

- Globalization has been accompanied by increasing numbers of people moving across borders
 - Most governments encourage to promote the movements of people in the form of tourism
 - Another form of movement encouraged by governments is education
 - Business travel, overseas employment, and some types of immigration are also welcomed
 - The lack of job opportunities, low wages, and poverty 'push' people the leave
 - They are 'pulled' to those places where employment opportunities exist
 - As the world has become more interconnected, the movement of people across borders also accelerated
 - However, not all movement is welcomed
 - People who do not have the proper authorization
 - Most of the Western industrialized countries have enacted restrictive immigration policies

Why some people can move relatively freely while some can't

- Citizenship granted and denied is related to social and political phenomena
- Both citizenship and legality are dynamic, undergoing continual changes
- *Why* movement should be restricted
 - 'Illegal' conveys the world in which those who cross without the proper authorization are considered criminals regardless of the circumstances

The US-Mexico border and the Immigration Crisis

- The movement of people across national borders without authorization is a global phenomenon
- 911, the death of CIA employees by unauthorized immigrant fueled anti-immigrant sentiment
 - Contributed to the framing of undocumented immigration as a national security issue
- Border control strategies
 - Silvestre Reyes launched a border operation *Operation Blockade*
 - Apprehensions fell dramatically with armed forces
 - 'Prevention through deterrence', official border enforcement strategy
 - Deter migrants from crossing in the more populated areas
 - The effect of these policies has been to push migrants to increasingly remote and dangerous crossing routes and to engage the services of human smugglers

Anti-immigration legislation

- Especially at the local level of cities and towns
 - Arizona passed proposition 200 in 2004 denying undocumented migrants access to jobs, healthcare, and legal protection

- In 2006, more than half of the states passed anti-immigrant measures
- In 2005, the US House of Reps passed 'border protection, Anti-Terrorism, and Illegal Immigration Control Act of 2005'
 - One of the most draconian in history
 - Require all employers to use an electronic data base to verify an employee's eligibility to be in the US, authorizes a high-tech fence of the borders, and makes it a criminal offense to come to the aid of migrants in distress
 - Senate enacted a compromise bill
 - Lack of federal immigration legislation, states have begun to pass laws at the local level
 - ex) Arizona, Alabama, Georgia
 - The current effort in the US to deny birthright citizenship to babies born to undocumented parents
 - Which is guaranteed in the 14th amendment in the constitution
 - It was defeated but would continue to resurface
- Vigilante groups emerged
- Anti-immigrant border vigilante groups had formed to engage in the patrolling of the border, and hold rallies at day labour sites where migrant workers gather waiting for work

Ideas of States and Citizenship

- 'The insides of societies are clearly distinguished from the outside'
- Nation states separated legally by sovereign territorial borders that are mutually recognized and respected by other states
- People living within a state share certain legal, political, social, and cultural marks of identity whose ultimate expression is that of citizenship

Citizenship

- Globalization challenges to this concept and raises serious questions to legal practices which function to exclude and deny rights to those who are not citizens
- The concept of citizenship is the notion of an insider, which necessarily implies an outsider
- In the US history, it excluded women. African-Americans and others
 - Currently excludes millions of people who are officially demmed outsiders
 - Anti-immigrant activists and policy-makers have been vocal in opposing any pathway to future citizenship for migrants without documents
- Granting legal status and the opportunity for citizenship to unauthorized migrants is not a new idea
 - *The Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986 (IRCA)* created a process for more than 2.7 million authorized migrants gained lawful permanent residence
 - France undertook a similar policy in 1966
 - However, such programmes generally encounter widespread opposition

Race and Culture

- Different views
 - Essentialist understanding of humanity
 - We can determine the essential characteristics of people that define who they are and that differentiate them from others
 - Also can think of identity as inherently unstable, multiple, and often full of tension
 - Less quick and less certain about categorizing people, defining them by the color of their skin, etc
 - Identity in a more complex way as a phenomenon that is socially constructed
 - That does not necessarily come before political and social practices, but rather is constructed by these things
- Race and culture have often been thought of as stable markers of identity that define a group of people
 - The consequences of this when it comes to race have been odious
 - ex) slavery, colonialism, the Holocaust
- The race has also been an important element in US immigration policy
 - ex) General 1924 restrictions, the Oriental Exclusion Act
 - Thinking of race as a fixed, genetic marker
 - Studies indicate that there is no such thing as race in any biological, genetic sense
- The concept of race extended beyond blood of genetics and was often linked to other factors such as nationality, tradition, geography, and culture
 - It is possible to have a kind of racism that draws upon something other than skin color
 - 'Cultural Racism'
 - Suggests it is natural for antagonisms to develop between members of a bounded community, i.e. a nation, and 'outsiders'
 - Cultural racism has been applied to immigration issues in Britain and Europe
 - 'Others' whose 'assimilability' is questionable, therefore threaten 'our' existence