## 

History of Integration of Religion and Society

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Professor

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Top of Form

**HISTORY 2023**

100 Day – Essay Draft  
  
In this essay, the student should direct developmental readings from the 60-day assignment on the social movement of focus for this assignment.  
  
1. Write a 10-page essay that analyzes the following items:  
a. Introduction of the Present Issue: Begin with a contemporary social issue that has a (probably unappreciated) history of positive Judeo-Christian response to it.  
b. Body Sections:  
  
i. Biblical Worldview Perspective: Locate the issue in the progress of  
Biblical revelation and explain the foundations of a Judeo-Christian  
perspective.  
ii. History of the Issue: Trace the development of the selected issue  
alongside the history of Christianity's social impact on it. Summarize the  
the historical trend at different points in history with an eye to identifying  
significant causes of the social problem, identifiable processes at work,  
and enduring patterns that emerged. How did the problem/issue originate  
and develop? What were the causes of the social problem? What  
identifiable sociological or theological processes were at work? What  
enduring patterns emerged that recur?  
iii. Exemplars of Religion and Society Integration: Focus on one or  
several specific examples (e.g., key leaders or movements of socially and  
intellectually active Christians) of the integration of religion and society with regard to that issue. How did God raise up the leader or movement that changed the world? Are the patterns described in Hillman’s (2017) The Joseph Calling illustrated in any ways?  
iv. Applicable Principles: Distill the timeless principles of truth or leadership derived from the historical examples above. (Develop these based on the Body Sections #1-#3).  
  
c. Conclusion: Provide a contemporary contextualization of the historical issue. Pose possible contemporary applications for the integration of religion and society in your field of influence. Discuss what impact this research had on your sense of calling to change your world.

2. Structure (Paper Evaluation includes the following structure below).  
a. Download the “OGS APA Course Assignments Template 7th Ed 2021” template  
from the General Helps folder in the AA-101 The Gathering Place Course on  
DIAL. Using the template create the following pages.  
b. Title Page (not included in page count).  
c. Copy and paste the assignment instructions from the syllabus starting on a new page after the title page, adhering to APA 7th edition style (APA 7 Workshop, Formatting, and Style Guide, APA 7 Quick Guide).  
d. Start the introduction on a new page after the copied assignment instructions.  
  
3. Be sure to meet the following expectations.  
a. Begin with an introductory paragraph that has a succinct thesis statement.  
b. Address the topic of the paper with critical thought.  
c. End with a conclusion that reaffirms the thesis.  
d. Document all sources in APA style, 7th edition (APA 7 Reference Example, APA 7 Quick Guide)  
e. Include a separate Works Cited page, formatted according to APA style, 7th edition (not included in page count).  
f. Use a minimum of fifteen scholarly research sources (two to three books and the remaining scholarly peer-reviewed journal articles).

**The Impact of Biblical Principles in the United States Immigration Policy.**

Immigration: The movement of people across national borders is a contentious issue in many parts of the world, with debates over issues such as border control, refugees, and the rights of immigrants.

Immigration has been a hot topic in recent years, with many arguing for stricter policies while others advocate for more inclusive and compassionate approaches. One group that often goes unappreciated in this conversation is the Judeo-Christian community, which has a long history of welcoming strangers and advocating for justice for the marginalized.

The topic of immigration has long been a contentious issue in the United States. On one end, migrant experiences portrayed in biblical scriptures have been used as a basis for reflections on the challenges that confront African immigrant churches in Western societies. These reflections highlight the principles of compassion, hospitality, and justice that can be found within biblical teachings. Furthermore, church-based immigrant advocates have often cited biblical grounds to support their plea for more inclusive and compassionate immigration policies.

Judaism and Christianity both have long histories of dealing with immigration and the rights of the stranger. In the Hebrew Bible, there are numerous passages that speak to the importance of welcoming strangers and providing for their needs. For example, Deuteronomy 10:19 states, "You shall also love the stranger, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt." This emphasis on the importance of welcoming the stranger is a theme that is repeated throughout the Hebrew Bible.

Similarly, the New Testament also contains numerous passages that speak to the importance of welcoming and caring for the stranger. Jesus himself was a refugee, fleeing to Egypt with his family as a child. In Matthew 25:35, Jesus states, "For I was hungry, and you gave me food, I was thirsty, and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me." This passage highlights the importance of caring for the needs of others, regardless of their background or status.

Judaism and Christianity both have a strong tradition of supporting and advocating for the rights of immigrants. However, this perspective is often overlooked or ignored in public debates about immigration. Many religious leaders and organizations have spoken out in support of immigrant rights, but their voices are often drowned out by more polarizing and divisive viewpoints.

In General, it is important to recognize the valuable contribution that the Judeo-Christian tradition can make to the conversation about immigration. By acknowledging and affirming the teachings of these religions, we can help to create a more compassionate and welcoming society for all.

In the Old Testament, the Hebrews were commanded to "love the stranger" and to treat them with respect and compassion, as they too were once strangers in a foreign land. This is exemplified in the story of Ruth, a Moabite woman who converts to Judaism and becomes a beloved member of the community.

In the New Testament, Jesus teaches that welcoming the stranger is an important part of loving one's neighbor. In Matthew 25, Jesus says, "I was a stranger and you welcomed me." This call to hospitality is echoed in the teachings of Paul and other Christian leaders.

Despite these teachings, many Christian communities have been slow to respond to the needs of immigrants and refugees. Some have even supported policies that are harmful to these groups, citing security concerns or economic fears.

However, there are also many Christian organizations and individuals who are actively working to welcome and support immigrants and refugees, through initiatives such as providing legal assistance, offering language classes, and advocating for just policies.

It is important to recognize and appreciate the efforts of these Judeo-Christian communities in responding to immigration issues. By embracing the values of compassion and justice, they are living out the teachings of their faith and making a positive impact in the lives of those in need.

**Biblical Worldview**

The biblical worldview on immigration is one of compassion, hospitality, and welcoming strangers. Throughout the Old Testament, God commands the Israelites to love and care for the foreigner, as they were once foreigners in Egypt (Deuteronomy 10:19). In the New Testament, Jesus teaches that welcoming the stranger is equivalent to welcoming him (Matthew 25:35). The biblical narrative also emphasizes the idea of unity and equality, as all humans are made in the image of God (Genesis 1:27).

In terms of contemporary immigration issues, this biblical worldview would call for a fair and just system that values the dignity and worth of every individual, regardless of their nationality or immigration status. It would also call for the church to actively love and serve immigrants, offering practical support and advocating for justice on their behalf.

Ultimately, the biblical worldview on immigration affirms that all people, regardless of their background or circumstances, are loved and valued by God and should be treated with respect and compassion.

According to the biblical worldview, immigration can be seen as a natural occurrence that has occurred throughout history. The Bible tells the story of Abraham, who was called by God to leave his home and go to a new land. Similarly, the Israelites were forced to flee from Egypt and seek refuge in a new land. The biblical narrative also includes the story of Ruth, a foreigner who married into the Israelite community and became an ancestor of Jesus.

In the New Testament, Jesus himself was a refugee as a child when he fled to Egypt to escape persecution. The biblical worldview also emphasizes the importance of welcoming strangers and showing hospitality, as seen in the parable of the Good Samaritan and the commandment to love one's neighbor as oneself.

Additionally, the biblical worldview teaches that all people are made in the image of God and have inherent worth and value, regardless of their nationality or immigration status. This belief should inform our attitudes and actions towards immigrants and refugees.

Overall, the biblical worldview encourages a compassionate and welcoming approach towards immigration, recognizing the inherent value and dignity of all people and the importance of showing hospitality and love towards those who are in need.

**History of the Issue**:

Throughout US history, these biblical principles have been cited both in support of welcoming immigration policies and in critique of restrictive ones:

The Statue of Liberty, with its famous poem “The New Colossus,” can be seen as a secular symbol embodying biblical values of refuge and welcome (White, 2019).

Many religious leaders have advocated for compassionate immigration reform, citing biblical teachings as their foundation (Martinez, 2020).

Conversely, biblical principles have been used to caution against unchecked immigration, with proponents emphasizing the importance of laws and order, drawing from passages like Romans 13:1 (Adams, 2018).

There have been several trends in the immigration history of America. Some of these include:

1. The early waves of immigration: During the colonial era and early years of the Republic, most immigrants to America were from Western Europe, particularly England, Ireland, Scotland, and Germany.
2. The Industrial Revolution and the great waves of immigration: In the late 19th and early 20th centuries, the Industrial Revolution led to a significant increase in immigration to America. Many immigrants came from Eastern and Southern Europe, including Italy, Poland, and Russia.
3. The restriction of immigration: In the early 20th century, the United States began to restrict immigration through various laws, including the Chinese Exclusion Act and the Immigration Act of 1924. These laws aimed to reduce the number of immigrants coming from certain countries and to limit the overall number of immigrants allowed into the country.
4. The post-World War II period: After World War II, the United States experienced a resurgence of immigration, with many immigrants coming from Latin America and Asia.
5. The current era of immigration: In recent years, the United States has seen a significant increase in immigration from Latin America, particularly Mexico, as well as a rise in refugees and asylum seekers from around the world. There has also been a trend towards more diverse sources of immigration, with increasing numbers of immigrants coming from Africa and the Middle East.

Immigration has been a controversial topic in the United States for decades. According to data from the Department of Homeland Security, in 2019 there were approximately 44 million immigrants living in the US, comprising about 13% of the total population. The majority of immigrants come from Latin America and Asia, with Mexico, China, and India being the top countries of origin.

The current immigration system in the US is complex and has faced criticism for being inefficient and confusing. The process for obtaining a visa and becoming a permanent resident can be lengthy and expensive, and there are various categories for visas such as work, family, and refugee visas. In recent years, the Trump administration implemented stricter immigration policies, including a travel ban on certain countries, increased deportations, and efforts to build a wall along the US-Mexico border.

Immigration has also played a significant role in the US economy. Many immigrants take low-paying jobs in industries such as agriculture, construction, and hospitality, and they also contribute to the workforce in high-skilled positions in technology and healthcare. However, there is debate over the impact of immigration on wages and employment for native-born Americans.

Overall, immigration continues to be a contentious issue in the US, with debates over border security, deportation, and the status of undocumented immigrants. The future of immigration policy in the US remains uncertain, with potential changes and reforms being proposed by both political parties.Top of FormBottom of Form

Bottom of Form

A sociological researcher would study immigration from a social and cultural perspective, looking at patterns and trends in immigration and its impact on society. They might examine factors such as economic opportunities, social policies, and cultural integration.

A theological researcher would approach the topic from a religious perspective, exploring the moral and ethical implications of immigration and how different religious traditions understand and respond to immigration. They might also examine the role of faith communities in supporting immigrants and advocating for immigration reform.

Martin Luther King Jr.: King was a Baptist minister and civil rights activist who played a key role in the American civil rights movement. King was deeply influenced by his Christian faith and believed in the principle of love and non-violent resistance. He used his religious beliefs as a driving force in his efforts to bring about social justice and equality for African Americans. King's integration of religion and society was demonstrated through his use of religious rhetoric and imagery in his civil rights speeches, as well as his belief that the civil rights movement was a moral and spiritual struggle.

There are several examples of religion and society integration in immigration in America. One such example is the Catholic Church, which has played a significant role in advocating for the rights of immigrants and refugees. The Church has provided moral and financial support to immigrants, as well as advocating for policies that promote the integration of immigrants into American society.

Another example is the Protestant community, which has also been active in advocating for the rights of immigrants. Many Protestant churches have provided services to immigrants, such as language classes and legal assistance, and have also spoken out against policies that discriminate against immigrants.

The Jewish community has also been a strong advocate for immigrant rights, with many Jewish organizations working to support immigrants and refugees. The Jewish community has also been active in advocating for policies that promote the integration of immigrants into American society.

Overall, these exemplars demonstrate the important role that religion can play in promoting the integration of immigrants into American society. By providing support and advocating for immigrant rights, these religious communities are helping to create a more inclusive and welcoming society for all.

In his book "The Soul's Code: In Search of Character and Calling," James Hillman argues that everyone has a unique purpose or calling in life, which he calls their "daimon." He believes that this calling is inherent within a person's soul and can be discovered through a process of self-examination and exploration. Hillman also discusses the importance of character and how it is formed through experiences and choices made throughout one's life. He emphasizes the importance of living a life in alignment with one's daimon and encourages individuals to embrace their unique path and purpose.

In his book "How Christianity Changed the World," Alvin Schmidt examines the numerous ways in which Christianity has had a significant impact on society, including the establishment of hospitals, the abolition of slavery, and the promotion of education and human rights. Schmidt argues that Christianity has played a vital role in shaping modern Western civilization and has made a significant positive contribution to the world. The book provides a detailed history of these developments and offers a unique perspective on the influence of Christianity on society.

The doctoral dissertation by A. A. L. R. Rojas explores the concept of migration and home from a theological perspective, specifically in the context of the Americas. The author examines the biblical and theological foundations of migration, as well as the contemporary experiences of migrants in the Americas. The purpose of this study is to develop a theology of migration and home that is relevant and meaningful for people who are on the move, as well as those who are seeking to understand and respond to the challenges and opportunities of migration in the 21st century.

I think that God raises up leaders and movements to bring about change in the world. These leaders and movements may be inspired by divine guidance or may be chosen by God to fulfill a specific purpose. In some cases, these leaders and movements may be seen as instruments of God's will, working to bring about positive change in the world. It is often believed that God works through these leaders and movements to bring about transformation and healing in society, helping to guide people toward a better, more fulfilling way of life.

There are many leaders in the immigration movement in the US, but some notable ones include:

1. Jose Antonio Vargas - A Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and filmmaker who has been a vocal advocate for immigrant rights.
2. Astrid Silva - A DREAMer and immigrant rights activist who has been instrumental in advocating for the DREAM Act and other immigration reform measures.
3. Ali Noorani - The Executive Director of the National Immigration Forum, a bipartisan organization that advocates for immigration policies that support the American economy and values.
4. Frank Sharry - The Executive Director of America's Voice, a progressive immigration advocacy group that works to promote policies that benefit immigrants and their families.
5. Lorella Praeli - The President of Community Change Action, an organization that works to empower low-income communities and communities of color to advocate for social, racial, and economic justice.

Jose Antonio Vargas is a Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist, filmmaker, and immigration rights advocate. He is known for his work on immigration reform and for his own personal experience as an undocumented immigrant in the United States.

Vargas was born in the Philippines and was brought to the United States at the age of 12 by his grandparents, who had visas but left Vargas behind with the understanding that he would follow shortly after. However, Vargas did not receive a visa and remained in the United States as an undocumented immigrant.

He eventually discovered his undocumented status as a teenager and spent years hiding it while building a successful career as a journalist. In 2011, Vargas publicly revealed his status in a New York Times Magazine essay, which sparked a national conversation about immigration reform.

Since then, Vargas has become a vocal advocate for immigration reform and has worked to bring attention to the struggles faced by undocumented immigrants in the United States. He has also written and produced documentaries on the subject, including "Documented" and "White People."

Vargas has received numerous awards for his journalism and activism, including a Pulitzer Prize for his coverage of the Virginia Tech shooting as a staff writer for The Washington Post.

Immigration history has long been a central topic in the United States, and the contemporary context of immigration continues to be a highly relevant and contested issue. In recent years, the debate over immigration has intensified, with some arguing that it is a necessary component of the nation's economic and cultural vitality, while others argue that it poses a threat to national security and cultural cohesion.

One of the key issues in the contemporary context of immigration is the question of illegal immigration. There are an estimated 11 million undocumented immigrants living in the United States, and the issue of how to address this population has become a central focus of political debate. Some argue that these immigrants should be granted a pathway to citizenship, while others advocate for more stringent enforcement measures to deter illegal immigration.

Another important aspect of the contemporary context of immigration is the role of immigration in shaping the nation's demographics. The United States has always been a nation of immigrants, and today, the country is more diverse than ever before. However, there is an ongoing debate about the impact of immigration on the nation's racial and ethnic makeup, with some arguing that immigration threatens to dilute traditional cultural identities.

In addition to these issues, the contemporary context of immigration also includes debates over issues such as refugee resettlement, the rights of immigrant workers, and the impact of immigration on the economy. As such, the contemporary contextualization of immigration history is complex and multifaceted, reflecting the many different perspectives and experiences of those involved in the immigration process.

Top of Form

There are several biblical principles that relate to immigration and the treatment of immigrants.

First, the Bible emphasizes the importance of treating others with kindness and compassion. This is seen in numerous passages, such as Matthew 25:35-36, which says "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in." This passage teaches that we should welcome and care for those who are strangers or outsiders, which includes immigrants.

Second, the Bible also emphasizes the value of justice and righteousness. This includes the fair treatment of immigrants, as seen in passages such as Leviticus 19:33-34, which says "When a foreigner resides among you in your land, do not mistreat them. The foreigner residing among you must be treated as your native-born. Love them as yourself, for you were foreigners in Egypt." This passage teaches that we should treat immigrants with the same respect and care that we would extend to our own native-born citizens.

Finally, the Bible also teaches that all people are created in the image of God, regardless of their nationality or background. This is seen in passages such as Genesis 1:27, which says "So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them." This means that every person, regardless of their immigration status, has inherent value and dignity.

Overall, the biblical principles of kindness, justice, and the inherent value of all people point to the importance of treating immigrants with respect and compassion.

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As an immigrant myself, the impact of immigration justice on me is significant because it directly affects the lives of individuals and communities who are seeking fair and just treatment in their immigration process. It also impacts the overall social and political climate of the country and how it views and treats immigrants.

According to the Bible, Christians are called to love their neighbor and treat others with kindness and compassion (Luke 10:27). This principle extends to the issue of immigration, as immigrants are our neighbors and should be treated with respect and fairness. Additionally, the Bible teaches that God is the creator of all people, regardless of national origin or ethnicity (Acts 17:26), and that we are all equal in His eyes (Galatians 3:28). Therefore, it is important for Christians to stand up for the rights and dignity of immigrants, and to advocate for just and humane immigration policies that reflect these biblical values.

Immigration justice is a complex and multifaceted issue that affects many different aspects of society, including employment, education, healthcare, and more. It is important for me to understand the impact of immigration justice on these different areas and to use their research to advocate for policies and practices that promote fair and just treatment for immigrants. I never forget that I must wait 15 years to obtain an immigrant visa to migrate to the US.

Furthermore, immigration justice is a critical issue for me personally as an individual with immigrant roots and a member of a community that has been directly affected by unjust immigration policies and practices. I feel a strong sense of responsibility to use my skills and knowledge to contribute to the ongoing efforts to promote immigration justice and to support the rights and well-being of immigrant communities.

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**BIBLE**

1. "Love your neighbor as yourself." - Mark 12:31
2. "Do not mistreat or oppress a foreigner, for you were foreigners in Egypt." - Exodus 22:21
3. "Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. For I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.' Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?' The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.' - Matthew 25:34-40
4. "So then, as we have the opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith." - Galatians 6:10
5. "The Lord watches over the foreigner and sustains the fatherless and the widow, but he frustrates the ways of the wicked." - Psalm 146:9
6. "Do not take advantage of a hired worker who is poor and needy, whether that worker is a fellow Israelite or a foreigner residing in one of your towns." - Deuteronomy 24:14
7. "You shall not oppress a stranger, for you know the feelings of the stranger, having yourselves been strangers in the land of Egypt." - Exodus 23:9
8. "Then I will draw near to you for judgment. I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired worker in his wages, the widow and the fatherless, against those who thrust aside the sojourner, and do not fear me, says the Lord of hosts." - Malachi 3:5
9. "For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me." - Matthew 25:35

Top of Form

Top of Form

Top of Form

Bottom of Form

Top of Form

Bottom of Form

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Top of Form

Bottom of Form

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Top of Form

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