Migration and Homeland Security: A Policy Approach

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Abstract
Globally, contemporary flow strategies of migration, emigration, and immigration have paid a particular attention to the problems that lie behind human movements rather than on the immediate and remote causes of the movements. Illegal immigrants are increasing worldwide, particularly in the United State of America without proper tracking documentation on them, while crime rates are also increasing concurrently. The Study sought to find out whether proper documentation by the Department of Homeland Security on illegal immigrants can help control crime in the country. The study adopted stratified random sampling techniques to solicit for the opinions of American's residents. In all, 750 respondents were used as the sample size for the analysis of the research. The study was purely descriptive in nature. The study found out that proper documentation, rather than illegal status ensures better Security. Also, it was underscored that from the discussion that allowing legitimate sources of livelihood reduces chances of seeking illegal sources. The study recommended that the Department of Homeland security should make provision for illegal immigrants. That is to ensure proper documentation on illegal immigrants in order to monitor and track their activities in the State.
Keywords: Migration, Immigrants, Documentations, Homeland Security, Perception, and Crime

1.0 Introduction
Migration, emigration and immigration controls are modern-day strategic concepts that seek to redefine the ends and the means of human mobility. Globally, these contemporary flow strategies have paid a particular attention to the problems that lie behind human movements rather than on the immediate and remote causes of the movements. It is therefore not surprising that the United States of America which is well known for as an immigrants country are always enacting policies, laws and regulations to check, monitor and curb the problems underpinning migration, emigration and immigration issues.

In fact, throughout the world as in the United State of America (USA), human travels had been precipitated by economic, demographic, and political and many other similar interlaced issues. Very importantly, human migration in the Western Europe and the USA had been and still is a historical reality, dating back to the period of mercantilism, slavery and the industrial revolution (UN report, 2008). Subsequent to the industrial revolution, United State has been bestowed with remarkable development, which has ever since attracted a lot of immigrants to the country.

There is no doubt that the United States of America is great in Security, Economic, and all other development advancement indicators, which therefore has lured people from different continents to seek for better livelihood, than going elsewhere. Due to the excellent state of development and advancement of the country, it is difficult for people from less developed country to go back to their homeland after a short visit to the country, which has increased the number of illegal immigrants in the country. Meanwhile, there is no proper documentation, and tracking records of these illegal immigrants. It is not surprising therefore that on Sunday, the White House announced a list of hard-line demands that it said Congress must include in any legislation to help the roughly 800,000 undocumented immigrants, known as Dreamers, who were brought to this country as children (Editorial Board of New York Times, October 9, 2016).

The alarming concern now is the issue of crime in the United States. In fact, the crime rate has tremendously increased over the decades. Majority of the citizens are of the view that many of the crimes are committed by illegal immigrants, all other things being equal. Little or no specific article has been done on illegal immigrants. This particular assertion has motivated this current study. The study seeks to find out whether proper documentation of illegal immigrants can help minimize the crime rates in the country.

2.0 Literature Review
According to Arie van der Wiel (2006), countries benefited from international migration remains the same for all. For example, he cited in his studies that migration has substantially contributed to the GDP of both developed and under-developed nations.

Immigration as a Thematic Topic in the United States of America Senate Race
According to Paul Engelkemier (2017*), Managing Editor of America Continental Group,* after the election of Donald Trump last year with immigration as a central issue, candidates are looking to make sure the issue is part

of the discussion going into 2018. In fact, immigration issues have become a burden for the country as a whole.

In addition, the Republicans Paul Addis and Lou Barletta have gone on the offensive already trying to stake out positions on the issue (*America Continental Group, October 11th, 2017*). Again, it was written that Barletta took issue with Senator Bob Casey hosting a fundraiser with Protect & Elect, a group that wants to "elect candidates who represent democratic values and are committed to the protection and preservation of individual rights" according to their website.

Furthermore, the National Republican Senatorial Committee points to the group's support for "The New Sanctuary Movement of Philadelphia" as the basis for the group being pro-sanctuary cities. Protect & Elect's website does not take a position on the issue. Barletta's campaign is using that support as the basis for pushing its position on immigration (*America Continental Group, October 11th, 2017*).

However, Bob Casey stands for illegal immigrants, while Lou Barletta fought against illegal immigrants. Lou Barletta theorized that "illegal is illegal, and we should not give safe havens to criminal illegal immigrants" (*America Continental Group, October 11th, 2017*).

Also, it was argued in the *America Continental Group, October 11th, 2017* that after President Trump reportedly struck a deal with Congressional Democrats on DACA, Addis pushed for Barletta to take a position on the deal, pointing to his own position. According to Casey "President Trump's action today is an insult to America and our values. This action is profoundly unjust, immoral and without regard for basic fairness. Tearing apart the lives of these young people will make our nation less safe, and harm our economy.

According to the CATO Institute, deporting Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) recipients would cost more than $60 billion and would result in a $280 billion reduction in economic growth over the next decade. The Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy estimates that the 1.3 million young people enrolled in or eligible for DACA pay $2 billion each year in state and local taxes," Casey said in a statement (*America Continental Group, October 11th, 2017*).

It is important to note that immigration issues have taken over the rulings of this current government due to its significance. However, it is not clear about how both legal and illegal immigrants should be treated and documented for planning purposes.

Empirical Literature Reviews

A study conducted by Allison and Troyer on immigration in North Carolina, United States. The study revealed that the North Carolina gained 70,501 immigrants from 2010 to 2016. Their study used U.S. Census data. Their study finds out that the nation's immigrant population (legal and illegal) hit a record 43.7 million in 2016. The data also shows more than 16.6 million U.S.-born minor children with an immigrant parent. Immigrants and their young children thus now account for nearly one in five U.S. residents. Also, the study revealed that the states with the largest numerical increases in the number of immigrants from 2010 to 2016 were Texas (up 587,889), Florida (up 578,468), California (up 527,234), New York (up 238,503), New Jersey (up 171,504), Massachusetts (up 140,318), Washington (up 134,132), Pennsylvania (up 131,845), Virginia (up 120,050), Maryland (up 118,175), Georgia (up 95,353), Nevada (up 78,341), Arizona (up 78,220), Michigan (up 74,532), Minnesota (up 73,953), and North Carolina (up 70,501).

Furthermore, a study conducted by Borjas (2013) on immigration and the American workers revealed that the presence of all immigrant workers (legal and illegal) in the labor market makes the U.S. economy (GDP) an estimated 11 percent larger ($1.6 trillion) each year. This "contribution" to the aggregate economy, however, does not measure the net benefit to the native-born population. Of the $1.6 trillion increase in GDP, 97.8 percent goes to the immigrants themselves in the form of wages and benefits; the remainder constitutes the "immigration surplus" that is, the benefit accruing to the native-born population, including both workers, owners of firms, and other users of the services provided by immigrants. Again, Borjas (2013) exhibited that when applying the standard textbook model to illegal immigration, the study revealed that illegal immigrants increased GDP by $395 to $472 billion. Also, Borjas further bickered that the immigration surplus or benefit to natives created by illegal immigrants is estimated at around $9 billion a year or 0.06 percent of GDP.

Also, a study by Passel and Cohn (2009) reported that 47 percent of undocumented immigrants have less than a high school education, 27 percent have a high school diploma, 10 percent have some college, and 16 percent are college graduates or more. For each education group, the simulation assumes that undocumented immigration increased the supply of workers for all age groups by the same proportion.

Finally, Borjas, Grogger, and Hanson (2010) presented an extensive analysis of the impact of immigration on the employment and earnings of the African-American population. Their study revealed that a 10 percent increase in supply lowers the employment rate of black men by 5.1 percentage points and that of white men by 1.6 percentage points.
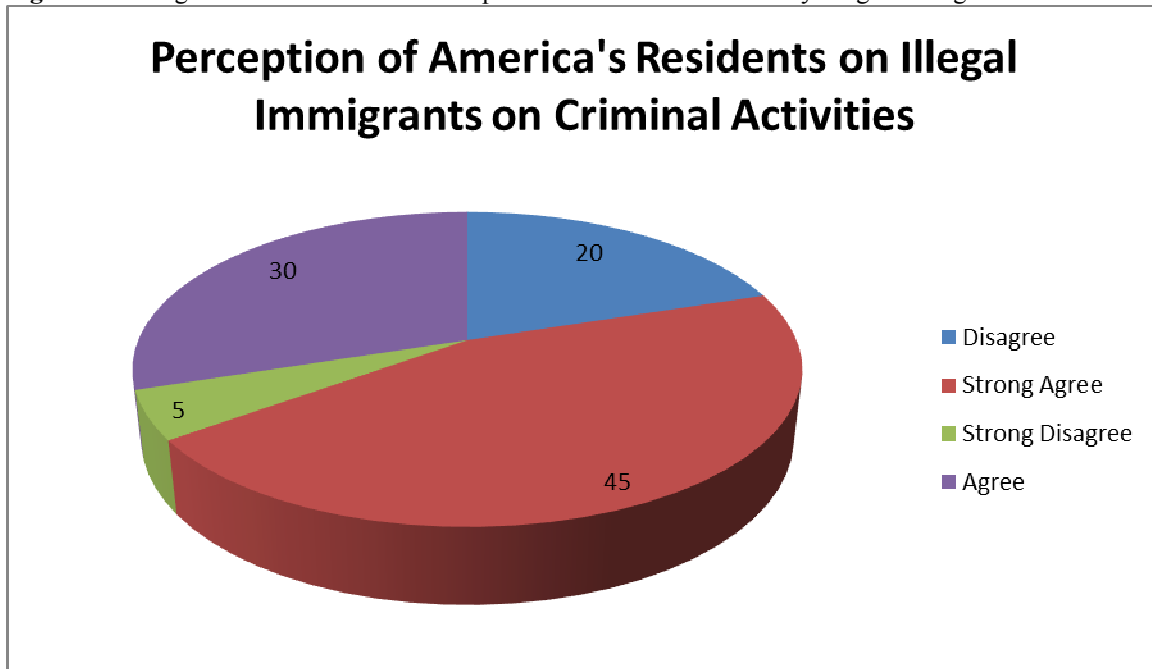
3.0 Methodology
The study was descriptive in nature because the survey was based on the perception of America's residents. In all,

850 questions were distributed to random respondents in the United States of America. Both emails and face-to-face survey techniques were used to increase respondents towards the analysis of this critical need topic to the state. A total of 750 questions were retrieved from the survey and used as total sample size. The piloted survey instrument was on the perception of America's Citizens or Residents on crime, illegal immigrants and the activity of Homeland Security. The data collected was qualitative in nature. The data was coded and analyzed with the help of Excel and STATA 11.0. Both Pie-Charts and Bar-graphs used for the data presentation and discussion.
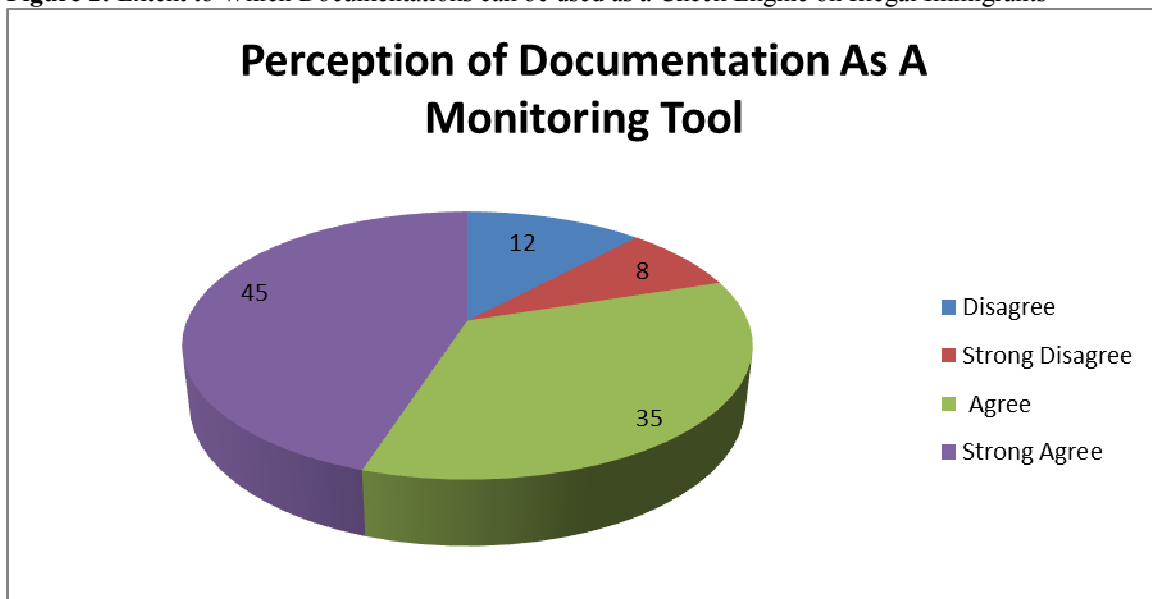
4.0 Data Presentations and Discussions
4.1 Data Presentations
Figure 1: Rating America's Residents Perception on Crimes Committed by Illegal Immigrants
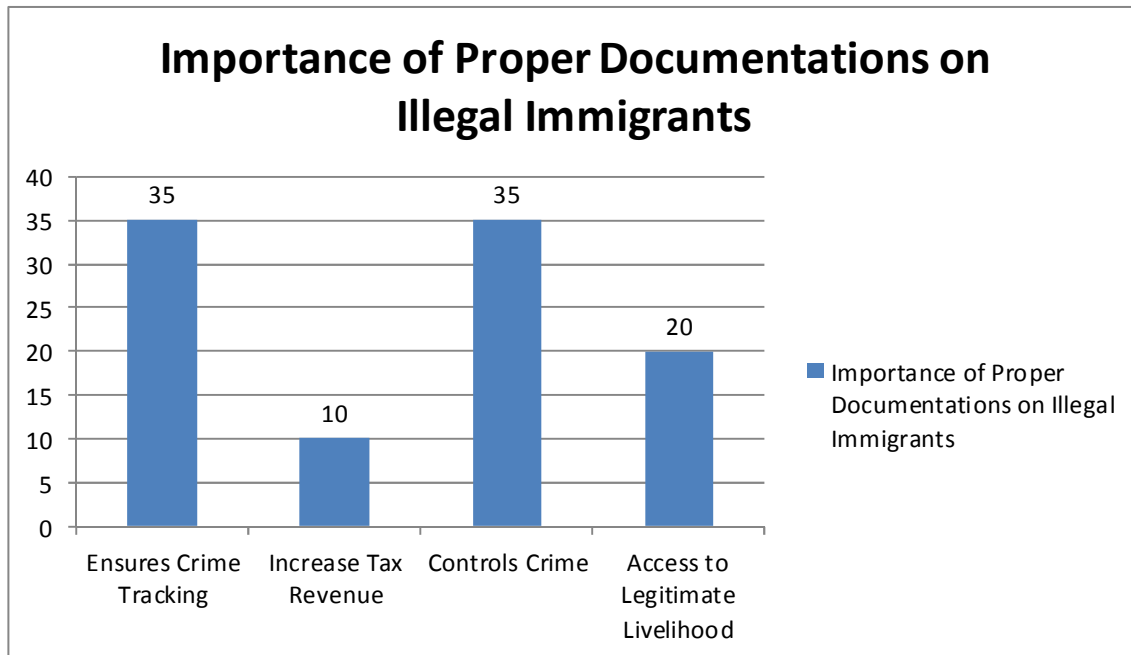

Source of Data: Field Data, March 2017

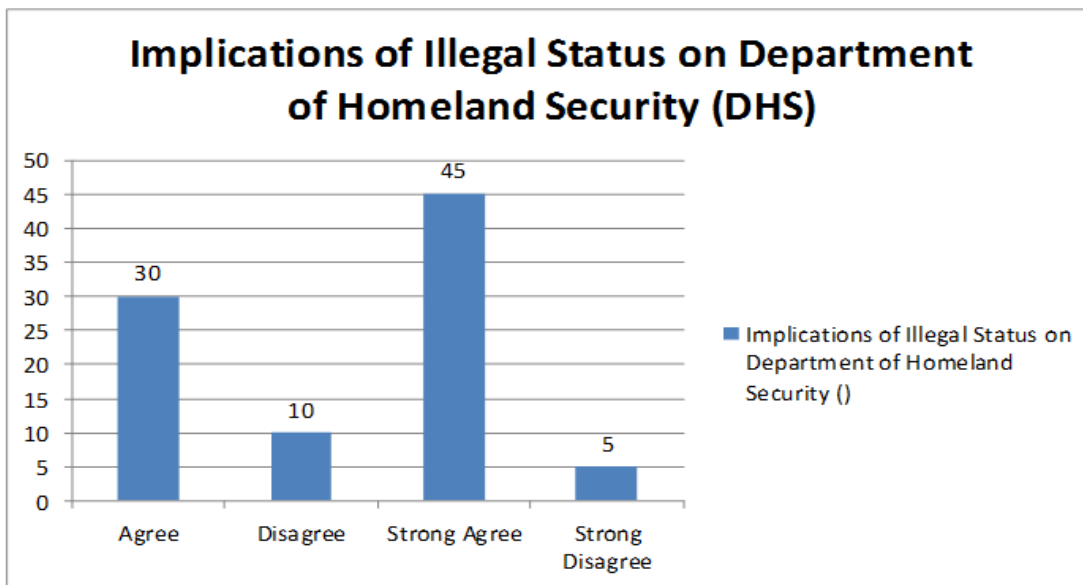**Figure 2:** Extent to Which Documentations can be used as a Check Engine on Illegal Immigrants

Source of Data: Field Data, March 2017

Figure 3: Benefits of Proper Documentation to Department of Homeland Security

Importance of Proper Documentations on Illegal Immigrants

Source of Data: Field Data, March 2017

Figure 4: Implications of Illegal Status on Department of Homeland Security (DHS)

Implications of Illegal Status on Department of Homeland Security (DHS)

Source of Data: Field Data, March 2017

4.2 Discussions

The figure 1 talks about the perception of American's residents in the engagement of illegal immigrants in criminal activities. About 75% of the respondents were of the view that illegal immigrants are the main causes of criminal activities in the country. During the interview section, it was underscored that 45% of the respondents strongly agree with the notion that many of the illegal immigrants engaged in the numerous criminal activities such as drugs selling, robbery, and many others. They explicated that these criminals do not have any tracking details in the country, which that motivate them to commit crimes for survival.

Furthermore, the remaining 30% of the respondents who agreed to the notion that many of the illegal immigrants engaged in the numerous criminal activities, were of the opinion/perception that these illegal immigrants commit many of the crime for livelihood. They explain that these criminals do not have legitimate means of survival due to legal working permits for survival and are, therefore, likely to engage in criminal

activities. Nonetheless, 25% of the respondents were of the opinion that many of the illegal immigrants commit a crime. They were of the view that illegal immigrants fear to be seen by police and other security agencies, and always trying to refrain from criminal activities.

The figure 2 talks about the perception of documentation as a monitoring tool for tracking the activities of the illegal immigrants. About 80% of the respondents were of the view that proper documentation can serve as a monitoring tool for tracking the activities of the illegal immigrants. They espouse that once the Department of Homeland security claimed to have detailed documentation about everyone including illegal immigrants, the individuals would be cautioned towards criminal activities. They further explained that proper documentation about illegal immigrants can also in some way give them legitimate means for survival.

The figure 3 talks about the benefits of proper documentation to Department of Homeland Security. Regarding the opinions of the respondents' proper documentation about illegal immigrants would be of great benefit to the country. In relation to data from the field, 35% of the respondents were of the views that proper documentation ensures crime tracking and controls respectively. Again, 20% of the respondents were of the views that proper documentation ensures illegal immigrants access to legitimate livelihood, while the remaining 10% of the respondents were of the views that proper documentation ensures an increase in tax revenue.

Figure 4 takes into account the implications of illegal status on Department of Homeland Security. Very impressively, the respondents agreed to the listed implications options suggested by the researcher. Regarding the responses, 32% of the respondents were of the views that improper documentation of illegal immigrants is likely to triggers very high crime rates without tracking due to lack of anonymity. Also, 28% of the respondents were of the view that lack of proper documentation gives the illegal immigrants the chances to engage in criminal activities with no trepidations. Furthermore, 30% of the respondents accentuated that improper documentation will lead to lack of tracking, which will in effect weakens the documentation systems towards illegal immigrants. Lastly, 10% of the respondents raised the argument that improper documentation will cause the country to lose a lot of tax revenues.

5.0 Conclusion

The study finds out that proper documentation, rather than illegal status ensures better Security. Also, it was underscored from the discussion that allowing legitimate sources of livelihood reduces the chances of seeking illegal sources.

Based on the Findings, the study therefore recommends the following Policies:

- The Department of Homeland security should make provision for illegal immigrants. To be precise, the agency should ensure proper documentation on illegal immigrants in order to monitor and track their activities in the State.
- Carefully crafted policies should be enacted towards the tracking of illegal immigrants. That is to say, allowing legitimate sources of livelihood for illegal immigrants through bye-laws can give track of their activities. This will go a long way to reduce illegal immigrants' chances of seeking an illegitimate source for livelihoods such as robbery, drugs dealings, and many others.

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