Fertility and the Latino Threat Narrative

Leo R. Chavez

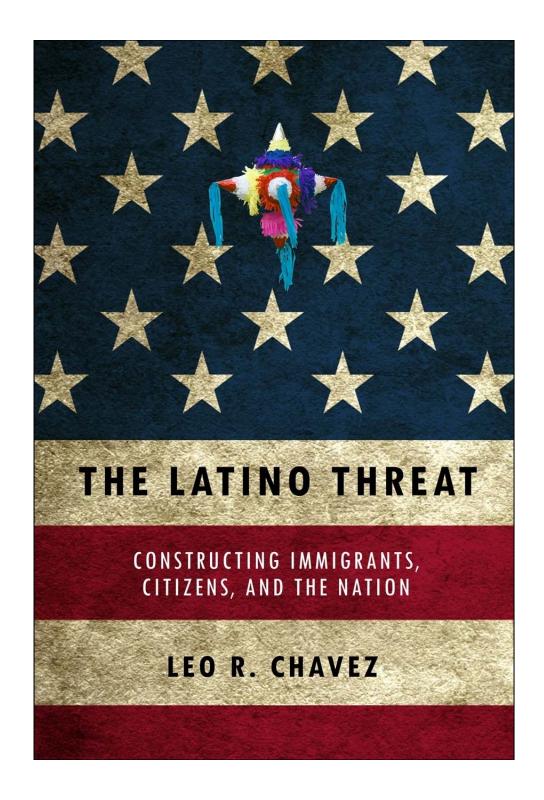
USC-SCAG Annual Demographic Workshop

June 1, 2015

Stanford Univ. Press

For information or to purchase go to:

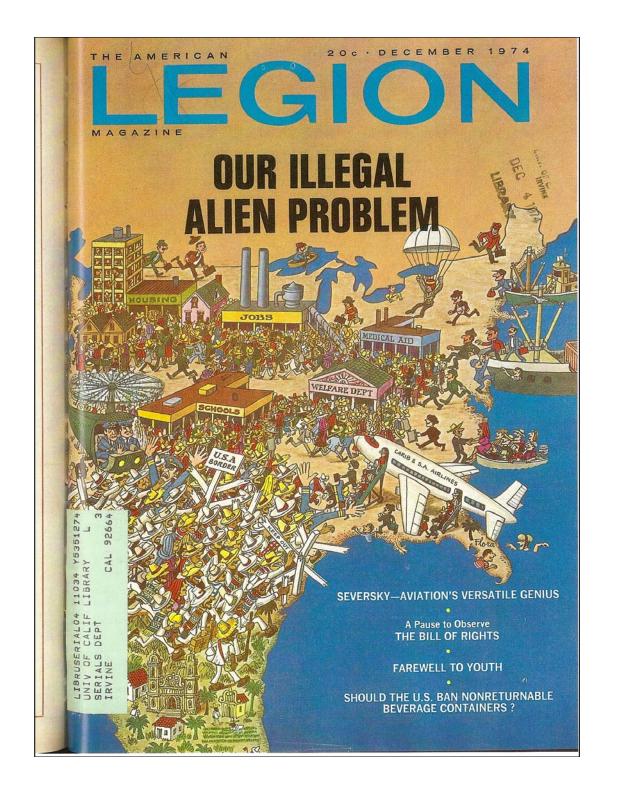
www.sup.org

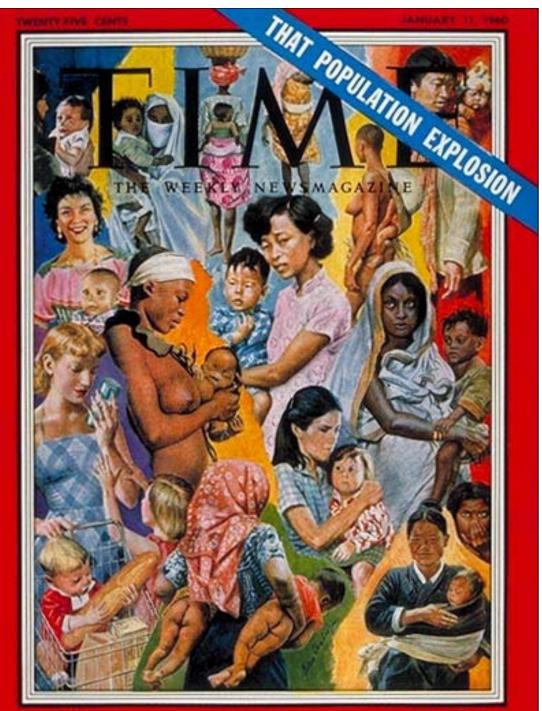


- Dowell Myers called for a "new narrative" about demographic reality of California.
- Old narrative dating from 1990s emphasized a state besieged by invaders, especially by people from other countries.

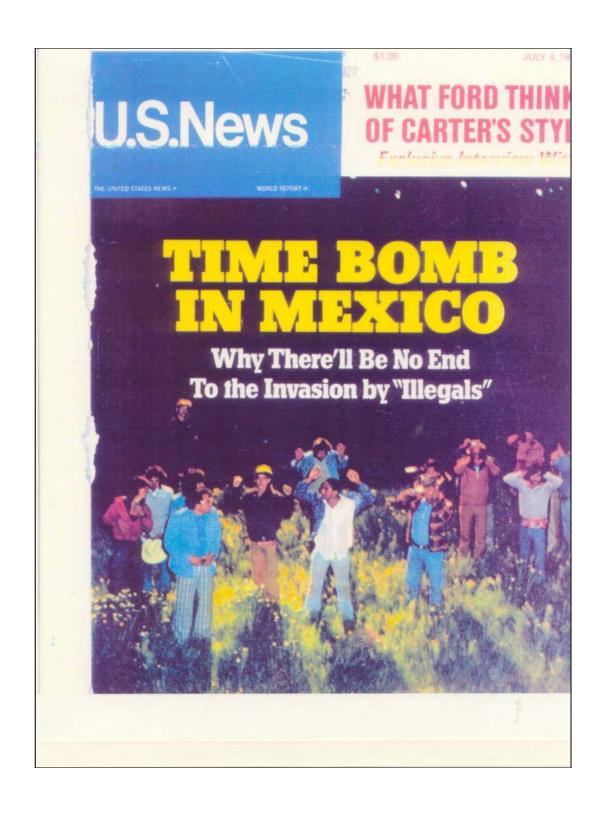
Three Themes in the Latino Threat Narrative

- The invasion
- A Latino Reconquest of the Southwest
- Latina fertility:
 - Fertility out of control
 - Latinas immutable





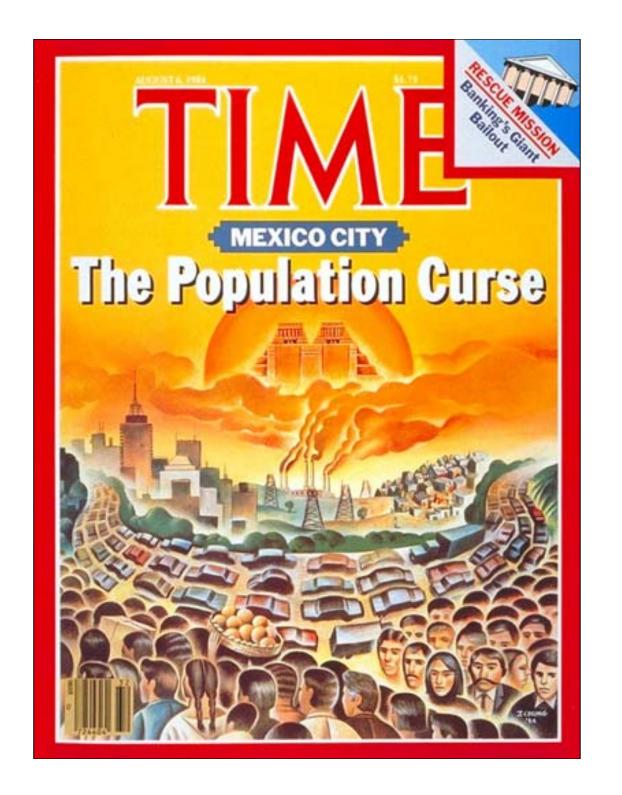
Paul Ehrlich The **Population** Bomb: **Population** Control or the Race to Oblivion? 1968



Leonard F. Chapman, Jr., Commissioner of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, *U.S. News & World Report* June 22, 1974:30

"We' re very close in this country to a zero population growth through births. As we get closer to that zero growth, immigration will become an even larger percentage of the population increase."

August 6, 1984

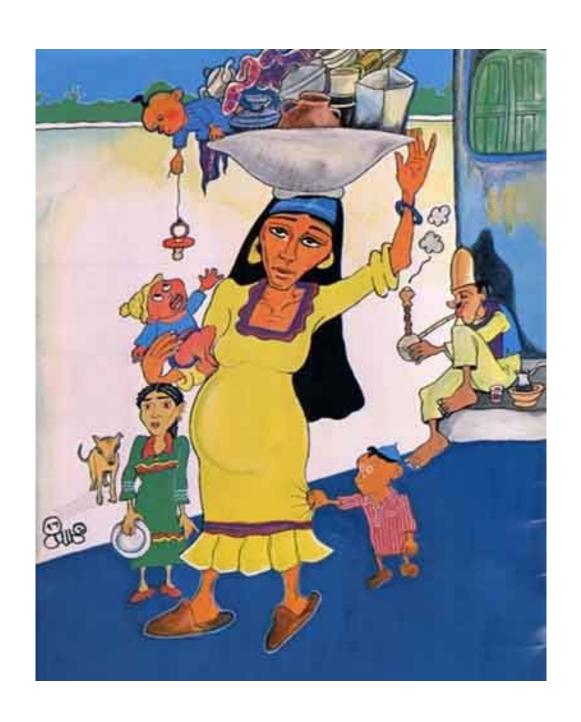


The New York Times, Dec. 18, 1984

- HISPANIC FERTILITY IN U.S. FOUND ABOVE NORM
- "The fertility rate for women of Hispanic origin was 97.5 live births per 1,000 women aged 15-44 years, 50 percent higher than the rate for non-Hispanic women," the National Center for Health Statistics reported.

"The social science literature has often portrayed Mexican-American women as sacrificed to childbearing. ... An assumption behind these evaluations of Mexican-American women is that traditional cultural values and religious traditions promote attitudes favorable to continuous childbearing, opposition to contraception, and opposition to abortion."

Hortencia Amaro 1988

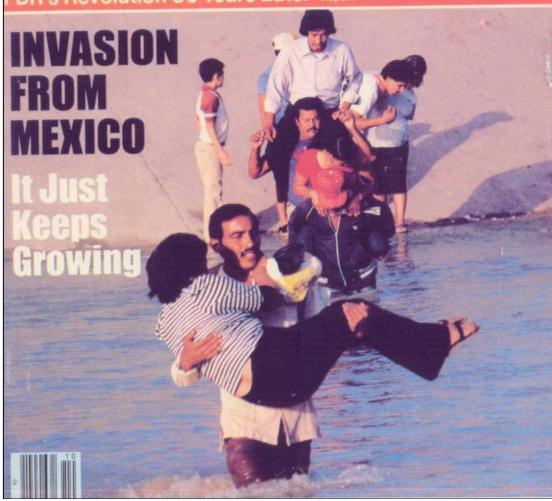




MARCH 7, 1983 \$1.5

"Parent Burnout"—Latest Sign of Today's Stresses

FDR's Revolution 50 Years Later Special Report



"The Latin Onslaught"

- "Will the present majority peaceably hand over its political power to a group (Latin American immigrants) that is simply more fertile? ... On the demographic point: Perhaps this is the first instance in which those with their pants up are going to get caught by those with their pants down!"
- John Tanton, past President Zero Pop and founder of FAIR

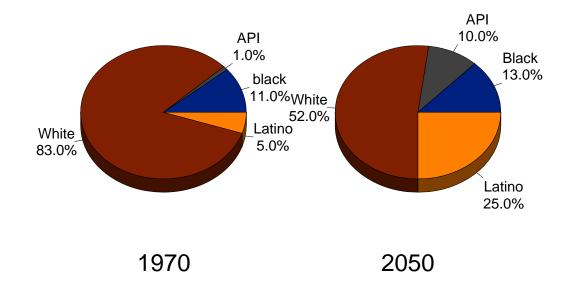


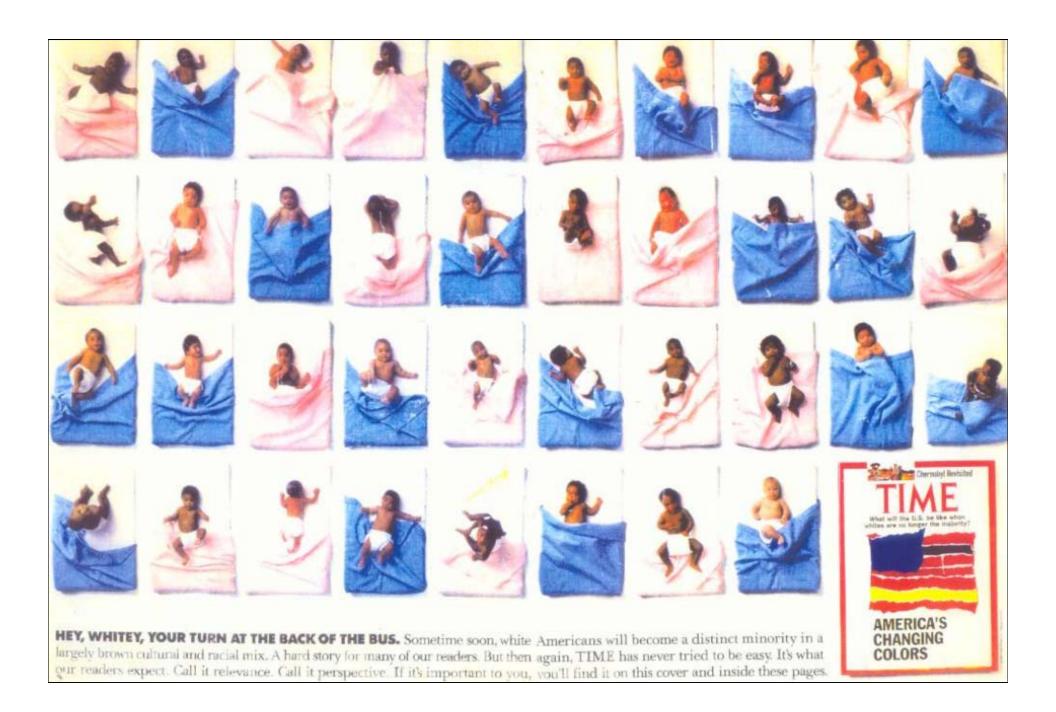


U.S. Population

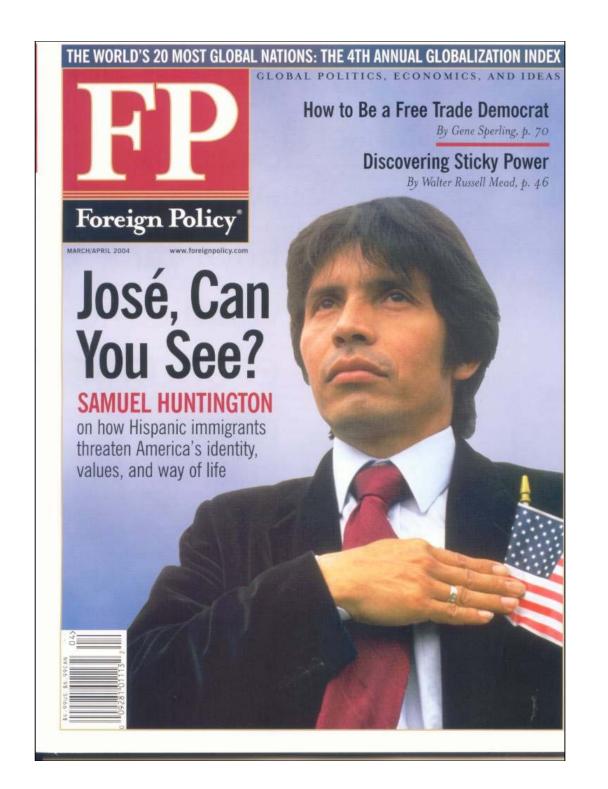
1970 and 2050 (Projected)

1990s and
The
Browning
of
America









Samuel P. Huntington, Foreign Policy 2004

• "In this new era, the single most immediate and most serious challenge to America's traditional identity comes from immense and continuing immigration from Latin America, especially from Mexico, and the fertility rates of those immigrants compared to black and white American natives."

John
Gibson
FOX News
"Make
more
White
babies."



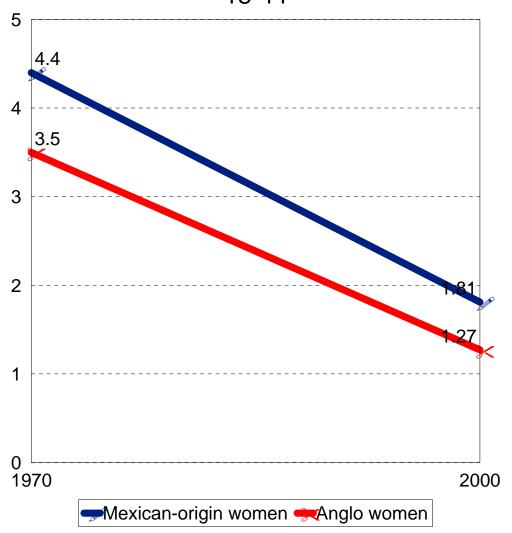
Population Control?

- Old slogan:
- RECREATE BUT DON'T PROCREATE
- New Slogan:
- PROCREATE DON'T JUST RECREATE

DEMOGRAPHIC REALITIES

Declines in Fertility

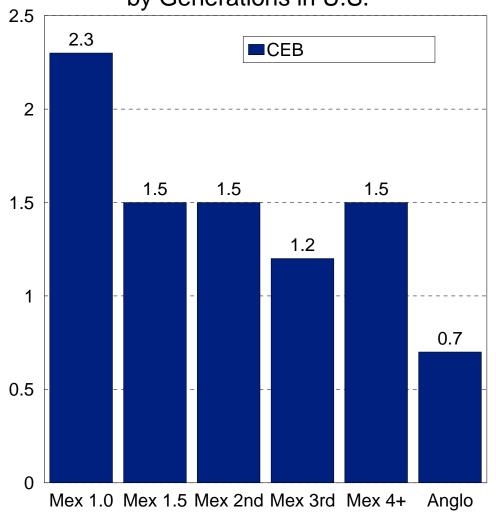
Mexican-origin Women and Anglo Women, ages 18-44



Source: U.S. Census

Total Children Ever Born

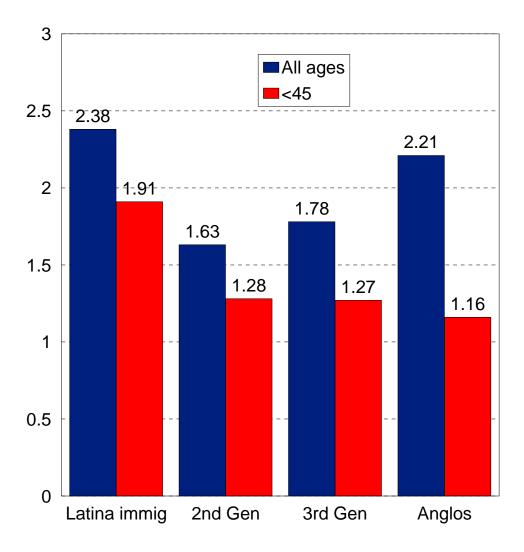
Mexican-origin Women and Anglo Women 20-40 Years of age in Greater Los Angeles Area by Generations in U.S.



Source: IMMLA 2004--05

Total Children Ever Born

Latinas and Anglo Women in Orange County



Source: CRLGS 2006 Survey

Los Angeles Times October 4, 2004



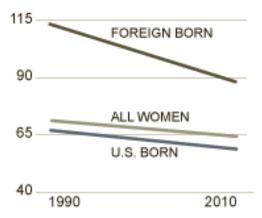
U.S. Birth Rate Not Recession-proof: Declines for Second Year

By Susan Brady HEALTH NEWS Sunday, 29 August 2010 What happens 18 years from now?

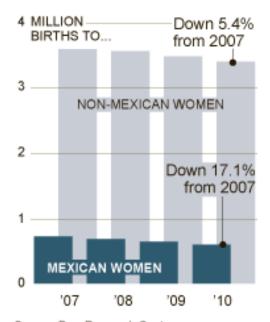
Demand for immigrant labor?

Falling Birthrate in U.S.

Births per 1,000 women ages 15-44.

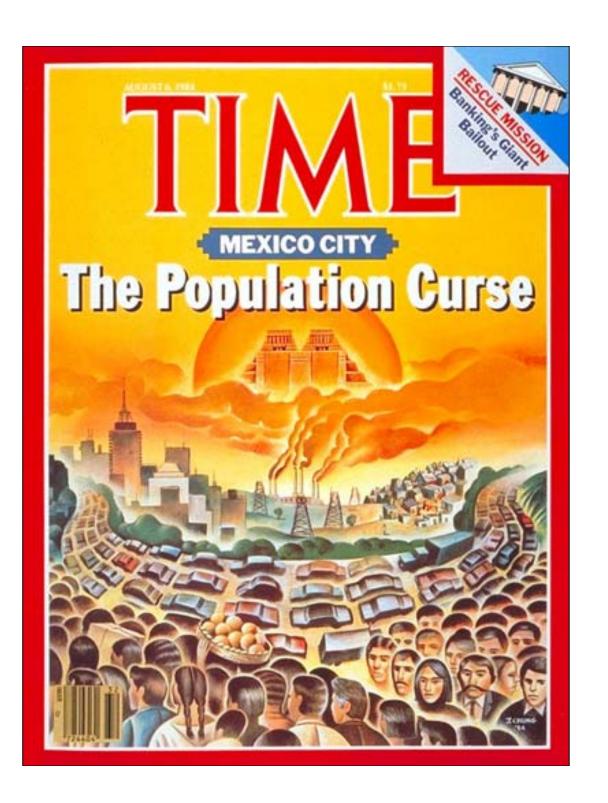


The drop in the number of births was particularly steep for Mexican-American women and women who immigrated from Mexico.

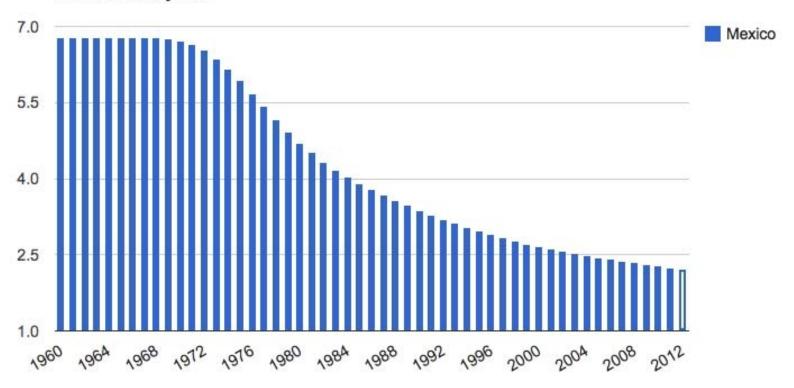


Source: Pew Research Center

Mexican Immigration and Fertility Decline



Mexico: Fertility rate



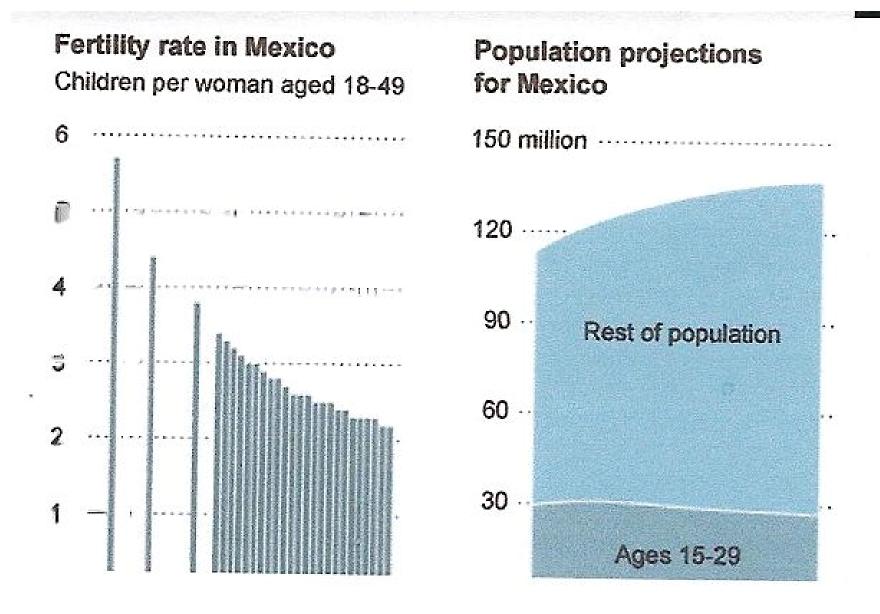
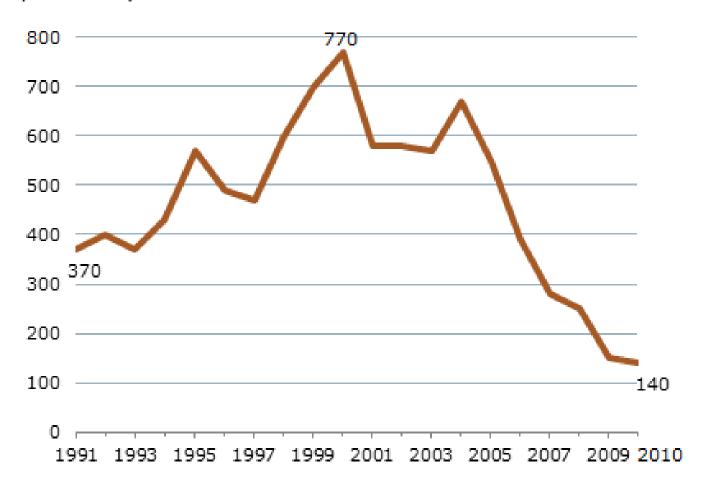


Figure 1.3

Annual Immigration from Mexico to the U.S.: 1991-2010

(in thousands)

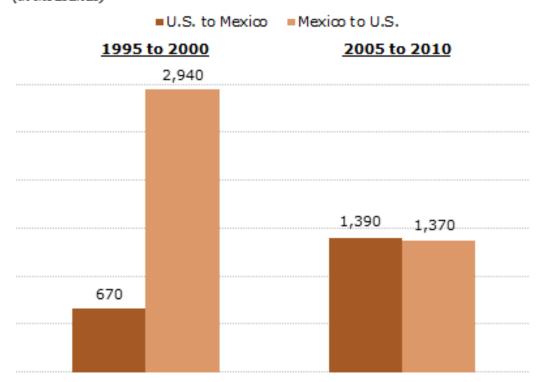


Source: Pew Hispanic Center estimates compiled from various sources; see Methodology

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Figure 1.2

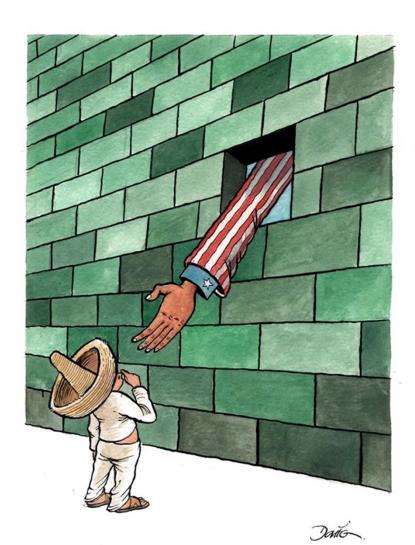
Five-Year Migration Flows Between the U.S. and Mexico, 1995-2000 and 2005-2010 (in thousands)



Note: Estimates are for February 1995 through February 2000 and June 2005 through June 2010. Migration from U.S. to Mexico includes persons born in Mexico, the U.S., and elsewhere; Mexico to U.S. includes Mexican-born persons only.

Source: U.S. to Mexico: Pew Hispanic Center estimates from population, household and migrant microdata samples of Mexican censuses of 2000 and 2010; Mexico to U.S.: Based on Pew Hispanic Center estimates in Figure 1.3 from various sources; see Methodology

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New Narrative

- The Latino Threat
- Time to put it to rest
- Counter productive
- New narrative?

CENTER FOR IMMIGRATION STUDIES Washington DC 3/12/15

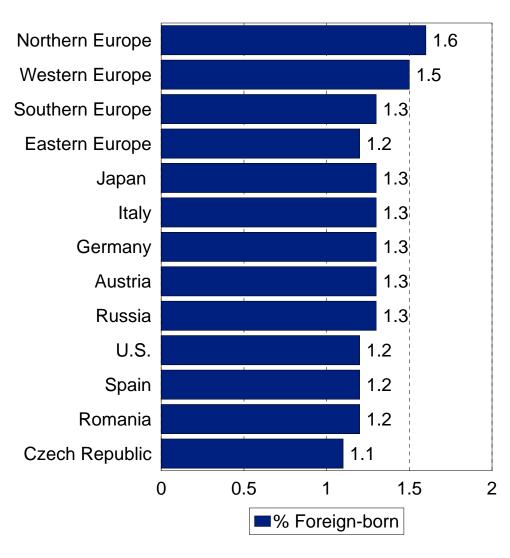
- Immigration Is No Fix for an Aging Society
 Report finds immigrants 'fertility
 dropping faster than natives'
- Those, like Jeb Bush, who assert that 'immigrants are more fertile' and as a result they will 'rebuild the demographic pyramid' are grossly exaggerating the impact of immigration," stated Dr. Steven Camarota, the Center's Director of Research.
- "Immigration's impact on the aging of American society is actually quite small, and the rapid decline in immigrant fertility means it's getting even smaller."

LA TIMES 5/24/2015

- CAP Group says California immigration policies contributed to drought
- http://www.latimes.com/local/california/lame-immigration-drought-20150524-story.html
- Less immigration = less population growth and water use
- Immigrants problem rather than resource

Fertiltiy Rates

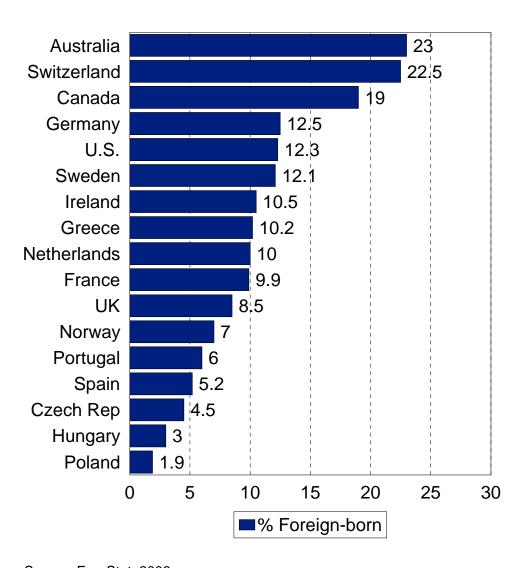
in Selected Countries



Source: Population Reference Bureau's 2002 Population Data Sheet

Stock of Foreign-born People

As Percentage of Total Population



Source: EuroStat, 2006

German parents now eligible for benefits aimed at reversing falling birthrate

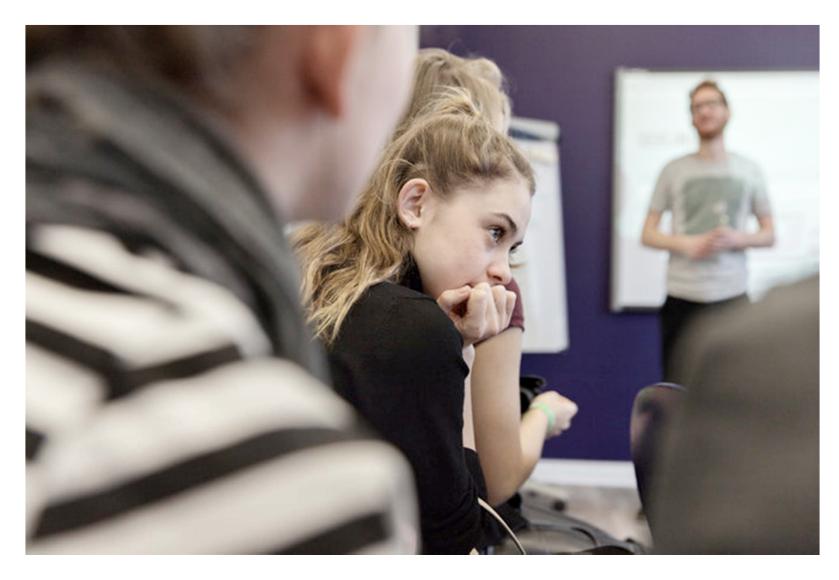
By STEPHEN GRAHAM
The Associated Press
OC REGISTER Jan. 3, 2007

The Guardian Februrary 12, 2015

- Italy is a 'dying country' says minister as birth rate plummets
- New figures [for 2014] show the lowest total number of births since the formation of the modern Italian state [in 1861]

Sex Education in Europe Turns to Urging More Births

- Danny Hakim, NY Times April 8, 2015
- It is all part of a not-so-subtle push in Europe to encourage people to have more babies. Denmark, like a number of European countries, is growing increasingly anxious about low birthrates. Those concerns have only been intensified by the region's financial and economic crisis, with high unemployment rates among the young viewed as discouraging potential parents.



Students at a Copenhagen school during a discussion of sex led by a group seeking to raise Denmark's birth rate. Credit Sofie Amalie Klougart for The New York Times