

Polarization of Immigration in United States Politics

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Myths

- Immigrants take American Jobs and Lower Wages
- The Immigration Process is easy
- Immigrants abuse the welfare system
- Immigrants increase economic inequality
- Current Immigrants do not assimilate like immigrants of the past
- Immigrants increase crime
- Immigrants are dangerous because of terrorism
- The United States has one of the most open immigration systems in the World
- Amnesty or the failure to enforce the laws of immigration will destroy rule of Law in the United States
- Expanding legal immigration will destroy national sovereignty
- Immigrants will increase crowding and harm the environment

Versus

Facts

- Immigrants do not take away jobs from American workers they create new jobs by forming new businesses, spending their incomes on American goods and services, paying taxes and raising the productivity of U.S. businesses. (ACLU)
- There is no line available for current undocumented immigrants and the “regular channels” are largely not available to prospective immigrants who end up entering the country through unauthorized channels. (American Immigration Council)
- Immigrants are less likely than native-born Americans to use welfare programs and don’t even qualify for welfare benefits in most cases. (ATD)
- Research suggests that the impact of immigration is small and less than the effect of technological displacement and broader demographic trends (AAF)
- This is not being shown by researchers, they are assimilating the same now. (CAP)
- Immigrants, including illegal immigrants, are less likely to be incarcerated in prisons, convicted of crimes, or arrested than native-born Americans. (Carnegie)
- Data doesn’t not support the claim that there is an increase of terrorism with immigration. (Light)
- The annual inflow of immigrants to the United States, as a percentage of our population, is below that of most other rich countries in the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.
- Rule of law is the incorporation of fundamental values, decency, and equality,
- Changing Policies does not destroy national Sovereignty.
- While we might need to change policies to make up for more people there are ways we can combat this.



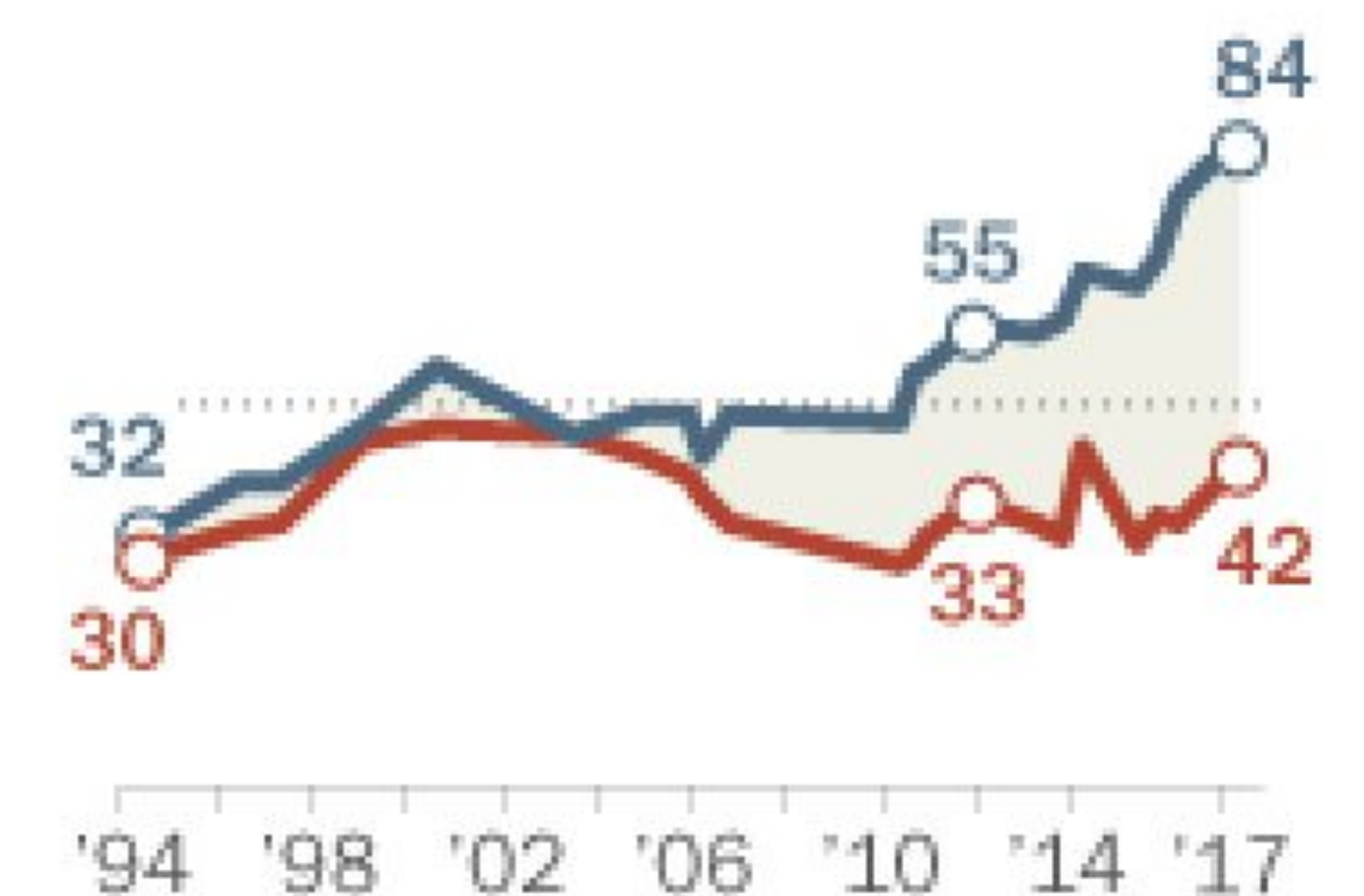
Effects of Media on the Polarization of Immigration

- Media channels have taken one of the two extreme sides and have pushed the public to pick one. With high viewerships news outlets have continued to play up the polarization and push moderates to one side or another. (Schneider)
- Echo chambers of ideas lead to individuals hearing ideas that agree with them and further affirming their beliefs. This makes people less likely to listen to other’s sides and increase dislike for those that do not agree with them. (Ohme)
- Media can help create “in-group” favoritism and increase “out-group” hatred on both sides.

- Negative framing on Media can elicit a fear response that can psychologically make citizens fear immigration. (CCIS)

- Social Media facilitates Discussion and can be a platform for movements to be created. (The Hill)

Immigrants strengthen the country with their hard work and talents



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