

# Research on the Changes of American Immigration Policy after 9/11 from the Perspective of National Security

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## Abstract

There are many ethnic groups in the United States. In addition to the local Native Americans who make up a very small proportion of the national population, the population of the United States is largely made up of immigrants from all over the world and the descendants of these immigrants. Although the United States has held an open attitude towards immigrants for a long time, with the increase in the number of immigrants, various contradictions have also been generated, and the immigration policy of the United States is constantly changing. Entering the 21st century, due to the sudden "9-11" terrorist attacks, the US government changed its attitude towards immigrants and introduced a series of corresponding policies. National security will become one of the core and key factors in the immigration policy changes of the US. The September 11 terrorist attacks have strongly impacted the immigration policy of the United States, and exert profound influence to the immigration policy reform. Before that, there was no similar situation in the history of immigration in the United States. In this paper, through consulting relevant data and documents, in the national security under the apparent deficiency of the current situation of American immigration policies after "9-11" event, and development process of research, the induction, the typical immigration policy in this period as the research focus, to constantly adjust the immigration policy of national security, including a summary on the background and motivation to explore the American immigration policy on the impact of American national security.

## Keywords

The United States; "9-11" event; National security; Immigration policy; change.

## 1. Introduction

The United States is a typical immigrant nation, a multi-ethnic, multi-cultural "melting pot". As an important feature of the American nation, all aspects of American society are highly related to immigration, and the history of American immigration is also an important part of American history. For a long time, immigration has been one of the most controversial social issues in the United States. The attitude of the public toward this issue is constantly changing with the situation in different periods. The government has also adjusted immigration policies in a timely manner based on multiple considerations. In order to bring more talents from all over the world to the United States for development and promote the prosperity of the US economy, the US government has encouraged the introduction of talents, and immigration policies have once become more relaxed. However, the sudden outbreak of the "September 11" terrorist attack caused great panic in American society on terrorism and also had a strong impact on the US immigration policy. The government has tightened its immigration policy, and the government has formulated and issued a series of strict laws on immigration. During this time, it has become a primary concern of the US government to crack down on terrorism and protect US national security. In terms of its long-term impact on the United States, the national security factor was particularly emphasized after the terrorist attack. The government attaches

great importance to this. Strengthening law enforcement by various departments will become one of the important contents of future US immigration policies.

## **2. Background of Changes in US Immigration Policy**

### **2.1. American Immigration Policy in the Late 20th Century**

The US immigration policy adjustment in the late 20th century mainly focused on solving social problems, and national security factors had less influence and less reflection in the policies during this period. This article attempts to select two time nodes to illustrate the main characteristics of American immigration policy during this period.

#### **2.1.1. The Immigration Category Increases and the Difficulty Decreases---The Immigration Act 1990**

This immigration law is considered to be the most amended and loosest immigration law in the history of American immigration law. The bill expanded the scope of allowed immigration beyond the quota system, expands the scope of family immigration and skilled immigration, and fully reflects the national equality of the American society and the government's desire for talent. This was the result of the mutual compromise between the conservative forces supporting family reunification and the radical forces in the US Congress. It mainly has the following four changes and characteristics:

First, increase the amount of global immigration. The US government has decided to increase the legal immigration quota from 270,000 to 675,000 per year. The number of immigrants based on family reunion was 465,000 per year from 1992 to 1994, and 480,000 per year since 1995. The immigration limit for each country of origin of immigrants must not exceed 7% of the global relative limit. Close relatives of US citizens will not be subject to quota restrictions, while immigration of other relatives cannot exceed 245,000 people per year.

Second, readjust the proportion of global immigration quotas. The new quota ratio was re-divided into three categories in the Immigration Law of 1990: First, the relative immigration quota ratio based on family reunification was reduced from 74% to 56%. Second, one of the most prominent features of the 1990 immigration law is the establishment of occupational immigration quota priority, and increased its proportion to 32%. Third, the quota for diversified immigrants accounts for 12% of the total quota.

Third, carry out certain reforms of the employment permit system. The actual purpose is to prevent immigrants from seizing the job market in the United States.

Fourth, the amount of global migration no longer includes refugees. This is actually equivalent to increasing the number of global immigrants actually entering the United States each year.

#### **2.1.2. Tighten Immigration Policy and Crack Down on Illegal Immigration---The Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigration Responsibility Act of 1996**

At that time, there was growing anti-immigration sentiment. The US Senate and the House of Representatives successively passed the Immigration Law. It is generally believed that this is the tightest bill on immigration in the United States. Prior to this, the immigration laws of the United States had been increasingly loose, and the bill was uncharacteristically, with a distinctive anti-immigrant color. The main contents of the Immigration Act are as follows: strengthen the control of relevant local authorities on local borders, strengthen patrols, and prevent illegal immigrants from entering the United States through illegal channels; modify and cancel some hearing procedures, requiring the immigration management department to conduct Fast repatriation; seriously deal with illegal immigration cases and increase criminal penalties; increase non-entry categories; Restrict and punish employers for hiring illegal immigrants; and cut the social welfare of legal immigrants.

However, the bill did not achieve the desired effect. Although the 1996 immigration law was so strict, there are still a large number of illegal immigrants from all over the world smuggling into the United States. In our view, it is not that the bill has some loopholes in the formulation and implementation phases. The main reason behind it is that the mid-1990s saw an economic recovery of the United States following the downturn during the previous administration and a lot of jobs were created. Opportunities appear in American handicraft manufacturing and agriculture.

## **2.2. National Security Factors in Immigration Policy**

### **2.2.1. Social Background of Legal Immigration Policy Adjustment in 1990**

In the 1980s, the Refugee Act 1980 and the Immigration Reform and Control Act 1986 were successively adopted. According to the provisions of the Act, the three million illegal immigrants who entered before 1982 would obtain legal status, and at the same time, the illegal immigrants who may enter the country may be controlled and cracked down through legislation.

However, in the late 1980s, the immigration laws implemented before brought two increasingly serious problems: First, the proportion of immigrants from Europe has declined. In the 1980s, immigrants from Europe accounted for only 9.5% of the total number of immigrants, which was about 19% in the 1970s. The proportion of professional and technical immigrants in the total number of immigrants fell from 9% in 1983 to 6% in 1986, and as low as 3% in 1989. These statistics show that in the late 1980s, more immigrants would make the American society more turbulent after entering the country. In view of the above problems, the US authorities re-examined the Immigration Act of 1965, which had been in operation for a long time, and then decided to consider making a new immigration law. After a period of discussion, the new immigration law of 1990 was finally formulated and promulgated.

### **2.2.2. The Background of the Illegal Immigration Policy Adjustment in 1996**

The bill on illegal immigration reform issued by the United States in 1986 not only failed to control the number of illegal immigrants, instead, there is an increasing trend. According to official statistics, from 1980 to 1989, the number of illegal immigrants in the United States increased by more than 1.7 million, with an average annual increase of about 180,000. However, in the next five years, the number of new illegal immigrants in the United States reached 2 million. By 1994, the total number of illegal immigrants in the United States was about 4 million.

### **2.2.3. Security Loopholes Hidden in Immigration Policy in 1990 and 1996**

In the US immigration policy at that time, the national security factor was not given special attention, so many loopholes were inevitably exposed: the supervision and management system for foreign personnel entering the United States was not perfect, and the efficiency of the immigration office is very slow and the internal corruption is serious. The problematic aspects of slow and serious internal corruption and the management and enforcement of border areas urgently needed to be strengthened and coordinated to cooperate with relevant agencies in neighboring countries. In response to the current situation of the US national security mentioned above, the US government has successively formulated and promulgated a series of immigration laws, and split and reorganized the USCIS to establish the Department of Homeland Security.

## **3. The Shock and Impact of the "9.11" Incident on US National Security**

In the eyes of Americans, several wars that took place in the twentieth century were fought far across the ocean. The safe geographic environment of the United States can fully guarantee their freedom and security, so they naturally lack a sense of worry about their country. Especially after the disintegration of the Soviet Union, the United States has become the world's super power, and its technological, military, and scientific capabilities are second to none in the

world. Under these various backgrounds, everyone in the United States has a strong sense of pride. The security is absolutely guaranteed and not vulnerable to attacks. The "9.11" incident can be said to be a blow to the United States. They suddenly realized that the world's top power will also be attacked. Geographical distance does not guarantee the absolute security of the United States, but it just proves that the United States is more vulnerable to external attacks than any period in the past 200 years.

The "September 11" terrorist attacks had a strong impact on US immigration policies, especially in the investigation report that terrorists entered the United States through legal channels. Some immigrants took advantage of some loopholes in the US immigration policy to enter the United States through some illegal means, and later brought very serious hidden dangers to US national security. From the perspective of Americans who oppose immigration, after the "September 11" terrorist attacks, the United States should put the national security factor first in the formulation of various policies and bills.

### **3.1. Protecting US Homeland Security is the Top Priority**

After the "September 11" incident, both the official and public attitudes toward terrorism were extremely abhorrent across the United States, and they regarded it as the number one enemy threatening their national security. In Asia, the United States has sent military forces to launch two wars against Afghanistan and Iraq. Within the United States, the government has tightened immigration policies and strengthened the identification and investigation of people entering and leaving the border. Homeland security has become the most important consideration for the United States.

### **3.2. Comprehensively Tighten Immigration Policy to Protect US National Security**

After the "September 11" incident, the United States took "national security" as its most important concern, and it surpassed other social and economic issues. The United States comprehensively tightened its immigration policy. Regardless of whether the immigrants are Latin Americans or Europeans, whether they are tourists or students, or ordinary family reunions or senior talents, they are treated equally, and they must go through strict background checks and screening by the immigration department. Those who are not qualified will not be granted a visa and will not be allowed to enter the United States for activities. The United States even suspended the issuance of refugee visas in the territory after the attack. Twenty-seven countries around the world are currently included in the US visa-free list, including the United Kingdom, Japan, New Zealand, and most Western European countries. But after the implementation of the new measures, all citizens of these countries must go through cumbersome review procedures. This rigorous review regardless of gender, nationality, identity, age, and academic background shows that the immigration policy has been tightened comprehensively, and the number of U.S. immigrants has fallen significantly since then.

## **4. Adjustment of US Immigration Policy after the "9.11" Incident**

### **4.1. American Immigration Policy during the George W. Bush Period**

President Bush did not take any immigration reform measures when he first took office. Even though he promised to reform immigration policy in the presidential race, the United States still maintained the previously open immigration policies. In a speech, Bush said that at the immigration ceremony of the USCIS: Immigration was not a problem that needs to be solved. This was a sign of a confident and successful country. Those who seek the United States to become their homeland should get our government in this spirit. Recognition by the representatives. The newcomers should not be skeptical and resentful, but open and polite. Express his satisfaction with the current immigration policy. After the 9.11 incident, the

national security issue became the most concerned issue of the US government at that time, thus ushering in a new wave of immigration policy reform.

#### **4.1.1. Enact Relevant Laws and Establish a Complete Immigration Legal System**

##### **(1) "American Patriot Act"**

The sudden outbreak of the "September 11" terrorist attack prompted Congress to quickly submit "Using Appropriate Means to Stop or Avoid Terrorism to Unite and Strengthen the United States Act." A law related to anti-terrorism and immigration.

This bill expanded the authority of US police agencies. According to the provisions of the Act, the police have the right to search and monitor the finances, calls, e-mail communications of others, and strengthen the police and immigration authority's rights to inspect, monitor and expel foreign immigrants. Although this policy has been criticized by many people as a violation of citizens' freedom and privacy, it also plays a role in safeguarding US homeland security.

##### **(2) "Enhanced Border Security and Visa Entry Reform Act"**

According to regulations, the intelligence department, the Department of Defense, and the USCIS must share intelligence information; the USCIS is required to synthesize a data sharing system that can be used and borrowed from each other; the USCIS will increase a total of 400 inspectors and investigators; And it will use a special fund to establish a system for tracking and identifying the identity of foreign students studying in the United States, and record detailed information.

#### **4.1.2. Reform the Immigration Bureau and Merge it into the Department of Homeland Security**

One week after the "September 11" incident, the United States urgently established the Homeland Security Office to integrate the resources of the federal government agencies to improve the level of national security and can be used to deal with the severe situation of the terrorist threat in the United States. Subsequently, President Bush decided to propose to the Congress to expand and permanently establish the temporary Homeland Security Office and establish a Cabinet-level Department of Homeland Security. On March 1, 2003, the Immigration Bureau completed its historical mission and formally merged into the Department of Homeland Security. The transition of the USCIS to the Department of Homeland Security reflects the attitude of the US government towards foreign students and immigrants, and has risen to the status of national security.

#### **4.1.3. Temporary Worker Plan**

The Bush administration asked Congress to draft a new immigration law to make the immigration law more humane and rational, encourage and allow foreigners who volunteer to work in the United States to enter the United States, and do jobs that Americans are not willing to do. According to regulations, the government would approve temporary workers who come to work in the United States to obtain work visas, which can be extended for another three years after the expiration of three years. This undoubtedly and greatly encouraged those temporary workers. And to encourage temporary workers who have expired in the United States to return to their home country permanently, Bush Jr. suggested providing them with financial incentives. This made those workers feel the care of the US government and they are more willing to come to the United States to accept the plan.

#### **4.2. American Immigration Policy during the Obama Period**

The phenomenon of illegal immigration in the United States occurred repeatedly during Obama's tenure. According to statistics, the number of illegal immigrants in the United States reached 12.2 million in 2007. Even though the economic crisis of 2007-2008 led to a reduction in the number of illegal immigrants, it has remained above 11 million, and with the "border crisis" that broke out in 2013, the Obama administration was pushed to the center of public

opinion. At that time, the problem of illegal immigration became a very serious and urgent problem to be solved. Obama's immigration policy during his tenure revolved around illegal immigration.

#### **4.2.1. Take an Administrative Order to Implement the Repatriation Extension Project**

Using executive power, Obama announced in June 2012 that the deferred repatriation plan, entitled "Children's Entry Suspended Repatriation Procedure". Illegal immigrants who enjoy this project must also meet certain conditions, as follows: as of the day the policy is announced, they are under 31 years old; they came to the United States under the age of 16; have lived in the United States for at least five years and have not left the United States during this period. And these applicants must also be school students, high school graduates, or veterans. the project was very popular among Latinos and is widely regarded by the outside world as "a successful preview of a larger legalization process"

#### **4.2.2. Strengthen Border Law Enforcement**

Obama's proposal was to comprehensively promote immigration policy reform, give illegal immigrants the opportunity to obtain legal status through certain procedures, and at the same time strengthen the border management to prevent more illegal immigrants and smugglers from entering the country. However, the conservatives in the Republican Party at the time believed that this policy was problematic, granting illegal immigrants legal status was an amnesty for illegal immigrants and an encouragement to illegal immigrants, which would affect national security and social stability in the United States. Obama's immigration claims were subject to constant interference and constraints from the Republican Party. However, during his tenure, the US government has strengthened security at the border, strictly enforced the law, and stepped up patrols by relevant regulatory authorities. According to statistics, the Immigration and Customs Enforcement Bureau deported more than 368,000 people in 2013, most of whom were deported when they entered the United States illegally or shortly thereafter. The number of people deported in 2011 was 410,000 people. Mogaia, the chairman of the Hispanic National Committee, the most influential Hispanic group in the United States, called Obama "the deportation commander" and expressed dissatisfaction with Obama's slow progress on immigration. But Obama's strengthening of border law enforcement is more of a strategy to promote immigration reform, to prevent opponents of the reform from using border security as a reason to refuse to advance any immigration reform agenda.

#### **4.2.3. Treat Illegal Immigrants Differently**

In August 2011, the Obama administration announced that different illegal immigrants will be treated in a differentiated manner. Existing illegal immigrant repatriation cases will be evaluated one by one, focusing on the repatriation of illegal immigrants with criminal records, while the repatriation of illegal immigrants without criminal records will be suspended, and non-priority repatriation immigrants who have passed the customs clearance were expected to stay in the United States and have the opportunity to apply for a legal work permit later, but will not receive a green card.

### **4.3. National Security Motivations for Immigration Adjustment**

After the "September 11" incident, the United States investigated the terrorist attack as quickly as possible and found that the 19 criminals who made this terrorist attack were all non-U.S. The attitude of American public opinion on immigration has also changed. They no longer consider immigrants to be representatives of hard work and harmony, but symbols of threats to themselves and national security. At the same time, the American people were very annoyed by the findings of the terrorist attack. All 19 hijackers are immigrants and 3 of them hold temporary visas. The Immigration Bureau has been strongly criticized and accused by people

from all walks of life ,and immigration policy has also been subjected to extremely fierce criticism.

Immigration policy reflected the attitude and tendency of a sovereign country towards immigrants. As a necessary way and means to ensure national security, it should maximize its role. The outbreak of the "September 11" terrorist attack on the one hand illustrates the cunning and destructive nature of terrorism and terrorists, which seriously threatens national security and the peaceful life of the people. And in a more important aspect, the immigration policy of the United States has an inescapable responsibility for the terrorist attack. It is necessary to carry out necessary reforms to ensure national security and stabilize the panic in the United States.

#### **4.4. The US National Security Situation after the Adjustment of Immigration Policy**

The "September 11" terrorist attack that shocked the world was very strong, which not only caused nearly 3,000 innocent life was gone, but also exposed the loopholes and problems of US national security to the world. This is precisely because of the extremely decentralized and covert nature of terrorism. The United States can only doubt but cannot always lock on its hostile targets. So, although there is no doubt that US boasts strong military strength, the speed of response and response to this scattered and covert attack mode are not as fast and efficient as imagined.

The "National Security Strategy Report" published in 2006 pointed out that "the most serious threat facing our country lies in the combination of extremism and lethal weapons." This shows that the U.S. government has made a profound reflection on this terrorist attack, and discovered and confirmed the new challenges and threats facing the country in the new era. In response to this serious threat, the United States quickly raised national security to the core interests of the United States, and established and strengthened a defense system and response measures for local security. Strike terrorism on a global scale while ensuring homeland security and preventing terrorist attacks that may occur at any time. And the US began to reexamine the current immigration policy. On the other hand, many methods have been added to the management of immigration personnel, such as telephone monitoring, background investigation, fingerprint collection, etc. This new monitoring program will serve as a long-term process to strengthen the monitoring and identification of immigration personnel. Since the "September 11" incident, the United States has not suffered similar terrorist attacks in the past two decades. It also reflects to some extent that these new policies have played a positive role in protecting US national security.

### **5. New US Immigration Policies during the Trump Era**

When Trump started, he used the slogan "America first" and made a comprehensive adjustment to immigration policy. He said: "We will not rest until our borders are safe, our citizens are safe, and we finally end the immigration crisis once and for all." Its core philosophy is to prioritize immigrants who can succeed in the United States and are economically independent, ensuring that immigrants recognize American values. Immigration is suspended in areas where terrorist forces are rampant and background checks are difficult.

#### **5.1. New Policy Content**

##### **5.1.1. Terminate the "Dreamer" Plan**

Trump announced on September 5,2017 that he would abolish the "Deferred Repatriation Action for Childhood Immigrants" plan, and at the same time required the Congress to formulate a new corresponding bill in the shortest possible time. As of 2016, about 740,000 of the 860,000 applicants were approved, and more than half of those applicants lived in Texas

and California. According to a report by the National Broadcasting Corporation (NBC), there were currently about 8,000 people applying for the "Dreamer" program every week. According to the estimated number of applications, the number of people protected may exceed 1.3 million in the near future. The Trump government's termination of the "Dreamer" plan triggered protests from the American people. After the plan is canceled, it is estimated that 800,000 people will face deportation from the United States.

### **5.1.2. "Zero Tolerance" Policy, Severely Crack Down on Illegal Immigrants**

In order to prevent immigrants from snatching employment opportunities of American workers, prevent the impact of foreign cultures on the mainstream culture of the United States, solve the long-standing problem of illegal immigrants, reduce the number of illegal immigrants that are proliferating, and protect national security, the Trump administration has tightened immigration policies, continuously raised the threshold for immigrants, and strengthened border enforcement. In order to solve the border crisis, he continued to build the "U.S.-Mexico border wall", and constantly called on Congress to invest more resources to increase law enforcement efforts, improve technology and facilities to respond to the border crisis, and adopt a "zero tolerance" policy to solve illegal immigrants. The problem stipulates that all illegal immigrants must go to trial and be detained, and refuse some asylum applications, to prevent illegal immigrants from abusing asylum policies, in order to curb illegal immigration and gradually reduce the backlog of illegal immigration cases.

### **5.1.3. "Muslim Ban"**

The Trump administration issued this order because the seven countries involved are all Muslim-majority countries, so this executive order has also been called a "Muslim ban" by the media and community. However, the Trump team adhered to its position, calling it "Travel Ban." When the ban was issued, it caused uproar in the society of the United States and Muslim countries, and the order also encountered unprecedented judicial challenges.

Trump issued Presidential Statement No.9645 on September 24 of the same year and applied to the Supreme Court to consider full reinstatement. The ban includes five Muslim-dominated countries in Libya, Somalia, Iran, Syria and Yemen, as well as North Korea and Venezuela. It expressed Trump's tough attitude toward Muslims in the United States at the time when the "lone wolf" terrorist attacks were common. And Trump proposed to greatly reduce the relative chain immigration and cancel the green card lottery system to ensure that more people who rely on technology and knowledge rather than just family relations immigrate into the United States to promote the country's economic development and reduce the social and taxpayer's Burden, improve the quality of immigrants, and prevent terrorists from taking the opportunity to enter. This marks the first time the US judicial system has allowed the Trump administration's "prohibition against Mu" to take effect. This is undoubtedly a victory for the Trump administration's immigration policy reform.

### **5.1.4. Establish a Green Card Points System**

Trump supports the establishment of a green card points system to raise the threshold for immigration, improve technological competitiveness, and promote economic development while protecting the interests of the bottom of the United States. He said in a speech in Ohio in August 2017: "Our legislation will do this by creating a skill-based scoring system like that used in Canada and Australia for decades. The scoring system identifies and attracts the world The most skilled immigrants in the world. By restricting the influx of low-skilled workers, it will encourage employers to hire, train and pay more wages to American workers who are already here." It also planned corresponding point rules, requiring applicants to apply for immigration qualifications to make corresponding regulations on English mastery, age, education, and contribution to the United States, and to require immigrants not to enjoy American social welfare within a certain period.

## **5.2. U.S.National Security Background with New Policies**

### **5.2.1. Some Immigrants Squeeze the National Resources of the United States, have a Negative Impact on American Public Security and the Crisis of National Identity**

In the eyes of the local people in the United States, immigrants have preempted employment opportunities of the native population to a certain extent, lower average wages in regions, and evaded tax evasion and unreasonably occupied government resources. In addition, it is believed that illegal immigrants in Latin America are a large group that affects the security of American society and brings potential security risks to American society. The Trump administration believes that the insufficiently strict immigration policy in the past has led to a large number of unchecked dangerous immigrants entering the United States and threatening the national security of the United States, therefore, law enforcement and repatriation of illegal immigrants should be strengthened, and urge Congress to amend immigration laws to protect the United States Public security and national security.

### **5.2.2. Hidden Dangers in the US Domestic Security**

Ethnic distances have caused immigrants in certain countries or regions to be suspected as unsafe sources. Entering the twentieth century, the crime rate in the United States is alarmingly high. In Chicago alone, in 1916, the city's population was just over 2 million, and the number of murders that could be registered was as high as 198. Compared to London, which has tripled its population, the number of murders is more than four times. With millions of immigrants landing in the United States over the same period, conservative Americans began to involuntarily equate "outsiders" with "the root cause of urban incidents," and believed that the root causes of crime, poverty, and political corruption were these foreign Immigration.

In the 21st century, the "September 11" incident and the subsequent terrorist attacks States or overseas over the past decade or so have caused Americans to suffer from "Islamophobia." Coupled with the fact that the crime rate in the United States has soared from 2015 to 2016, Trump asserted that "the crime in the United States has been out of control". Although slightly reduced in 2017, the fear of gun violence continued to spread. According to relevant surveys, the crime rate in cities with more immigrants is lower than the national average of 15%, people were again focusing on those that are more or less different from the American language, native culture, and religious traditions. Immediately, Trump announced the establishment of the "Immigrant Violence Victims Office", which was established to assist people who were injured by illegal immigration crimes to defend their rights, and publicly stated that they were preparing to establish a "Muslim database in the United States." To strictly guard against possible threats to U.S. national security from this group. The above approach is in disguise to support the American Natives' inference that "illegal immigrants are suspected of committing crimes, and Muslims pose an internal threat to the main US population". The debate on how to treat and deal with immigration issues is accompanied by the cry of extreme nationalism.

## **5.3. The Impact of the New Policy on US National Security**

### **5.3.1. From a Domestic Perspective, Trump's Comprehensive Tightening of Immigration Policies has Exacerbated the Division of American Society**

First, the policy has caused strong condemnation from all sectors of the domestic society in the United States. The US government's "zero tolerance" immigration policy is highly controversial, and the "segregating children in cages" has been strongly condemned by the Democratic Party and many Republicans. In their view, this does not help solve the problem of illegal immigration. The Democrats called the policy "inhumane." In the face of opposition from home and abroad, Trump still insisted that he would not make the United States a "refugee camp."

Second, it has intensified the disputes between US states and the federal government. on the issue of immigration, the main dispute between the states and the federal government is the

balance between the federal and state legislative powers. Washington Governor Jay Inslee issued a statement saying: "We cannot predict the president's intentions. These brutal policies and executive orders are not the way Americans do things. They create fear, confusion and uncertainty." In June, 17 states, including Washington State, decided to prosecute the federal government's "zero tolerance" policy. In addition, the Trump administration's immigration policy is full of uncertainty and changes, and it will also cause disputes between the judiciary and policy implementation may fall into chaos.

### **5.3.2. From a Regional Perspective, it will Trigger Tension and Conflict between the United States and the Countries of Origin of Immigrants**

In terms of US-Mexico relations, the relationship between the two sides bears the brunt of Trump's new immigration policy. Former Mexican President Peña Nieto responded to the new US immigration policy. Trump has no reason to blame Mexico's domestic political failure on Mexico. At the same time, community in Mexico also expressed strong dissatisfaction with Trump's new immigration policy. The bilateral relationship between the United States and Mexico dropped to a freezing point after Trump took office, and the number of Mexicans who held negative sentiments toward the United States also increased sharply. In terms of the relationship between the United States and Islamic countries, Trump's "prohibition against Mu" has also exacerbated tensions between the two sides. The purpose of the "Muslim Ban" is to combat terrorism. However, Trump's one-size-fits-all approach to the concepts of exporting and victimizing terrorism has made the United States more likely to be the target of terrorist retaliation. In fact, since the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, the terrorist threats suffered by the United States have mainly originated from the United States, and there is no evidence that immigrants from the seven countries specified in the "Muslim Ban" are in the United States. Terrorist attacks have been carried out locally. On the contrary, the "prohibition of Mu" issued by the United States against Islamic countries will damage mutual trust between the two sides and amplify these countries' hatred for the United States. Relevant sources said that the Trump administration's "prohibition of Mu" will likely lead to greater extremism, which is not very helpful in solving national security issues. Recently, the Islamic Cooperation Organization said that this policy of the Trump administration is full of inequality and is discriminatory to the people of Muslim countries. Such an approach will strengthen the strength of extremist organizations, which will not help to solve practical problems.

## **6. Conclusion**

The occurrence of the "September 11" incident has caused a lot of American public to have a negative attitude towards immigration, and has also severely challenged immigrants' image and status. After this terrorist attack, the US national security concept has also undergone major changes, and local security has become the core of the US national security strategy. Under such a background, the number of illegal immigrants in the United States is still rising, and society is eager to effectively control and solve the problem of illegal immigrants. Therefore, U.S. immigration policy has been reforming, but the results have been unsatisfactory. Although effective in strengthening domestic and border law enforcement, the overall US illegal immigration policy after the "9.11" incident is moving forward in constant exploration. For a long time, immigration has been a very sensitive topic in the United States. The Trump administration's new immigration policy seeks to change the US immigration policy that has been implemented for nearly half a century. Under the slogan "America First", it prioritizes the employment, income, and safety of Americans, and prefers to hire Americans. However, the Trump administration's immigration policy reform process is difficult, and the Trump-supported bill has been repeatedly rejected by the Senate and the House of Representatives. Despite repeated setbacks in immigration policy reforms, increasing the enforcement of border

management laws, cracking down on illegal immigration, and protecting the elements of US national security and citizen safety will continue to be the focus of Trump and even the US president's immigration policy.

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