



## **Immigrant Justice Recommended Reading List**

The CFIR Immigrant Justice Reading List includes articles that discuss a variety of topics related to immigrant justice, each section has an article that tells a narrative, which will be listed first in each section, as well as an article that focuses specifically on data related to the specific topic, which will be listed second within each section.

### **Topics on the Immigrant Justice Recommended Reading List include:**

The Southern Border-Detention and Deportation-Immigrant Worker Rights-Immigration History-Root Causes of Immigration-Population and the Environment-LGBTQ and Immigration-Immigration, Jobs, and U.S. Wages-Immigration and Race-Allyship-Intersection between Drug and Immigration Policy-For Profit Prisons-Anti-Immigrant Movements-Process of Immigration-Faith and Immigration-Immigrant Rights Organizing- Just and Humane Immigration Policy

### **The Southern Border**

“Border security plans secure contractors’ profits”, by Lia Lindsey and Mary Zerkel, September 18, 2013, American Friends Service Committee.

<http://afsc.org/story/border-security-plans-secure-contractors-profits>

Lindsey and Zerkel discuss the ways in which immigration policy reform proposals are a tax funded way to increase profits for private contractors. Specifically, that the current and proposed, problematic and dangerous border security and border militarization policies lead to dangerous conditions at the southern border, and are a result of millions spent in lobbying and campaign contributions from private defense contractors, who benefit from the increased contracts needed to militarize the border.

“In the Shadow Of The Wall: Family Separation, Immigration Enforcement, and Security”, March, 2013, The Center for Latin American Studies University of Arizona.

[http://las.arizona.edu/sites/las.arizona.edu/files/UA\\_Immigration\\_Report2013web.pdf](http://las.arizona.edu/sites/las.arizona.edu/files/UA_Immigration_Report2013web.pdf)

The University of Arizona examines the stories and experiences of the more than 400,000 people deported to Mexico each year, including current practices and problems within our current immigration system. This study also provides insight into the detention and deportation system and highlights how this system lacks due process, discretion, and prevents family unity.

“Q&A: Borders, not war zones”, American Friends Service Committee, March 19, 2013.

<http://afsc.org/story/qa-borders-not-war-zones>

In a question and answer session Pedro Rios, director of AFSC’s San Diego program, explains how the militarization of the borders is ineffective, costly, and dangerous.

“Investigation Shows Mexican Teen Was Shot 8 Times on the ground”, Alice Brenna, Rayner Ramirez, and Cristian Costantini, October 30, 2013, Fusion.

<http://fusion.net/justice/story/investigation-shows-mexican-teen-shot-times-ground-170344>

This article (and video) describes the death of Jose Antonio Elena Rodriguez, who was shot and killed by a U.S. Border control agent when he was on the Mexican side of the border. This is another example of the effects that U.S. policies and the militarization of the border have had on border communities.

### **Detention and Deportation**

“As Immigration Reform Comes Up Again, Watch this Private Prison Company, by Jesse Lava and Sarah Solon, October 23, 2013, The Huffington Post.

<http://www.nnirr.org/drupal/node/582>

Lava and Solon discuss the for profit prison industry, in relation to immigration policy and immigration reform, and the vested interest that these companies have in policies that fuel mass incarceration. This article also examines the human rights violations that occur in these private facilities because of these companies’ motivation to increase their own profits, with little respect for the rights of individuals within their prison and immigration detention facilities.

“Immigration Policy With A Human Face: Reform should prioritize humanity over the interests of the prison-industrial complex”, February 1, 2014, Amy Gottlieb, Aljazeera America.

<http://america.aljazeera.com/opinions/2014/2/immigration-policywithahumanface.html>

Amy Gottlieb, director of AFSC’s Newark program, makes the connection between our government’s continued lack of action on immigration reform and the profits of the prison industry gain from our current detention and deportation system. The immigration system isn’t ‘broken’, it is functioning just how it is intended to, and to benefit private corporations. Gottlieb also makes a powerful case for just and humane immigration policy that puts the needs of families above the profits of the prison industry.

“Family Unity, Family Health”, June 2013, Human Impact Partners.

<http://familyunityfamilyhealth.org/uploads/images/FamilyUnityFamilyHealth.pdf>

The Human Impact Partners examine the effects of deportation and detention practices on mixed-status families, including a helpful one page infographic. Specifically this study examines the mental, physical, and emotional effects the detention and deportation of a parent can have on U.S. citizen children and their families.

“CFIR Deportation and Detention Flyer”, CFIR a project of AFSC, September 2013.

<http://afsc.org/resource/cfir-deportation-and-detention-flyer>

This (printable) flyer examines current deportation and detention practices within the United States, as well as brings attention to the human rights violations that occur as a result of these practices. This flyer also advocates for successful and cost-effective alternatives to detention, as well as ways to get involved in Denver, to speak out for immigrant justice.

### **Immigrant Worker Rights and Guest Worker Programs**

“Criminals Because We Worked”, David Bacon, Truth Out Report, June, 2009.

<http://dbacon.igc.org/Imigrants/2009overhillfarms.html>

David Bacon tells the story of workers at Overhill Farms and the results of a broken immigration system that criminalizes individuals for simply working, because of the flawed E-very system and employer sanction policies.

“Close to Slavery: Guest worker Programs in the United States”, Southern Poverty Law Center, February, 2013.

<http://www.splcenter.org/get-informed/publications/close-to-slavery-guestworker-programs-in-the-united-states>

Within current discussions over immigration reform, policy makers are advocating for expanded guest worker programs, however, as The Southern Poverty Law Center points out, it is important to recognize the labor and human rights violations that continue to occur under the current H-2 program. Guest worker programs, including the current H-2 program, not only harm those within the program but U.S. workers as well by undercutting wages and working conditions for all workers.

“Subcontractor Servitude”, by Jennifer Gordon, September 1, 2013, New York Times.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2013/09/02/opinion/subcontractor-servitude.html>

Gordon tells to the story of 150 Jamaican guest workers in Florida that went on strike because of their working conditions, and also discusses the human rights and workers rights violations that occur as a result of guest worker programs that fail to protect workers’ rights. Past and present guest worker programs often are tied to a specific employer, which creates an environment where employers are easily able to exploit workers.

### **Immigration History**

“Immigration Raids Echo History of African Americans”, by Jean Damu, September, 2007, New American Media.

[http://news.newamericamedia.org/news/view\\_article.html?article\\_id=b1799b3bdaa10de0d629888ae9aaea26](http://news.newamericamedia.org/news/view_article.html?article_id=b1799b3bdaa10de0d629888ae9aaea26)

Jean Damu discusses the shared experiences between African American and immigrant communities, through comparing current immigration raids and the history of ‘raids’ against African Americans attempting to escape slavery during the 1800s. Which signifies the need for African American and immigrant communities to work together for immigration reform and human rights for all.

“Immigration in the U.S.—a history lesson,” by Tina Griego, May, 2006, Rocky Mountain News.

<http://m.rockymountainnews.com/news/2006/may/11/bgriego-immigration-in-the-us---a-history/>

Tina Griego examines the history and evolution of immigration policy, and debunks the argument that "My family immigrated to this country a couple hundred years ago, but they did it the right way. Why can't they do it the right way?"

### **Root Causes of Immigration**

“Bananas,” by Dr. Miguel De La Torre, Summer, 2006, AFSC Colorado *Footsteps*.

<http://www.ethicsdaily.com/news.php?viewStory=7201>

Dr. Miguel De La Torre debunks common perceptions of why individuals immigrate to the United States, and focuses the roles the U.S. has played in creating unstable and oppressive conditions in other countries, including countries in Central and South America, and how these policies and practices continue to cause ‘forced’ migration to the United States.

“Failed Trade Policy & Immigration: Cause & Effect”, Public Citizen.

<http://www.citizen.org/documents/failed-trade-policy-and-immigration.pdf>

The Public Citizen’s Global Trade Watch examines the effects of NAFTA in Mexico, including 2.5 million Mexicans losing their livelihoods as a result of NAFTA farm imports from the U.S. They also examine the similar effects the U.S.-Central America Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA), NAFTA’s expansion into Columbia, and the U.S.-Peru Free Trade Agreement (FTA) have had in Latin American, as well the effects the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) could possibly have in other countries, if it is implemented. This article also discusses the link between these trade agreements and migration to the United States.

“Colombia Uprisings: Is This What “Free Trade” Looks Like?”, by Ben Beachy, August, 2013, Public Citizen Eyes on TRADE.

<http://citizen.typepad.com/eyesontrade/2013/08/colombia-uprising-is-this-what-free-trade-looks-like.html>

Beachy demonstrates how the trade agreement with Colombia has been used to marginalize small-scale farmers and local food production, as well as how the people of Colombia are currently pushing back on this trade agreement.

### **Population and the Environment**

“Back from the Brink: Ten Reasons to Greening of Hate”, by Betsy Hartmann, Spring, 2013, Different Takes, NO. 78.

<http://popdev.hampshire.edu/sites/default/files/uploads/u4763/DT%2078%20-%20Hartmann.pdf>

In this edition of Different Takes, Hartmann confronts 10 common myths about the connection between environmental degradation and immigration. Hartmann also discusses the ways in which this ‘disinformation campaign’ reinforces racism and nativism, while hiding the real causes for environmental problems.

“Political Ecology Group’s Immigration and Environment Campaign: Position Statement”, July 22 2006, Political Ecology Group.

<http://www.cwpe.org/node/148>

The Political Ecology Group discusses the causes of environmental decline, and how these causes are unrelated to immigration and population growth. Instead they advocate for the need for immigrants and environmentalists to work together in the movement for environmental justice, as well as human rights and social justice issues, and discusses the ways in which these issues are intertwined.

“10 Reasons to Rethink the Immigration-Overpopulation Connection, by Priscilla Huang, Different Takes, NO. 59, Spring 2009.

<http://popdev.hampshire.edu/sites/default/files/uploads/u4763/DT%2059%20-%20Huang.pdf>

In another edition of Different Takes, Huang debunks the connection between immigration and over-population, and how this argument is linked to racism, nativism, and the restriction of reproductive justice.

### **LGBTQ and Immigration**

Immigrant and LBGT: When identities intersect, by Juan Gallegos and Gissel Uribe, July 1, 2013, the Denver Post.

[http://www.denverpost.com/ci\\_23563025/immigrant-and-lgbt-when-identities-intersect](http://www.denverpost.com/ci_23563025/immigrant-and-lgbt-when-identities-intersect)

This guest commentary in the Denver Post, written by our community members demonstrates the intersections between the LGBTQ and immigrant communities, the strength of both communities when we work together for equality, as well as what can happen “when diverse communities work together toward a common vision”.

“Eight Months in Solitary”, by Andrew Harmon, May 07 2012, Advocate.com

<http://www.advocate.com/news/news-features/2012/05/07/transgender-detainees-face-challenges-broken-immigration-system>

Harmon describes the lack of regulations, and enforcement of existing regulations within immigration detention facilities. And specifically how these unjust and inhumane conditions, within immigration detention facilities, affect the transgendered community. Harmon describes Dulce’s story, of her time in an immigration detention facility in Virginia, where she was held for 8 months in solitary confinement.

“Immigration is a LGBT Issue,” by Christine Chavez, The Advocate, April 10, 2006.

<http://www.advocate.com/politics/commentary/2006/04/10/immigration-lgbt-issue>

Christine Chavez, granddaughter of late civil rights leader Cesar Chavez, discusses the shared experiences between immigrant and LGBTQ communities, and that we should not divide people and communities on the civil rights front, but instead work together for the rights of all of our community members.

### **Immigration, Jobs, and U.S. Wages:**

“10 Reasons All Workers Benefit from Fixing the Immigration System”, by Mike Hall, 2013, AFL-CIO, 2013.

<http://www.aflcio.org/Blog/Political-Action-Legislation/10-Reasons-All-Workers-Benefit-from-Fixing-the-Immigration-System>

Just and humane immigration policy, including a path to citizenship and protections for workers’ rights, is good for all workers. Here are 10 reasons why.

“Immigration Helps American Workers’ Wages and Job Opportunities”, by Adriana Kugler and Patrick Oakford, Center for American Progress, August 29, 2013.

<http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/immigration/news/2013/08/29/73203/immigration-helps-american-workers-wages-and-job-opportunities/>

Kugler and Oakford discuss the ways in which immigrants help improve wages and job opportunities for all workers, and also how just and humane immigration policy would also improve earnings for all works and help to generate new jobs.

### **Immigration and Race**

“Exploitation Without Borders,” by Eisha Mason, Black Commentator, May 11, 2006.

<http://www.aflcio.org/Blog/Political-Action-Legislation/10-Reasons-All-Workers-Benefit-from-Fixing-the-Immigration-System>

Mason highlights similarities between African American and Latino communities, related to issues of labor, immigration, and race are deeply enmeshed, in an effort to demonstrate the need for all communities to work towards equality and human rights, for everyone.

“Converging Bigotry: Nativist Movement Begins to Focus on Muslim Immigration” by Aaron Patrick Flanagan, January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2014 Imagine 2050.

<http://imagine2050.newcomm.org/2014/01/31/converging-bigotry-nativist-movement-begins-to-focus-on-muslim-immigration/>

Flanagan discusses the intersection between the anti-immigrant and anti-Muslim movements, and how both are collaborating within the movement against immigration reform. He also states that it is important to recognize both of these movements at nativist, and “to divide like-minded bigots into separate categories splinters our allies while strengthening those who we oppose.”

“Building a New Racial Justice Movement”, by Rinku Sen, August 20, 2013, Color Lines.

[http://colorlines.com/archives/2013/08/the\\_new.html](http://colorlines.com/archives/2013/08/the_new.html)

Sen discusses the idea of the ‘new racial justice movement’, and discusses the need for all communities of color to come together in order to fight for and achieve true racial justice, and that we need to “see ourselves as one movement, rather than a collection of movements working in solidarity with each other”.

### **Allyship**

“Citizenship and Ally Basics”, Coloradans for Immigrant Rights: A Project of AFSC.



<http://afsc.org/resource/citizenship-privilege-and-ally-basics>

This two pager provides insight into what it means to have U.S. citizenship privilege, and also provides ways that non-immigrants can be strong allies in support of immigrant justice.

“White Privilege: Unpacking the Invisible Knapsack”, Peggy McIntosh, 1988.

<http://www.amptoons.com/blog/files/mcintosh.html>

McIntosh’s article delves into the ways that white privilege consists of “unearned assets” that are “meant to remain oblivious”, as well as the daily effects of white privilege, and also the ways that this “unearned advantage” can be used to create systemic change.

“Your Home For the Holidays Survival Guide!”, November 16,2012, CFIR.

<http://afsc.org/document/your-home-holidays-survival-guide>

You know how “The Holidays” are. It’s supposed to be a time for families to come together, to share food and to nostalgically retell stories about your youth. Sometimes frantic travel, combined with too short breaks from school or work can result in you being curt with the people you love. Like your conservative Uncle David who wants to talk about immigration before you even get to the cranberry sauce...

### **Intersection between Drug and Immigration Policy**

“Mexican Government’s War on Drugs Tied to Increase in Homicides”, by Steve Fisher, October 10 2013, ABC News.

[http://abcnews.go.com/ABC\\_Univision/mexico-drug-war-policy-increase-homicides/story?id=20537561](http://abcnews.go.com/ABC_Univision/mexico-drug-war-policy-increase-homicides/story?id=20537561)

This article by ABC news describes the increased violence in Mexico as a result of the ‘war on drugs’, for example more than 12,000 people have been killed in drug-related violence in Mexico so far this year. This article also examines the Mexican government’s practices in attempting to capture cartel leaders, and that this strategy is supposed to increase security and peace. However, it has been shown that drug trade-related homicides increase by nearly 40% in affected municipalities after a leader is captured or killed, therefore that the ‘war on drugs’ is actually increasing the violence and insecurity in Mexico.

“Mexico’s Drug War”, Almee Rawlins, January 11, 2013, Council on Foreign Relations.

<http://www.cfr.org/mexico/mexicos-drug-war/p13689>

Rawlins discusses the ‘massive crackdown’ on drug trafficking organizations during former Mexican president Felipe Calderon’s administration, in conjunction with the United States. Since then more than 40,000 people have been killed in drug-related violence. Instead of diminishing the cartels’ presence Calderon’s strategy increased drug-related violence.

“Reflections on Flawed Drug and Immigration Policies”, by Gabriela Flora, December 21, 2001, American Friends Service Committee

<https://afsc.org/story/reflections-flawed-drug-and-immigration-policies>

Gabriela Flora, from CFIR- a project of AFSC, discusses the ways in which drug policy has historically mirrored immigration policy. For example, both immigration and drug policies criminalize every day behaviors and that both drug and immigration police have selectively enforced and targeted specific populations.

### **Anti-immigrant Movements**

“The Anti-Immigrant Movement in America, Center for New Community, 2011.

[http://newcomm.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/06/Tanton\\_2011\\_Final\\_print.pdf](http://newcomm.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/06/Tanton_2011_Final_print.pdf)

This article from Center for New Community discusses The Tanton network, which is a group of anti-immigration organizations and think tanks, formed and funded by John Tanton, who also founded the Federation for American Immigration Reform (FAIR). The Tanton Network is the most influential anti-immigration network in the country.

“Pulling Up the Ladder:: The Anti-Immigrant Movement”, by Doug Brugge, Political Research Associates, 2002.

<http://www.publiceye.org/magazine/v09n2/immigran.html>

Brugge discusses the connection between anti-immigrant movements and a long-standing history of the U.S.’ reaction to immigration. That the rhetoric and arguments used within anti-immigrant movements today are rooted in a history of anti-immigrant rhetoric, and racism towards various immigrant groups throughout history.

“Understanding Anti-Immigrant Movements,” American Friends Service Committee, page 1-5.

[http://www.lenoxweb.net/org\\_ydsusa/pdfs/chapter\\_8.pdf](http://www.lenoxweb.net/org_ydsusa/pdfs/chapter_8.pdf)

This article by the American Friends Service Committee (which is within pages 2-5, within the document) discusses the history of anti-immigrant movements, the link between anti-immigrant movements and nativism, recent anti-immigrant rhetoric related to the environment, and also recent anti-immigrant actions by vigilante groups.

### **Process of Immigration**

“Five myths about the immigration ‘line’ “, by Daniel M. Kowalski, February 1m 2013, The Washington Post.

[http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/five-myths-about-the-immigration-line/2013/02/01/d30cf73e-6bb8-11e2-bd36-c0fe61a205f6\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/five-myths-about-the-immigration-line/2013/02/01/d30cf73e-6bb8-11e2-bd36-c0fe61a205f6_story.html)

As the idea of the ‘line’ of individuals seeking citizenship has become a common piece of the immigration debate, Kowalski debunks some of the misinformation about our current immigration system and the idea of the ‘line’, as well as the barriers our immigration system creates for individuals and their families.

“Reforming America’s Immigration Laws”, by Kavitha Sreeharsh, June 2012, Immigration Policy Center.

[http://www.immigrationpolicy.org/sites/default/files/docs/A\\_Womans\\_Struggle\\_062810.pdf](http://www.immigrationpolicy.org/sites/default/files/docs/A_Womans_Struggle_062810.pdf)



This report discusses the legal barriers within current immigration law, and the ways in which these barriers disproportionately affect immigrant women. This report also explores the ways in which women are disproportionately affected by immigration enforcement and exploitative employers. In addition the author makes immigration policy recommendations that value the contributions of immigrant women.

“What Part of Legal Immigration Don’t You Understand?”, Mike Flynn, Shikha Dalmia, and Terry Colon, October 2008, Reason Magazine.

<http://reason.com/assets/db/07cf533ddb1d06350cf1ddb5942ef5ad.jpg>

This helpful info-graphic explains the U.S.’ complicated and broken immigration system, and the many barriers that this system creates for individuals and their families.

### **Immigration and Faith Resources**

“The Bible as the Ultimate Immigration Handbook: Written by, for, and about migrants, immigrants, refugees, and asylum seekers”, Joan M. Maruskin, 2003.

[http://www.iaumc.org/console/files/oFiles\\_Library\\_XZXLCZ/CWS-Joan\\_MaruskinBibleAsUltimateImmigrationHandbook\\_2L36EITT.pdf](http://www.iaumc.org/console/files/oFiles_Library_XZXLCZ/CWS-Joan_MaruskinBibleAsUltimateImmigrationHandbook_2L36EITT.pdf)

Maruskin examines the history of migration in the Bible, in contrast to the lack of rights and protections immigrants, migrations, refugees and asylees are given today.

“Seeing That of God in Our Immigrant Neighbors,” by Danielle Short. American Friends Service Committee, Colorado Office.

<http://www.imym.org/immigrationintervisitationproject/fjdanielleshort/view>

Short discusses the link between immigrant justice and Quaker values, and the need for humane policies towards immigrants and an immigration system that: “doesn’t play the rights and benefits of one group against another’s”.

### **Immigrant Rights Organizing**

“A Group of Immigration Activists Disrupt Ice”, by Aura Bogado, Color Lines, October 10, 2013.

[http://colorlines.com/archives/2013/10/shutting\\_down\\_ice.html](http://colorlines.com/archives/2013/10/shutting_down_ice.html)

Aura discusses a specific direct action, involving civil disobedience, in Arizona, where community members chained themselves to an ICE bus, in order to stop Operation Streamline and to call on President Obama to take action to stop deportations and expand deferred action.

“How Undocumented Youth Nearly Made their DREAMs Real in 2010”, by Julianne Hing, Color Lines, December 20, 2010.

[http://colorlines.com/archives/2010/12/dream\\_movement\\_profile.html](http://colorlines.com/archives/2010/12/dream_movement_profile.html)

Hing discusses the movement in support of the DREAM ACT, in 2010, by undocumented youth, and the new strategies within the movement for immigrant justice and just and humane immigration policy.

## **Just and Humane Immigration Policy**

“A New Path”, American Friends Service Committee, 2013.

<http://afsc.org/document/new-path-full-version>

<http://afsc.org/story/how-fix-our-immigration-system>

American Friends Service Committee lays out its seven principles for *A New Path: Toward a Humane Immigration Policy*. The first link is to the full New Path, which provides detailed background, data and frame for each principle, and the second link provides an overview of the seven principles on “How to fix our immigration system-while respecting human rights”.