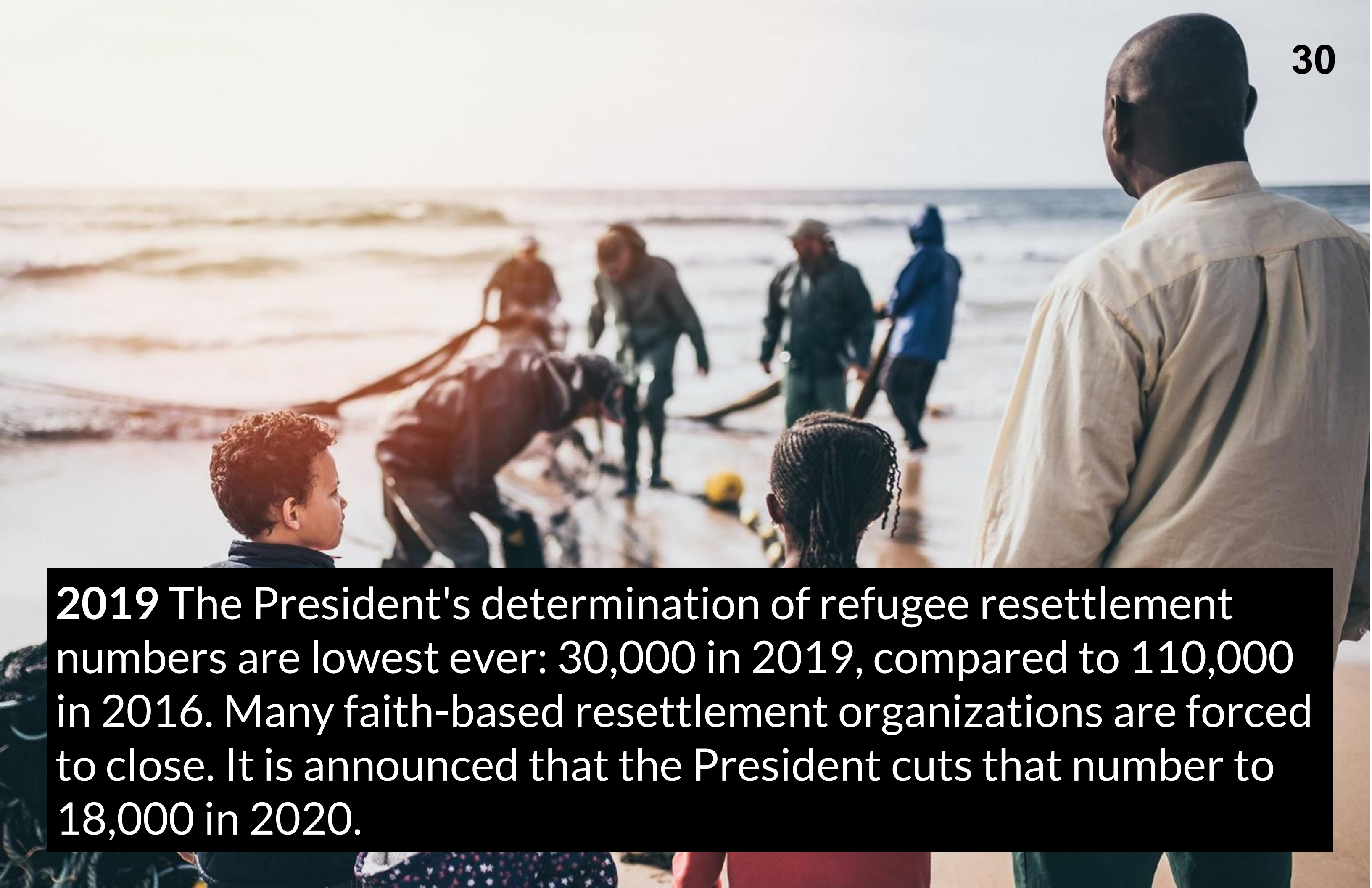
**2018-19** Families and children increasingly ask for asylum, fleeing violence in Central America. The President's "zero tolerance" policy separates families, some are not reunited; children are incarcerated. "Metering" policy creates long, slow lines for asylum processing. "Remain in Mexico" forces people to wait in Mexico for their day in American court. Asylum-seekers are required to apply for asylum in a through country before applying in the U.S.





**2018-19** “Public Charge” rules are changed, expanding the criteria of immigrants who the government believes are likely to ever need social benefits (food or housing assistance) from being admitted or getting permanent residency in the U.S. Many immigrants stop accessing benefits for their U.S. citizen kids in fear that it will impact their ability to remain with their family.





**2019** The President's determination of refugee resettlement numbers are lowest ever: 30,000 in 2019, compared to 110,000 in 2016. Many faith-based resettlement organizations are forced to close. It is announced that the President cuts that number to 18,000 in 2020.





**2020** As the world grapples with the global coronavirus pandemic, the president closes several more doors to legal immigration: access to asylum is effectively eliminated, diversity visa entries are suspended, and many pathways of family and employment immigration are shut down through at least the end of the year.



For what reasons have our immigration policies aimed to welcome immigrants or deny entry to immigrants?

Welcome	Deny



# Reflection

- What are the beliefs and attitudes underlying these hope and fears?
  - Based on our understanding of Scripture, what **should** our beliefs and attitudes be? How should they shape our policies?
-



# We need **immigration policy** that:

- **Keeps families intact.** Proposals which end the possibility of U.S. citizens reuniting with their adult children and siblings, and which prohibit permanent residents from reuniting with their children and spouses, go against the strong value of family that the church upholds. Family unity is not a threat to the U.S., and “chain migration” is a harmful piece of political propaganda that is not based on facts.
  - **Creates more, not fewer, paths to legal immigration.** Legal immigration is being threatened by these proposals. Justice in U.S. immigration policy would move toward laws which open up more legal pathways to immigration, not fewer.
  - **Ensures permanent solutions for Dreamers.** Some proposals offer only temporary protections. Proposals subjecting Dreamers to a lifetime of temporary status is not the solution they deserve.
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For more information, visit  
**[crcna.org/SocialJustice/immigration](https://crcna.org/SocialJustice/immigration)**

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**2018**

- Family separations at the border (“zero tolerance” policy)
- Public Charge (anyone considered a "public charge" to the government -- i.e. if they used or would be likely to use social benefits -- would no longer be considered for admission or adjustment of status to the U.S.)
- grounds for asylum restricted (fleeing gang violence or domestic violence no longer counts)

**2019**

- high numbers of visa application rejections because of Muslim Ban and Public Charge
- historically low refugee resettlement numbers
- Over a month long government shutdown over funding for the wall
- Dream and Promise Act of 2019 passed the House but has yet to be picked up by the Senate
- multiple policy threats/changes to restrict asylum and punish the countries that asylum-seekers flee from (metering, Remain in Mexico, threats to close the border, imposing tariffs on Mexico, pulling aid from Northern Triangle countries)