

Immigrants' Rights

What Are Immigrants' Rights?

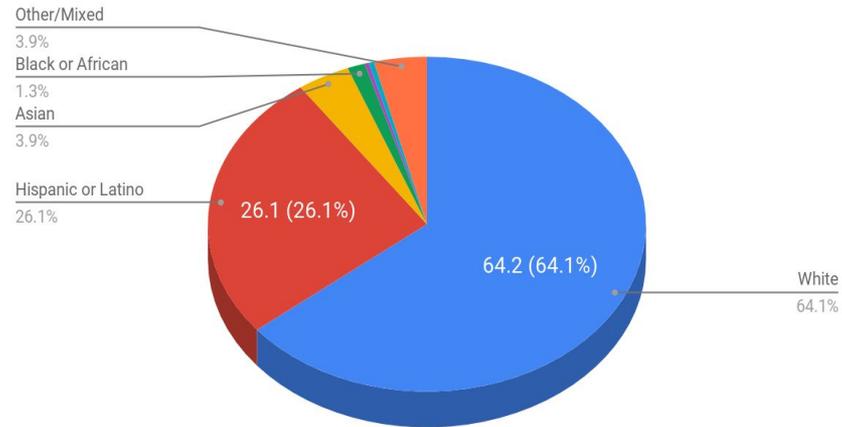
The fundamental constitutional protections of due process and equal protection embodied in our Constitution and Bill of Rights apply to every person, regardless of immigration status.



Rights Under the Constitution

The Fourteenth Amendment protects everyone from the deprivation of life, liberty or property without due process of law. This included undocumented immigrants.

Why is it important?



Myths About Immigrants

- **Undocumented Immigrants could come the legal way, but choose to be here illegally.**
- Essentially there is no way to immigrate legally for the overwhelming majority of them.
- **Immigrants receive a lot of public benefits and therefore are a huge drain on our society's resources**
- Generally speaking, immigrants come to work and to reunite with family members, the ratio between immigrant use of public benefits and the amount of taxes they pay is consistently favorable to the U.S.



Myths About Immigrants



- **Undocumented immigrants do not pay taxes.**
- Undocumented immigrants pay these taxes despite the fact that they are not eligible for taxpayer-funded programs.
- **Undocumented immigrants are more responsible for crime than documented persons.**
- Research has found that immigrants are much less likely to be incarcerated than persons born here. Roughly 1.6 % of immigrant males between ages 18 and 39 wind up in jails or prisons, less than one-half the rate for U.S.-born Americans the same age. (3.3 % for native-born American men of the same age).

Myths About Immigrants

- **Present-day immigrants are uneducated and do not assimilate to our society, unlike prior immigrants, and therefore they threaten our “American way of life”.**
- Generally speaking, immigrants to the United States are religious, family-oriented, entrepreneurial and no more prone to crime than natives.
- Immigrants are family-oriented.
One in two undocumented households has couples with children
- Over 75% of immigrants who have arrived after 2010 have a high school diploma or bachelor's degree.



National Park Service: Statue of Liberty National Monument

What Is DACA? Why is it Important



The Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals was an American immigration policy that allowed some individuals who entered the country as minors, and had either entered or remained in the country illegally, to receive a renewable two-year period of deferred action from deportation and to be eligible for a work permit.

What Is DACA? Why is it Important

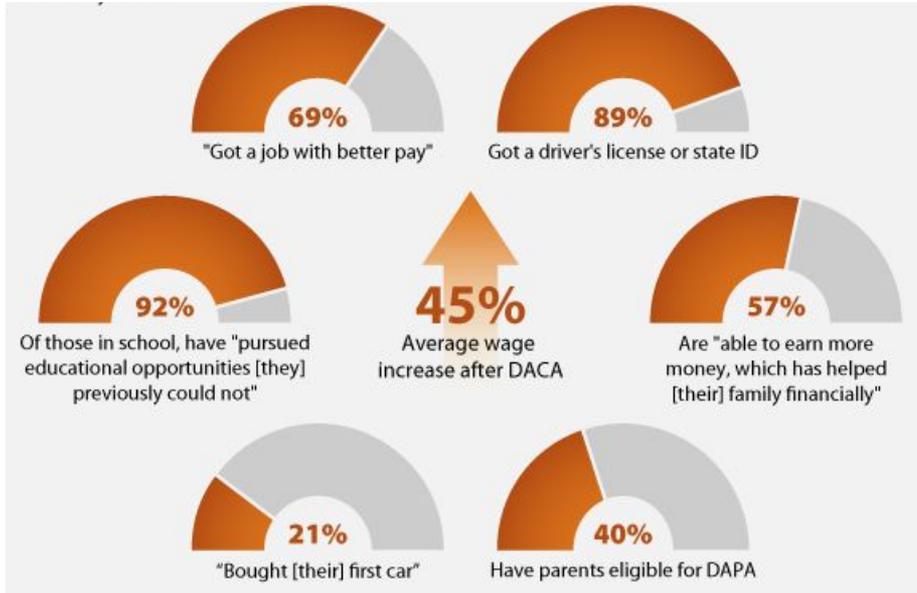
Requirements for DACA:

- Came to the United States before their 16th birthday.
Have lived continuously in the United States since June 15, 2007
- Have completed high school or a GED, have been honorably discharged from the armed forces, or are enrolled in school.
- Have not been convicted of a felony or serious misdemeanors, or three or more other misdemeanors, and do not otherwise pose a threat to national security or public safety.



What Is DACA? Why is it Important

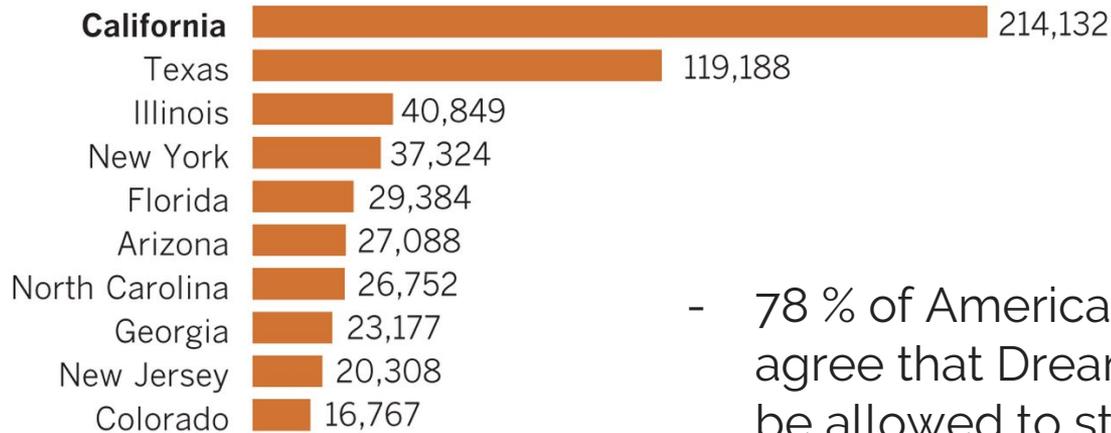
Benefits:



What Is DACA? Why is it Important

California has the most DACA recipients

Top 10 states of residence



- Estimated 6,000 DACA eligible in Sonoma County

- 78 % of American voters agree that Dreamers should be allowed to stay in the country.



Immigration is a very controversial topic, and there have to be laws that are fair, and legitimate, but the saving of DACA is moral and political battle, not a legal one.

Essentially, Dreamers came to the US with no choice of their own.

They have spent their entire life in the US, speak the same language, contribute to our communities, and deserve the same rights as any other American.



Arguments Against DACA



- In July 2017 Ten legislators threatened to sue the USFD if the Trump Administration didn't suspend DACA.
- The argument that its creation by former president Obama was "unconstitutional" because the executive branch doesn't hold the right to address immigration issues.
- Congress now had until March 5th to enact a new "Clean Dream Act".

Results of Its Termination

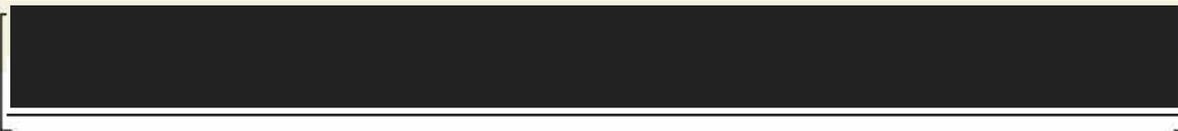
This program allowed for those who were already immersed into the US and had spent their entire life here, to attain citizenship, and no longer be afraid of deportation.

- New people who have not yet applied, will no longer be able to , and those who have, can only renew.
- If caught, those who no longer are protected by DACA will be forced to leave the country they call home.
- Families will be separated.





“These Dreamers are Americans in their hearts, in their minds, in every single way but one: on paper.” - Barack Obama



Can we stop its Termination?

Realistically, the Congress is the only institution that can truly save it, or remodel it.

It is important, still to voice our concern, and push congressmen to do so.

Calling, emailing, writing letters to our representatives and congressmen.

The more people rise up in support, the more pressure will be on Congress to pass a clean Dream Act.



