



The Immigration Process

Originally Discussed: October 2021

Description: Legal immigration quotas and profiles, refugees and asylum, becoming a US citizen.

Originally part of a four-part Series which included: Being an American Citizen, Living in a Multi-Cultural America, and Illegal Immigration. They can be stand-alone conversations or re-connected in a Series if you choose.

Estimated time: 1.5 hours

(1) Getting acquainted and comfortable

5 - 10 min.

Welcome

- Thank you for coming...
- We are a part of The Great Reset, which was born out of a shift we're seeing in our country. We have been in a place where we don't tend to speak 'beyond our bubbles' and across perspectives. The Great Reset has been opening up a grey space for such conversations since 2018. You are now part of keeping the conversation going and we thank you.

The Pillars of The Great Reset

- To share our own thoughts and perspectives with humility
- To learn from others and listen with respect

Ground Rules

- Every comment is valid and deserving of respect
- We show respect by speaking one at a time, putting our phones on silent and staying engaged, even when we are not speaking
- In the interest of time, I may cut in to ask you to 'top-line' something if we need to move on. This means simply offer up a synopsis of your thoughts and speak in bullets, not paragraphs

Confidentiality

I would like a verbal from everyone that you are here of your own volition and out of respect for one another I would ask you to keep what others say in this room unless they give you permission otherwise. (go around and get verbal agreement). Further, you agree to adhere to the principles outlined already: to deliver your perspectives bound to the principles of respect, to **listen with humility and offer grace to others who are sharing this space.**

Personal Introductions

Please share your name, where you live, and do you know anyone personally who has significantly suffered or died from COVID?

*****Remind everyone we're recording but we won't use any clips without their approval*****



(2) Legal immigration quotas and profiles

15 - 20 min.

- Should the US have legal immigration quotas, capping the number of legal immigrants, and why or why not? How should the US determine that quota size or level?
- Describe who we want to be a legal immigrant to the US? Probe for country of origin, wealth, skillset, etc.

(3) Immigrant special status

15 - 20 min.

- The Refugee Act of 1980 enables refugees experiencing persecution or a well-founded fear of persecution on account of race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion to be considered for either refugee status if they are outside the US or asylum status if they are already in the US. Since 1980, the US has admitted more than 3 million refugees. Additionally, US Homeland Security grants 6, 12 or 18-month Temporary Protected Status for designated countries ... currently El Salvador, Haiti, Honduras, Myanmar, Nepal, Nicaragua, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Syria, Venezuela or Yemen. How do you feel about these policies? Are they too strict or too lenient?
- The State Department's US Citizenship and Immigration Services issues work visas to foreign workers, including both seasonal workers and Green Cards for people in selected professions or with highly desired skills. How do you feel about these work visas? Too strict or too lenient?

(4) Becoming a citizen

20 - 25 min.

- How much do you know about the process to become a US citizen? What are your impressions of the US citizenship process?
- What should be the requirements to become a US citizen? Should the US make it easier or more difficult to become a citizen than what it is now, and why?

(5) Closing comments

5 - 10 min.

- Any additional comments about the immigration and citizenship processes?