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# Immigration

An Annotated Bibliography

Click [HERE](#) for more resources on the various interrelated issues affecting immigration.

## Web Links

*The Catholic Campaign for Immigration Reform* <<http://www.justiceforimmigrants.org/>>

In June 2004, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Committee on Migration and The Catholic Legal Immigration Network, INC. resolved to make comprehensive immigration reform, with special emphasis on legalization, a major public policy priority within the Church. As part of the Church's response, a diverse group of Catholic organizations with national networks have decided to join the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' *Justice for Immigrants: A Journey of Hope* campaign designed to unite and mobilize a growing network of Catholic institutions, individuals, and other persons of good faith in support of a broad legalization program and comprehensive immigration reform.

*Interfaith Worker Justice* <<http://www.iwj.org/>>

*Interfaith Worker Justice (IWJ)* works to educate, organize and mobilize the religious community in the U.S. on issues and campaigns that will improve wages, benefits and working conditions for workers, especially low-wage workers.

*Liberty and Justice for All* <<http://www.rightsworkinggroup.org/>>

The *Liberty and Justice for All* campaign is a national grassroots campaign dedicated to protecting the civil liberties and human rights of everyone in the United States. The campaign was formed by the Rights Working Group, a coalition of organizations who came together after the tragic events of September 11<sup>th</sup> to deal with the various civil liberty issues that arose. Currently, the campaign is working to ensure that due process provisions are included in immigration reform policy.

*The New Sanctuary Movement* <<http://www.newsanctuarymovement.org/>>

Religious leaders across a broad spectrum of denominations from 10 states are coming together to begin a *New Sanctuary Movement* to accompany and protect immigrant families who are facing the violation of their human rights in the form of hatred, workplace discrimination and unjust deportation.

*No More Deaths* <<http://www.nomoredeaths.org/>>

No More Deaths provides live saving humanitarian aid (food, water and basic medical care) to migrants crossing the Mexico/Arizona border. This aid is a matter of life and death.

## Books

John Bowe, *Nobodies: Modern American Slave Labor and the Dark Side of the Global Economy* (New York: Random House, 2007).

In this eye-opening look at the contemporary American scourge of labor abuse and outright slavery, journalist and author Bowe visits locations in Florida, Oklahoma and the U.S.-owned Pacific island of Saipan, where slavery cases have been brought to light as recently as 2006. There, he talks to affected workers, providing many moving

and appalling first-hand accounts. This book deserves the attention of anyone living, working and consuming in America.

Kathryn Ferguson, Norma A. Price and Ted Parks, *Crossing with the Virgin: Stories from the Migrant Trail* (Tucson, AZ: University of Arizona Press, 2010)

Over the past ten years, more than 4,000 people have died while crossing the Arizona desert to find jobs, join families, or start new lives. Other migrants tell of the corpses they pass – bodies that are never recovered or counted. *Crossing with the Virgin* collects stories heard from migrants about these treacherous treks.

Maria Jimenez, “Humanitarian Crisis: Migrant Deaths at the U.S. – Mexico Border,” *ACLU*, 2009

<http://www.aclu.org/immigrants-rights/humanitarian-crisis-migrant-deaths-us-mexico-border> >

This report is the result of a cooperative agreement entered into by Mexico's National Commission of Human Rights and the American Civil Liberties Union of San Diego and Imperial Counties to explore and use binational strategies to protect the human rights of immigrants in the border region. The report describes the unacceptable human tragedy that takes place daily in this region. The study was conducted and written by immigration and border policy advocate Maria Jimenez who resides in Houston, Texas.

Margaret Regan, *The Death of Josseline: Immigration Stories from the Arizona Borderlands* (Boston: Beacon Press, 2010)

For the last decade, Margaret Regan has reported on the escalating chaos along the Arizona-Mexico border, ground zero for immigration since 2000. Undocumented migrants cross into Arizona in overwhelming numbers, a state whose anti-immigrant laws are the most stringent in the nation And Arizona has the highest number of migrant deaths. With a sweeping perspective and vivid on the ground reportage, Regan tells the stories of the people caught up in this international tragedy.

## Articles/Papers/Study Guide

Kim Bobo et al., “For Your Were Once a Stranger: Immigration in the U.S. Through the Lens of Faith,” *Interfaith Worker Justice*, 2007 [http://www.iwj.org/template/guard\\_process2.cfm?where=inline](http://www.iwj.org/template/guard_process2.cfm?where=inline)>

This 112 page study-guide provides the foundation for facilitating extensive discussion and analysis of immigration issues today from a faith perspective. It includes dozens of resource materials and educational activities for congregations.

Erik Camayd-Freixas, “The Translator's Perspective: an Inside Account of the Biggest ICE Raid in History,” *AlterNet*, 14 July 2008 <http://www.alternet.org/rights/91345>>

An interpreter struggles with his conscience after a massive immigration raid in Iowa.

Daniel Groody, CSC, “A Theology of Immigration” *Notre Dame Magazine*, October 2004

<http://magazine.nd.edu/news/10587-a-theology-of-immigration>>

This article by Fr. Daniel Groody, CSC contains excellent reflections on Scripture and his own experience as a priest familiar with the situation of immigrants.

Rob Paral and Associates, “The Unemployment and Immigration Disconnect: Untying the Knot,” *Immigration Policy Center*, 19 May 2009

<http://www.immigrationpolicy.org/special-reports/untying-knot-series-unemployment-and-immigration>>

With Congress once again poised to consider comprehensive immigration reform, a key question confronting lawmakers is to what extent immigration and unemployment are related. Opponents of immigration reform frequently argue that immigrants “take” jobs away from many native-born workers, especially during economic hard times. Yet an analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau clearly reveals that this is not the case. In fact, there is little apparent relationship between recent immigration and unemployment rates at the regional, state, or county level.

Bishop Anthony B. Taylor, “I Was a Stranger and You Welcomed Me: A Pastoral Letter on the Human Rights of Immigrants” *Diocese of Little Rock*, 5 November 2008

[http://www.dolr.org/bishop/iwasastrangerletter/pastoralimmigration\\_english.pdf](http://www.dolr.org/bishop/iwasastrangerletter/pastoralimmigration_english.pdf)>

The purpose of “I Was a Stranger and You Welcomed Me ...” is to teach briefly, but authoritatively, the biblical and theological principles that are the indispensable foundation on which any just and humane approach to immigration must be built. These principles are then applied to the current reality of immigration and immigration law in the United States. This pastoral letter does not propose specific legislative solutions but does emphasize that the protection of human rights should be the starting point for any attempt at immigration reform.

## **Audio/Visual/Interactive Resources**

*Dying to Live: A Migrant's Journey*. DVD. Prod. University of Notre Dame, 2006

<<http://www.nd.edu/~latino/dyingtolive/>>

*Dying to Live* is a profound look at the human face of the migrant. It explores who these people are, why they leave their homes and what they face in their journey. It is a reflection on the human struggle for a more dignified life and the search to find God in the midst of it all.

*Immigration to El Norte: Eight Stories of Hope and Peril*

<<http://www.nieman.harvard.edu/reports/article/100332/Immigration-to-El-Norte-Eight-Stories-of-Hope-and-Peril.aspx>>

A gallery of images by documentary photographer Don Bartletti of the Los Angeles Times.

*Lives for Sale*. Prod. Maryknoll Productions, 2006 <<http://www.livesforsale.com/>>

While politicians, activists and the media wrestle with the thorny issue of immigration, this one-hour investigative documentary exposes the painful, rarely seen human side of undocumented immigration – including the growing black market trade in human beings.

*Strangers No Longer*. Prod. USCCB, 2007 <<http://www.usccbpublishing.org/productdetails.cfm?PC=724>>

This 22-minute DVD produced by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops invites viewers to open our hearts and minds and identify with today's immigrants; to notice the similarities that exist between us our ancestors and those who are migrating now; to explore the global implications that cause people to migrate to the US and to understand problems that exist with our current immigration system.

*The 800 Mile Wall*. Gatekeeper Productions <<http://www.800milewall.org/>>

This 90-minute DVD highlights the construction of the new border walls along the U.S.-Mexico border as well as the effect on migrants trying to cross into the U.S. This powerful 90-minute film is an unflinching look at a failed U.S. border strategy that many believe has caused the death of thousands of migrants and violates fundamental human rights.

*The Visitor*. Prod. Overture Films, 2008

A lonesome widower and college economics professor finds his mundane existence suddenly shaken up when he befriends a pair of illegal immigrants, one of whom has recently been threatened with deportation by U.S. immigration authorities