Parting Shots: Immigration

Vernon M. Briggs
Cornell University, vmb2@cornell.edu

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Abstract
[Excerpt] Prevailing immigration policy and the toleration of its mass abuse by illegal immigration generates both "winners" and "losers."

Keywords
immigration, public policy, illegal immigration, labor law, legislation, labor market, labor supply

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The prevailing immigration policy and the toleration of its mass abuse by illegal immigration generates both "winners" and "losers." The "winners" are the immigrants themselves (who are better off here than in their homelands), their employers (who often get cheaper labor than would otherwise be possible), many governments of Third World nations (who do not need to enact political reforms to keep their dissident citizens) and sometimes consumers (who may get lower prices depending upon how much of the gains employers take as their profits); the big "losers" are the 34 million low wage workers in the country – disproportionately from minority groups (whose wages and working conditions are depressed) and the taxpayers in local communities (who have to absorb the fiscal and social costs that are the inevitable side effects of the pursuit of a cheap labor immigration policy).

Vernon Briggs, Professor of Industrial and Labor Relations at Cornell University